



EAST KOOTENAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



MEETING Saturday, November 19, 2022 (2:00pm)

MINUTES

Members: Doug VA7QZ, Gavin VE7GSJ, Tim VE7QQ, Brian VA7VEB, Tom VE7TGA, Simran <NOCALL>, Jeff VE7JFX, Gerry VA7LGR, Chris VE7UTV, Wayne VA7BUP, Lance VE7LOC, Kathy VE7KFR, Ken VE7NEK

Guests:

Meeting called to order at 2:02 PM

1. Adoption of the agenda

Doug asks to have agenda adopted as circulated. Gavin VE7GSJ moves to adopt, Wayne VA7BUP seconds.

2. Sick or injured amateurs

None reported.

3. Minutes – Adoption

Doug asks to have minutes from September 10, 2022 adopted as circulated. Lance VE7LOC moves to adopt, Brian VA7VEB seconds.

4. Business arising from the minutes:

- A) Wildfire Resiliency CBT Grant update – Grant application submitted on October 13, 2022. Grant application is being reviewed, with a total of just over \$16,000. Feedback has been good, fingers are crossed.
- B) Community Awareness of the EKARC – Due to the new “Society” in Cranbrook, we find that we need to do more to promote our club within our communities. We have not been doing a lot about our profile within our community and we should do more to get the word out about who we are and what we do.
- C) Report from meeting with Merrick Grieder from Cowichan – Doug has reached out to Merrick a few times and he has emailed Doug back and there is an emergency exercise coming up that they will want us to be involved with. There is a plan in place to have go-kits built out to have in other communities.

5. Communications

Nil

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6. Treasurers Report (VE7GSJ)

- A) Financial report for months of August/September
 - Mostly uneventful, we paid hydro, received interest
 - New member, Jari VA7AZY
 - Ken notes total opening balance incorrect, Gavin to correct

7. Committee Reports

Repeater Committee (VE7GSJ)

Brian and Gavin went to Baker, updated repeater config, re-routed cables to fix de-sense issues. Jari and Arnold went to Midgeley to retrieve Creston APRS unit, APRS unit has since been reprogrammed. Fairmont repeater had power outage, battery system to be inspected at next maintenance.

The VHF radio is only thing left to upgrade VE7RIN, and Layne from WKARC has radio we want for VE7RIN. Layne also has 4 bay VHF, would be nice for DMR repeater, Brian offers to build antenna if Gavin can get specs/dimensions.

For a DMR repeater, Gavin has a MMDVM board and a Raspberry Pi, and with a second card at \$100, and that could get us a DMR repeater.

Jeff asks about Bridgecom for sale, Lance moves that we buy Bridgecom unit, Tom seconds. Wayne concerned about used equipment wrt to CBT grant, Gavin says this would be for a backup.

All in favour of buy Bridgecom repeater from WKARC.

Gavin trying to reach Dan VE7MRP about possibly selling his MMDMV.

Lance asked about Mt Baker ID volume being too loud, asks if it can be lowered. Gavin says the level can be changed, but we need road access to site.

Jeff comments about Sparwood, no response from TECK mining operations after three emails, Gavin suggests we may need to have a face-to-face as email is not working. Ron VA7YZT's certification has lapsed to gain access to site himself, so we need someone just to set up a meeting. Doug suggests to phone, if not, Doug will go out himself. Gavin to attempt to phone Carl @ TECK.

Jeff question about DMR needing Internet. Internet would be required for DMR.

Frequency Coordinator (VE7VU) – Dan not present

Emergency Operation Center Coordinators (VA7VEB) – No news. EMP meeting on November 22nd in Cranbrook.

Website Site and social media (VE7QQ) – Doug started Facebook group, like, share, follow! Tim updated site with Club Calendar on main page, added live Google Docs document to Swap & Shop page.

Net Controller Coordinator (VE7QQ) – Still looking for a sixth net controller. Tim to update net script.

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8. New Business

- a) Christmas social gathering – location acquired for December 17th
- b) Study Guide – Study guides intended for people that are going to get their license, to study at home. Cost is a factor, and club has always kept ~4 of them. Grant request has ask for 10 of the updated books, provided we can get them.
- c) Lance's volunteer examiner certificate to expire in 2023, and it is not his intention to renew.
- d) Future activities. Santa Claus Parade? – Too late to participate.
- e) Doug VA7QZ made donation to turkey drive on behalf of EKARC.
- f) RDEK update –
 - Public Safety Lifeline Volunteer info sent to EMBC.
 - Radio communications station management course to run next year.
 - EOC Grant - Opportunity to apply for funding, deadline is March, it is a regional grant, Simran/RDEK would like to meet with EKARC beforehand. This grant is available every year.
 - RDEK plans to purchase EOC-on-wheels and mobile radio kits, as secondary EOCs have no radios.
 - Access to the RDEK EOC in Cranbrook? EKARC welcome during business hours, but building is otherwise restricted. EOC has staff on site 08:30 to 16:30, Monday to Friday.
 - Gavin asks about EOC essentials course, do we need to re-apply? It is confirmed that we do, and EMBC has added more course availability.
- g) Lance moves to thank Simran & RDEK. Wayne seconds. Passes unanimously.
- h) Wayne moves to reimburse Doug for Turkey, Lance seconds, passes unanimously.

9. Adjournment

Lance moves to adjourn @ 15:34

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