



NARS Board Meeting Minutes June 7, 2024

Northwest Amateur Radio Society
P.O. Box 11483
Spring, TX 77391

Board Attendance

✓ - In Attendance, X – Absent

Board Voting Privileged Officers		Board Non-Voting Associate Members	
✓	President: Ron Matusek, WA6TQH	✓	Admin. Secretary: Neal Naumann, N5EN
✓	Vice President: Paul Kent, K15FJS	X	Social Media Liaison: Sam Labarbera, N6HB
✓	Treasurer: Tom Hoherd, KK5YU	X	Public Information Liaison: Sheree Horton, WM5N
✓	Secretary: Brandon Rogers, K5BLR	✓	Webmaster: Bill Buoy, N5BIA
✓	Director: Rich Jones, W5VEK	X	Repeater Team Lead: Mike Pate, K5MAP
X	Director: TBN	X	ARRL/VEC Liaison: Sheree Horton, WM5N
		✓	Repeater Trustee: Paul Owen, N5NXS

Meeting Logistics

Meeting was in person at HCESD 16 Admin – 18606 Stuebner Airline 77379 starting at 6:30pm on June 7, 2024.

Minutes

- I. Ron Matusek, WA6TQH, welcomed the attendees and called the meeting to order.
 - a. Official welcome – Recognition of visiting members.
 - b. Overview of board meeting process rules.
 - c. Opening – “Public Information Officer” effective January 2024
 - i. See By-Laws for position description.
 - d. Opening – “Director” effective January 2024
 - i. See By-Laws for position description.
 - e. Around August, Ron will open the elections this year for *all* board positions. This will allow anyone from the club to run for the positions.

Public Comments

Individuals who are non-voting board members will be allocated three minutes to share material you would like the Board to consider or items you would like to present to the Board.

- II. Secretary’s Report
 - a. Due to severe storms, the May 2024 board meeting was cancelled.
 - b. The minutes were reviewed from the previous Board Meeting on April 19, 2024:
http://www.w5nc.club/doc_repos/meeting_minutes/2024/BoardMeeting_20240419.pdf
 - b. Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Board Meeting
 - i. Paul Kent motioned to accept the Secretary’s Report/Minutes
 - ii. Rich Jones offered a second to the motion
 - iii. The motion passed

- c. All minutes are posted so that all members can access them on the Club Document Repository at http://www.w5nc.club/doc_repos/meeting_minutes/
- d. Ron Matusek – From now on, all the Board Minutes and Newsletters posted to the entire board membership.

III. Treasurer's Report

- a. The following financial reports were presented to the board:
http://www.w5nc.club/doc_repos/financial/TreasurerReport_June2024.pdf
- b. Approval
 - i. Rich Jones motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report
 - ii. Paul Kent offered a second to the motion
 - iii. The motion passed

IV. Administrative Secretary Report

- a. The current membership report is:

ARRL members = 102

Non-members = 43

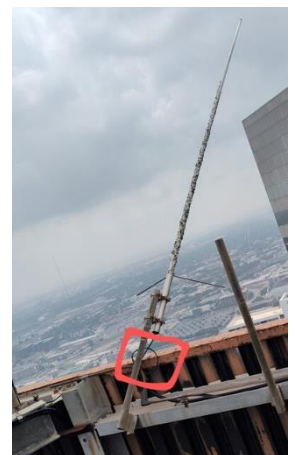
Total membership = 145

70 % of NARS members are also ARRL members

7 New Members since April

V. Reports of Standing Committees

- a. **Repeater Committee**– Mike Pate
 - i. Ron Matusek – Repeater committee needs to put out a report / summary of repeater activities regularly. This does not need to be bills, contracts or legal matters. But the membership needs to have a summarized update.
 - ii. Paul Kent
 - 1. The antenna mount was bent and one of the radials is missing. We haven't found the radial.
 - 2. The repeater seemed to work well the morning after the storm but degraded soon afterward (at least from the sound if it from Paul's QTH).
 - 3. The flexible coax between antenna feed point and the hard line appears pinched. Coax is pulled tight above the facade.
 - 4. Due to the location of the antenna, a professional climber must be used to retrieve and repair the antenna. A quote for \$1500 was sent to the board to retrieve/the damaged antenna for the repeater.
 - a. Climbers will also disconnect and retrieve the coax from the antenna to the hardline. They



