

San Benito County Amateur Radio Association

3226 Southside Road, Hollister, CA 95023

June 4, 2024, 7pm

Meeting Minutes

1. Meeting call to order by Sara KJ6SAS. Introductions. Sara Steiner (KK6SAS) President, Billy Boltz (W6WKB), Timothy Takeuchi (W6TST) Advisory Chair, Heatherly Takeuchi (N6HKT) Secretary, Ron Ross (KD6ZXG) Treasurer, Mario (N7YMZ), Ken Wratten (N2HC), Mel Tolentino (KK6MES) Quartermaster, Lori Sortino (KO6ESQ), Thomas Sortino (KO6ESP), Dave Hitch (KO6AVA)

BUSINESS

2. Secretary's Report: Heatherly N6HKT. Approve April, May meeting minutes. Billy moved, Mel seconded to accept the Minutes of the April and May minutes. The motion passed by a voice vote of the members present. Sara mentioned the monthly newsletter. Minutes, agenda items, and upcoming events are some of the items put in the mid-month newsletter.

3. Treasurer's Report: Ron KD6ZXG

a. Review and approve Treasurer's Reports. There was no formal report this month. There were some repeater expenses this past month. Otherwise, business as usual.

b. OES county funding updates, if any – no updates.

c. Annual internal audit – we are still looking for one more person to help.

d. CFSBC grant opportunity – The Community Foundation of San Benito County (CFSBC) opened up a \$10K grant. There was interest in installing a lift (ADA) for the DOC. Although Ron researched the project, there was not enough detail to submit an application.

We looked into hosting a Ham Club for the high school. Roy Sims, San Benito County Office of Education Technical Director, wasn't available in time to get input for the grant. Heatherly suggested that Chris Dunn who is involved in the Robotics Club at Hollister High School, might offer support.

4. Quartermaster's Report: Mel KK6MES

a. Tagging equipment. Asset Tiger software, Asset Tag labels. - see July 13 Barbecue event.

b. DOC upgrades updates, if any. The metal around the roof is showing rust and the exterior is in need of new paint.

5. ARES/RACES news and updates: Tim W6TST. Quick review of what ARES and RACES are for the new amateur radio operators.

a. June 26th, UASI Golden Eagle exercise, participation TBD.

b. August event – we will not be participating in.

c. Working with Santa Cruz, and Monterey counties, and South Santa Clara County for a joint Simulated Emergency Test (SET) in October.

d. More organized curriculum coming soon.

6. Net Control: June – Heatherly Takeuchi (N6HKT)

July – Sara Steiner (KJ6SAS)

August – Dave Hitch (KO6AVA)

September – Billy Boltz (W6WKB)

October –

PROJECTS

7. N6SBC Repeater, upgrades, and maintenance. Ron KD6ZXG. Insulate the repeater at Hernandez Valley (HVR). Mel and Ron are going up on Thursday, 6/6, leaving Hollister at 0630. Our HVR did help a stranded motorist with a tow last month. Perhaps the controller is a little "hot," but otherwise working well. They will run some checks while at HVR.

8. Rural school radios: Jefferson School. Sara KJ6SAS, Ron (KD6ZXG). The radio installation at Jefferson School, they are able to receive on one frequency and transmit on another. Ron suggested putting up a Yagi directional antenna prior to trying out alternate antenna locations.

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9. San Juan Canyon (SJC) communications support. Mel KK6MES. They seem to be doing well. They are doing their GMRS nets at 1900 on Thursdays. Repeater channel 5, 19, or 25 with a of PL136.5. They have not asked for any education.
10. SBCARA club engagement. Billy W6WKB. Three new people at this meeting! Lori, Thomas, and Ken
 - a. SBCARA sponsored testing, FCC licensing: Ron, Tim, Heatherly – no update
 - b. SBCARA booth at Aug 3, Hollister VE testing. Billy, Sara. Sara asked the first-time visitors if they would have benefit from a welcoming information table. Both Lori and Thomas said they would have. We will check our supply of rack cards before August 3rd ham cram.
 - c. Workshops, tutorials: Tim W6TST. Tim gave a presentation of how the new sbcara.org page and questionnaire look for Ham Help.
 - d. Ham Help: All the Ham Help emails with go to Sara (KJ6SAS), testing and VE information requests will go to Heatherly (N6HTK)
 - e. Website engagement, sbcara.org
 - f. Chelsi (from OES), Heatherly (Farmers' Market). Heatherly will call Chelsi and pick a couple of dates for Farmers' Markets. Mel said he will help, also.

EVENTS

11. Past Events: No past events.
 12. Upcoming events:
 - a. June 22-23, Field Day, Cienega School. Idea was to have everyone have their own set-up. Tim will run the computer and Ray is setting up a network for the weekend for contact tracking. Tim put out a survey and three people said they were interested in operating all night. Billy said he was one. Food will be potluck style; everyone should bring something to share.
 - b. June 26, Golden Eagle, Bay Area Emergency Management – TBD – not sure if happening.
 - c. June 11, SBCARA Forum – Ham 101. RSVP (in-person or on Zoom). An email will go out via HamClubOnline. No July Forum
 - d. August 13 – Kristen McIntyre will give her presentation on Transformers.
 - e. Sat, July 13, DOC Cleaning, Inventory tagging, and BBQ. – Since Mel said he will be doing inventory, he wouldn't be able to BBQ. Maybe George can bring his hot dog machine. Or maybe pizza?? We have \$250 in the budget for event food. Then it was suggested that we concentrate on early cleaning and inventory. Then break for lunch. Someone suggested we could have a swap meet. The following events were agreed upon:
 - 0900 Cleaning and inventory tagging
 - 1000 Swap meet outside
 - 1100 Lunch. RSVP. (Notice on website)
- Invitations will be emailed.
- f. August 3, VE Ham Cram and Exam Session, Epicenter, Hollister. Heatherly needs more VEs. Billy offered since he is a General License. She mentioned that if he wants to test for Amateur Extra, do that first, then become a VE; she cannot give tests to any of the team's VEs. Perhaps we can sign up Alvin (KN6ZVI), or Mike (AK6GV) who are new Extras.
 - g. August 6, National Night Out – with OES in downtown Hollister. The prime organizer is the Hollister Police Department. Well-attended event by the whole community. Sara will print up copies of kids' coloring pages as distributed at last year's county fair.
13. OTHER No other business

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Adjourn

Sara asked if there was a motion to adjourn the meeting. Billy moved to adjourn the meeting; Mel seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote of the members present. The meeting was adjourned at 2015.

Attachments: none