



Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors held February 4, 2012 at the Yellowhead Inn

**Members present:** Vice President: Brian Crisall VE6BCA, Secretary: Rita Haugh VE6RIT, Directors: Ray Semenoff VE6RHS, Cindy Knipelberg VE6NPL, Graham Walker VE6GW, Tony Toews VE6MVP, Bill Guthrie VE6OLD and Linking Liaison Kiernan Burr VA6IP.

**Guests:** Curtis Bidulock VE6AEW, Ken McPherson VA6KM, James Ewen VE6SRV

**Call to Order:** Vice-President Brian Crisall VE6BCA called the meeting to order at 13:00 hours.

**Minutes** of the January 18, 2012 meeting were distributed via e-mail. **Moved by Ray VE6RHS, seconded by Bill VE6OLD that the minutes be adopted as distributed. Carried.**

## REPORTS

**President:** Garry Jacobs VE6CIA was absent.

**Vice-President:** Brian VE6BCA reported that, since the last meeting, a number of issues have arisen related to the SARA system.

**Treasurer:** Ken VE6AFO was absent, but sent the following e-mail report:

- Post Office Box rental in the amount of \$147.00 was paid for year 2012 (due - March 1, 2013).
- The ATB Bank balance is \$15,017.78 (Dec. 31, 2011), the balance in the PayPal Account is \$529.22 (Feb. 1, 2012), and the total of GICs & T-Bills (including interest) is \$30,222.77, (Dec. 31, 2011).
- I talked with the ATB and we can get, under our Community Spirit Account, (this account is only for not-for-profit organizations) a 3-year GIC at 2.5%. This GIC is called a Spring Board GIC and it can be redeemable on each anniversary date; i.e. If this GIC is purchased on Feb. 1, 2012 then on Feb. 1, 2013 the entire amount can be redeemed or a part of it can be redeemed - of course the reduced interest would be calculated accordingly. As a side note, our other GICs & T-Bill (total \$30,222.77) are at the Douglas Glen Branch (Calgary). This was done by then Treasurer Bruce Reynolds VE6BR, in March 12, 2008. In order to transfer money into a GIC account, a signed letter from another signatory on our account is required.

**Membership:** Tony VE6MVP reported that there were 20 renewals and one new membership at the flea market today.

## OLD BUSINESS

**Edmonton Flea Market:** A successful flea market was held at the Yellowhead Inn in Edmonton today. Over 210 people attended. The concession made \$204.32 after expenses of \$58.48 were deducted and including donations of \$52.90 for coffee. The SARA dogs, donuts and some condiments and containers were also donated. Bill VE6OLD commented that very little pop was purchased.

## NEW BUSINESS:

**Report by Kiernan Barr VA6IP:** Kiernan VA6IP has been working with Curtis checking out the possibilities to expand the SARA UHF system. They have found nine sites to cover major highways 1, 2, 3, 16, 43, and 63. The

sites have Telus towers with at least one abandoned UHF antenna on them. The towers are tall with good coverage. Many have more than one antenna at various heights on the tower.

Curtis VE6AEW reported that they have also looked at this from a regional perspective (eg. Drumheller, Camrose). Expansion could be done one region at a time.

The pass-through radios will be at the same site as the hub. eg. Smokey Lake link to NHB as well as a the UHF hub on one tower because there is enough separation on the towers to have both at the same site. They are looking at UHF because it is underutilized especially outside of the major centres. Communities / clubs that want to can then link into the SARA system.

Site access could be a problem, especially in southern Alberta. There are hams with keys in Fort McMurray, Grande Prairie, and Cochrane.

Medicine Hat & Lethbridge could be done in a weekend

Bonnyville, Cold Lake Wildwood, Smokey Lake, Wandering River – short haul out of Edmonton

Each site would need three Motorola GM300 radios, a controller, a power supply and cans. Cost per site would be approximately \$1,000.00 (a very generous estimate).

First priority would be southern Alberta, Lethbridge, Medicine Hat which could be done in a weekend. Innisfree could be up & running if there is equipment. James VE6SRV can provide telemetry for all Glentel sites. At this time Glentel is welcoming amateur radios on their sites.

Opening in new areas also opens the door for new members. If SARA gets to Valleyview, Grande Prairie, Peace River and High Prairie, they are on board and ready to link into the system.

Curtis VE6AEW and Kiernan VA6IP can do about five sites per year. This number is possible from a manpower and budget point of view.

If SARA decides we need to cover the major centres instead of the highways, Curtis VE6AEW and Kiernan VA6IP would review their project.

After discussion, the executive members agreed that it would be a good idea for SARA to proceed with the rebuilding and expansion plan proposed by Curtis VE6AEW and Kiernan VA6IP. A formal motion will be presented at the next meeting.

There are MSR 2000 radios available for use if they can be set up.

**Vulcan VE6AAP:** Ken VE6AFO reported via e-mail that VE6AAP is being repaired. Cost will be around \$100.00.

Ray VE6RHS stated that he has enough equipment at his place to make three UHF repeaters (except for controllers). **Moved by Bill VE6OLD, seconded by Tony VE6MVP that Ray VE6RHS purchase one CAT 200B controller (240) and a Hamtronics TD-2 DTMF controller (160) for testing and evaluation for the SARA system. Cost not to exceed \$500.00. Carried**

**Donation to RAC Convention Edmonton 2012:** After checking the SARA By-Laws, we are not able to make donations (see Section 19: Spending Powers). Other ways to contribute to the convention will be explored.

**NEXT MEETING:** March 11, 2012 13:30 via teleconference.

The meeting adjourned at 16:11 hours.

## SARA WINTER FLEA MARKET REPORT

SARA hosted a very successful flea market at the Yellowhead Inn in Edmonton on February 4, 2012. Here are some of the facts:

### ATTENDANCE

219 people or more attended; 210 paid the registration fee, 2 were children, 2 were non-amateurs who only came to work. Also I suspect that, due to the configuration of the entrances, there may have been one or two who missed the registration table.

### TABLES

16 tables were rented  
6 tables were club tables  
5 tables were vendors' tables

### DONATIONS

*Goods were provided by the following:*

Nick Harder VE6NLH - SARA Dogs  
Alfa Radio - Door prizes valued at \$220.95  
NTF Communications - door prize  
Craig Howey VE6DT - door prizes  
Ray Semenoff VE6RHS - concession items

*Labour Set Up:*

Paul Duczynski VE6PDD  
Bart Vinkenburg VE6VB  
John Hebert VE6LCK  
Dave Beale VA6DAB  
Dave Devine VE6DEV  
Ray Semenoff VE6RHS  
Graham Walker VE6GRA  
Ray Semenoff VE6RHS

*Labour Concession:*

Sandra Tesman  
Bill Guthrie VE6OLD

***Labour Registration Table***

Anne Ward

Rita Haugh VE6RIT

***Labour Doorpersons***

Ray Semenoff VE6RHS

Cindy Knipelberg VE6NPL

Kiernan Barr VA6IP

**PA SYSTEM**

Ray Semenoff VE6RHS

**PRIZE WINNERS**

***Door Prizes***

Gern Sabourin VE6KG

Patrick Piedmont VE6PY

Bill Guthrie VE6OLD

Steve Ireland VA6GI

Al Nichols VA6AN

Bart Vinkenberg VE6VB

Polly Mitchell VE6PSI

Clay Guthrie

**50/50**

Sandra Tesman