- will also add the coax from the hardline to the new location for remounting the antenna.
 - b. This does not include remounting a new (or existing) antenna.
 - c. Recommendation to re-run a hardline coax and to re-mount the antenna on a mount on an I-beam that is accessible without a climber.
 - i. This must be reviewed by the building management before implementation
 - d. QUESTIONS
 - i. *Rich Kent*: Will building management approve the adjustments?
 - ii. *Paul Kent*: The building management will need to respond to the proposal before moving forward.
 - e. Ron Matusek – We will wait until the building management responds to vote on spending for the climber.
5. Rich Jones – Should we run a funds drive to help pay for the repeater?
 - a. Ron Matusek: Absolutely! We need someone to run the effort.
 - b. Tom Hoherd: We should be sure that the membership understands why the actions above require \$1500 and why we are running the fundraiser.
 6. Paul Owen – Do we need to have a different mount for the other antenna?
 - a. Paul Kent – all the mounts on the building have the same design, which failed this time. Why would we want to mount the antenna in the same way? We probably don't. We would rather get a mount set up where it is accessible.

b. Weekly VHF / DMR Net Update – Mike

- i. 3 Attendees for the VHF net
- ii. 11 Attendee for the DMR net
- iii. Ron Matusek – we should drop down to a single net. Perhaps we can consolidate on the more popular / available net (DMR net on Tuesday).
 1. Paul Owen – Can we move the DMR net to Wednesday instead? Keeps the Wednesday night net intact.
 2. Ron Matusek – That sounds great! We need some action by the board.
 3. Rich Jones – Mike Pate has the skills to set up some polls to get feedback from the club membership about the time and location of the net.
 4. Rich Jones will take the responsibility to organize a poll about adjusting the net timing and will report back to the Board.

VI. Old Business

- b. Field Day - Paul Owen N5NXS our Field Day coordinator – provide update on planning activities.

i. QUESTIONS

1. Paul Owen – Can Bill send me a list of the people who are joined to the Field Day Groups.io?
2. Ron Matusek – Can we make sure a summary of Field Day activities is sent to the club membership?
3. Paul Kent - Public Information – Is that public information going through the Fire Department?
 - a) Paul Owen - We don't have a volunteer to do this, but Brandy has agreed to help with this, but just got called this week.
 - b) Rich Jones - Fire Department is holding an election and needs to focus on this activity. The Fire Department PR person is busy and may not be able to help us too much
 - c) Paul Kent – We need to involve everyone in the announcement and include all the activities so people know about them.

VII. New Business

- a. Approve and approve expenditures for Field Day – Rich Jones, W5VEK
- i. Last year, we spent a little over \$500 and planned for 100 people.
 - ii. This year, we are planning for 50 people. With the current price of food, we can probably handle the food for under \$400.
 1. Saturday Lunch – Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, Potato Salad, etc.
 2. Saturday Dinner – Brisket, Beans, Bread, etc.
 3. Sunday Breakfast – Scrambled Eggs and Sausage (Breakfast tacos)
 4. Sunday Lunch – Fajitas
 - iii. Funding Request - \$450 limit for Funding of Field Day Food
 1. Moved by Paul Kent
 2. Second by Tom Hoherd
 3. The motion has passed

VIII. Closing Remarks – Ron encourages all NARS members to have badges and to wear them on Field Day

IX. **MOVE TO CLOSE & DISMISS**

- a. Brandon Rogers moved to close the meeting.
- b. Tom Hoherd offered a second to the motion.
- c. Meeting adjourned @ 7:24pm

Post meeting note (Paul Kent): Regarding the building discussed housing the antenna for our repeater system - the facade is approximately 10 ft. from the cooling tower decking which dictates the use of certified climbers since there is a 40-50 foot drop to the building roof top.