



## **SARA Executive Meeting April 7, 2019 via teleconference**

Attendance: Garry Jacobs VE6CIA, Paul Wilson VA6PW, Bill Guthrie VE6OLD, Brian Crisall VE6BCA, John Allen VA6SJA, Doug Howard VE6CID, Ray Semenoff VE6RHS, Perry Afaganis VA6PTA

Ray VE6RHS Presiding

### **1. Call to Order**

Call to order @ 14:05.

### **2. Approval of agenda**

Agenda Approved.

### **3. Executive and membership reports**

Garry VE6CIA reported 53 current members and 3 renewals pending.

### **4. Repeater and link status:**

- a. Ray VE6RHS reports no outstanding issues in the north.
- b. Brian VE6BCA complimented the latest repair to the VE6OIL repeater, it really sounds good. Doug VE6CID had worked on it using equipment supplied by Ray VE6RHS.
- c. Garry VE6CIA reports that there is an interference problem at the VE6REP repeater which sounds like someone repeatedly keying and unkeying a mic. He cannot hear this on the input frequency and cannot hear it on the incoming links. This is an intermittent problem occurring for up to 40 minutes at random times. It is suggested that the source may be in the shack. He is considering setting a receive CTCSS tone for the repeater. We think that the controller is a CD3.

**Motion:** Bill VE6OLD moves that Garry VE6CIA be authorized to buy a CTCSS demodulator board in the range of \$100. VE6PW seconded. Carried.

### **5. Old Business:**

- a. With regard to the enquiry about relinking the repeater in Whitecourt, Ray VE6RHS reported that the Quarter Century group has decided to make no changes. No action or reconfiguration is required from us.
- b. Paul VA6PW inquired about the status of letters to the CBC re the use of space on CBC facilities.

- i. Doug VE6CID reported that Calgary's Deputy Chief Kobe had sent a letter to the new CBC custodian of transmitter and tower facilities. An activation was recorded from the Scout Hall to the Calgary EOC. Although Edmonton was not specifically mentioned in this letter. Ray VE6RHS indicated that the notification would be sufficient to cover all CBC facilities that are used by SARA.
- ii. Calgary's Disaster Alley will be on May 4; it would be good to set up a communication demonstration with Edmonton via SARA during this event.

At this point we temporarily reverted to Agenda Item 3. Executive and membership reports:

Treasurer Perry VA6PTA stated that there had been no financial transactions since our meeting last February. He had not yet met with the auditors appointed at the February meeting. The SARA Annual Return has not been submitted.

#### **6. New business:**

- a. Ray VE6RHS will be moving out of province to Chetwynd, BC as of June.
  - a) He can remain as an active member of the board. He will not be able to do "hands-on" work.
  - b) He is resigning as President as of May 31, 2019.
- b. Ray VE6RHS has a briefcase of files that should go to the secretary.
- c. Doug will take on hosting of the IRLP note, either at the VE6OIL site or in his basement.
- d. Perry VA6PTA will take possession of the keys for our installations in the CBC transmitter sites. These will not be easily replaced.
- e. Hosting of the SARA web page must be moved from the computer in Ray VE6RHS's basement.
  - a) Doug will check with Dave Wick who is involved with the CARA web site.
  - b) Google provides free hosting for clubs, but they must have proof of club status.
- f. SARA equipment must be moved from Ray VE6RHS's premises, repeater cabinets, duplexers combiners and a couple of mobile radios.
  - a) There may be a corner of a Prairie Mobile Building in Calgary, which could evolve to a building on their premises.
  - b) NARC has an empty trailer available at no charge in their secure premises. Ray VE6RHS will organize a "truck brigade" asking nearby SARA directors to transport this equipment from his house to the empty trailer at the NARC site.
- g. Paul VA6PW will research digital mesh networking on behalf of SARA. Doug reports that link lengths as long as 78 km work well.
- h. Treasurer Perry VA6PTA cannot go to the Red Deer Picnic as he has a conflict. He was encouraged to have the audited financial statement

- available at that time to be presented by another member of the executive. The Annual Report will then be submitted.
- i. Since our Annual General Meeting was at the NARC Flea Market in February, the meeting at the Red Deer Picnic will be a General Meeting.
  - j. SARA is a RAC-affiliated club and thus is covered by RAC insurance.

## **7. Date and time of next meeting**

Next Executive meeting is scheduled for May 5, 2019 at 14:00 local.

Meeting adjourned at 15:12 local.

*S. John Allen, VA6SJA, Secretary*