



Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors held 24 November, 2013 by teleconference.

Members present: Past president: Garry Jacobs VE6CIA (as chair); Vice president: Ray Semenoff; Secretary: Graham Walker VE6GW; Directors: Ken Oelke VE6AFO, Kiernan Burr VA6IP, Ian Burgess VA6EMS, Gern Sabourin VE6KG, Bill Guthrie VE6OLD and Membership: Tony Toews VE6MVP

Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at 13:35 hours.

Minutes of 22 Sept, 2013 and 10 November, 2013 had been sent via e-mail. **Moved by Garry VE6CIA and seconded by Graham VE6GW that the minutes be adopted as distributed. Carried.**

REPORTS

President: President Jeff Low VA6JL, who was working, asked Garry to chair meeting as he was uncertain if Ray, who was travelling, could check in.

Vice-President: Ray Semenoff VE6RHS checked in from Whitecourt

Treasurer: Ray reported that Ken McPherson VA6KM has resigned and Ray will be acting as treasurer. Ray sent a nice e-mail a week and half ago thanking Ken and asked him to forward all the paperwork, chequebooks, etc. ASAP. As of today Ray had not received anything. Although the Bylaws allow vice chair can act in this role, Ian VA6EMS, as point of order suggested it should be formalized. **Moved by Garry VE6CIA, seconded by Kiernan VA6IP that Ray should be appointed interim Treasurer. Carried**

REPEATERS:

VE6OIL: Ian VA6EMS reported that he, Jeff, Jay and Kiernan checked out OIL. The donated 8 bay UHF antenna works great and the link radio is programmed to hit Red Deer, but does not get in always. Although path is good, it is a bit weak. Jeff intends to go down with laptop and adjust link radio to improve OIL-Red Deer Link (other way is OK). After the work was done, the old 4 bay UHF was not actually connected at the tower. CBC has rigging crew coming in next month or so to correct that and other work as well. Currently all three antenna runs are into the repeater and OIL is working. No further word regarding the shack.

Ian addressed the intermod issue - RCMP radio tech added extra pass cans to their input and output but that did not seem to change things. It was decided to sit and wait, but someone called RCMP and was a bit forceful and subsequently they seem to have found the problem although it is not known what was done.

Garry asked why not use Carstairs. Ian replied that as Delia and Carstairs are programmed in the OIL link radio, that was an option. OIL currently goes to Red Deer and even though the link north only works about 60% of the time, increasing power of the link radio should solve the problem. This will also leave the southern half ready for the switchover when the MTR hub comes on line and OIL is switched to it. The problem of going direct through Carstairs is that it currently has Red Deer on one side and Vulcan on the other as the link to Vulcan. This would mean replacing Vulcan link and Vulcan would not hear OIL. The choice is to go from OIL to Vulcan to Carstairs to Red Deer with a huge audio drop OR to just adjust the power on the link radio. The latter seems to be the best short term solution.

Ian will contact Mike to ask about issue of metering power in the shack.

VE6MTR: Ray reported MTR is resting in his basement and works fine with dummy loads. When possible it will be moved to tower in S Edmonton for operational testing.

WEBMASTER:

Ray reported there are no problems as there are only a few updates needed yearly. Garry suggested noting that Three Hills club is connected to the SARA system. Some discussion re need to keep Repeater Book informed about changes.

PUBLIC RELATIONS:

Fleamarket to be announced. It was asked whether it gets submitted to TCA. Tony reported that a TCA contact is on his mailing list (VPTAS@RAC.ca). Garry found Racadmin1@gmail.com as a possible contact for TCA.

OLD BUSINESS:

Bill confirmed that he had been paid for June expenses.

Following up on the issue raised at last meeting, it was reported that all executive have memberships paid up to date.

NEW BUSINESS:

Ray reported that the SARA flea market will be on 1 Feb., 2014. He has not booked room but will be doing that in December and then announcement will be put out.

Ian asked if with the extra antenna at OIL to add a UHF repeater – is that the next project? Ray just needs frequency and CTCSS tone and can set up a repeater that can be installed once the UHF antenna is connected.

Garry reported that there might be a secondary link that it could be tied into – the new ARES UHF system, sponsored by CAARC. Calgary regional ARES is also looking at having redundancy using AA in Crossfield, as well as something in Calgary. Although a separate system from SARA, we should be aware of developments.

NEXT MEETING: January 19, 2014 at 13:30

The meeting adjourned at 14:06 hours.