

San Benito County Amateur Radio Association
3226 Southside Road, Hollister, CA 95023 and online Zoom
Tuesday, February 4, 2025, 7pm
Meeting Agenda

Meeting call to order by Sara KJ6SAS at 7:01 AM.

Present: , Benson Wong (K6BEN)

Dave Hitch (KO6AVA), Sara Steiner (KJ6SAS), Tim Takeuchi (W6TST), Heatherly Takeuchi (N6HKT), Ron Ross (KD6ZXG), Billy Boltz (W6WKB). Brian Temperino (KO6GTA)

Business

1 Secretary's Report

Moved to approve. Heatherly firsts. Dave seconds.

2 Treasurer's Report

Note: The Treasurer notes that there was a \$50 unauthorized charge in January. It was reversed after Ron put in a dispute to the charge. He's not sure what it's for, but it's taken care of.

Ron reviewed Jan. 2024 incomes and expenses. Some of the major expenditures were renewing SAR Topo and a one-month Starlink activation.

\$23,207.81 is currently in the bank.

3 Community Foundation for SBC Investment Account

Ron will go down to the Community Foundation for San Benito County and start an account this month.

4 Quartermaster's Report

Billy started an account with Asset Tiger. Needs time to come to the DOC and play with the app to figure out how it works. We have a free account, which includes up to 200 tagged items. Tim suggests tagging the more expensive items.

Billy wants to schedule a field trip with Ron to see the repeater located on Kathy Spencer's land.

Idea to send appreciation gifts to people who host the land for our repeaters.

MOU? May not be necessary here in San Benito but recommended in Santa Clara County.

5 DOC Upgrades/Maintenance/Repairs

The people at Brian's wife's workplace threw away the ceiling tiles.

No updates on carpeting. Benson and Heatherly to work on getting at least one quote on wall-to-wall carpeting for the entire building.

Solar panels: Sara will be putting together a grant request. Suggested that Ron, Billy, and Tim be part of a committee to determine the scope of work, material, and equipment so that Sara has the info to include in the grant request.

6 Winter Field Day (Jan 25 to 26, 2025)

We earned 1077 total points for WFD and logged 147 contacts. Learned lessons around the power consumption and the number of batteries. Need to simplify the system and figure out a better way to keep track of the batteries and what they are powering. Some piece of equipment is consuming more power than other equipment.

7 Sea Otter Classic (Apr. 10 to 13)

Recruitment for volunteers slowed. One or two people had to drop out. Will have 6 shifts. On two days, we will have 2 shifts. Saturday, we will have two different venues, one in the backcountry and one at the raceway. May need to reassign people to different parts of the venue to support the event.

23 volunteers so far. Expect number of people signing up to increase as the day draws near. They may be trying to figure out what to do at this time.

8 ARES Program

Kris Magano to give an OES update in person on Feb. 11 at the DOC.

Tabletop training coming up in March. Active shooting scenario. Type and place TBD. We will be helping by running radios and helping with Comms.

OES budgets us some money. We may need to reallocate the money and support buying new radios to support this new radio system that OES is using.

9 N6SBC Net Control

Feb—Ron

Mar—Dave

Apr—Benson

May - TBD

Jun – Heatherly

10 Repeater Maintenance

Ron to redo fans for repeater maintenance. He needs to redo cooling system. Expects the cost to be less than \$1. This is for Call Mountain and Bear Valley.

11 VE Update

Feb 1: We had a ham cram. This includes the test-only option. It took place at the Gilroy PD's Community Room. 15/16 people passed. 2 Generals and 13 techs.

The community room at the Epicenter is available on the first Saturday of May and June. Thinking about booking it for another in-person ham testing. Heatherly will be deciding which day to book the room.

12 San Benito Radio Association Academy

Momentum for the Academy fizzled out. We had 3 people signed up. 1 dropped out. 1 got the material and started studying. The third said that book-learning really isn't his thing. Still, it was a good idea for people who got their licenses through the ham cram and wanted to further deep-dive into the material.

13 ARISS (Amateur Radio International Space Station) Collaboration

At the Feb. 1 ham cram, some were students getting ready to talk to the International Space Station. So, they need to get their licenses ahead of time. The event takes place in April.

14 Swap Meet

Have it with the BBQ and Swap meet. Earmarked for May.

15 Membership and Engagement

No updates.

16 Meeting Adjourned

Meeting adjourned at 7:41. Dave firsts. Billy seconds.