

# San Benito County Amateur Radio Association

## San Benito County ACS/RACES

3226 Southside Road, Hollister, CA 95023

### Meeting Minutes

7:00 pm, Thursday May 4, 2017

1. Meeting call to order: at 1905 hrs by Sara KJ6SAS  
Attending: Gary K5CHP Ron KD6ZXG  
Dave KD6LSH Tim W6TST  
Heatherly N6HKT Sara KJ6SAS
2. Secretary's Report: Sara KJ6SAS Meeting notes from April approved
3. Treasurer's Report: Scott K6ASA absent, status report sent in an email for review.  
Several deposits will be to be forwarded to Scott.  
Equipment insurance renewal due June 13, pending updated equipment inventory. Equipment list is required to complete SBCARA tax returns - due in May. Ron will contact Scott.
4. Committee Reports:
  - a. Facility roof update: Ron KD6ZXG – not yet started, not yet scheduled.
    - i. *Remove and replace roofing*
    - ii. *Materials shall be rolled membrane with sealed seams*
    - iii. *Color will be light gray*
    - iv. *All roofing debris will be removed from the site and disposed of properly*
    - v. *GMS will be installed where necessary*
  - b. Antenna/Storm Damage: Brent KG6KPD and Jack W6KRK (not present) Email note from Brent: "Jack and I put the Buckmaster (the horizontal HF wire antenna) back up on April 5th, and I think Tim has tested it. The Butternut (the vertical HF antenna) still needs some first-aid to help it stand straight again". Tim stated that both antennas are operating correctly.
  - c. Call Mountain Repeater: APRS weather station – no updates
5. Previous Business
  - a. Ham radio use while driving, legal update: Gary K5CHP read the policy noting an exception for a push or single swipe to activate a hand held device. Tim sent out note referencing the law that is being presented to the CA state assembly. Ron requested an official letter of consent from the highway patrol that ham radio operators could carry on the road. Legislation or the Attorneys General opinion would clarify the law and protect ham operators. Gary will contact the local office.  
*UPDATE FROM GARY 5/8/17: The directive indicates a radio installed and mounted in a vehicle with wired hand microphone is not considered a wireless communication device, nor is it considered a specialized mobile radio device, and therefore is not subject to enforcement under this section. If a copy of this directive is presented by any amateur radio operator to any enforcement officer it should be sufficient to prevent issuance of a citation.*
  - a. Net Control: May Mel KK6MES  
June Dave KD6LSH  
Sara requested that net control invite new volunteers on the weekly net.
  - c. Grants: IBM - Tim W6TST – in the mail. Tim will fill out a form to acknowledge receipt - John Meeks, president, needs to fill out the form. (he did and it was returned to IBM)  
Community Foundation - Scott K6ASA – no updates. Ron talked about a philanthropy night that might be beneficial for SBCARA to attend.  
Target - Dave KD6LSH noted that Target donates store items, not general grants. A written request on SBCARA letterhead would be required. No specific request made.

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6. Previous Events:

- a. April 20: Ham Fun Night - ARDEN Mesh Wi-Fi network without Chris KE6MTO. Jack gave a brief ARDEN overview; satellite tracking was presented by Ron KD6ZXG, Mel KK6MES presented tracking satellites with a specialized antenna, Tim W6TST presented the SBCARA history with SOC.
- b. April 20 – 23 Sea Otter Classic Tim W6TST noted that the event went extremely well. Our ham team did very well with 29 hams, 1/3 first time volunteers. Ron and Brent championed communications for Carmel Valley with a repeater set up on Chews Ridge. Ham operators were in SAG and medic vehicles with good coverage. WB6ECE and KI6PAU repeaters were used to complete coverage of the entire course. In the back country on the Fort Ord National Monument property, we had interference issues between the UHF and VHF repeaters due to antenna placement. The hams' VHF repeater did much better this year in the terrain. Dave KD6LSH and Gary K5CHP presented a few issues and ideas for improvements for next year. Kudos given to Ron for work on the repeater and efforts to set up and maintain it for the event.
- c. April 17 - May 10 Extra License Classes - Dave KD6LSH 3 attendees studying for the extra exam May 13. Sara will write a note of appreciation to be sent to Ed Corliss for donating classroom space at the Monterey Moose Lodge.

7. Upcoming Events:

- a. May 13: Ham Cram and Exam session in Morgan Hill at the Morgan Hill PD Training room – Heatherly N6HKT - 14 people signed up to participate
- b. May 18: Ham Fun Night Ron reported that Jack W6KRK will be hosting, topic TBD
- c. June 24-25: ARRL Field Day Tim W6TST noted that it will be held at Christmas Hill Park for the full 24 hrs. 4 hr shifts from 11 am to 11 am.

8. New Business:

- a. Ron KD6ZXG – assembled the Chews Ridge repeater that included some his misc. equipment. It is now stored at the DOC. With a duplexer and battery it should be ready to go. Frequencies are programmed for Chews Ridge, Call Mountain and Park Hill. It could be used as back-up repeater.
- b. Tim W6TST – OES/Sheriff now has a mesh network system and will be acquiring a satellite system. Training will occur sometime in the future.
- c. Tim – repeater and radios can be improved and programmed to create a cache of radios and antenna gear ready to go as phase 2 of the project from last year. He will present a budget proposal at the next meeting.

9. ARES/ACS/RACES/SAR: Tim W6TST reporting

- a. IS online classes ICS100, 200 and 700

10. Other Business: none

0845 meeting adjourned