

**Minutes of the Board of Directors Business Meeting, Forsyth
Amateur Radio Club—21 March 2016**

By Terry Brown (AK4D)—Secretary, Forsyth Amateur Radio Club

1. Call to Order and Welcome: The monthly Board of Directors Business Meeting, Forsyth Amateur Radio Club, was held on Monday, 21 March 2016 at Ham's Restaurant, 367 Lower Mall Drive, Thruway Shopping Center, Winston-Salem. The meeting was called to order by **FARC President Jim Atkins-W4UX**, at 1937 hours. He welcomed all meeting attendees. Meeting attendees were **Jim Atkins-W4UX, Harold Richardson-N4HER, Terry Brown-AK4D, Don Edwards-WS4NC, Gene Bowman-WB4MSG, Doc Holliday-WB4QIZ, Dale Mierisch-WB9SZL, David Shoaf-KC4X, Geoff Rudy-KK4MOV, Daryl Knight-N5WK, Jim Register-KV4SJ, Jerry Minor-K4GW and Henry Heidtmann-W2DZO.**

2. Treasurers Report and Upgrade of Club Equipment: **Henry Heidtmann-W2DZO**, FARC Treasurer, stated that the club balance was \$5331.96. He led discussion on needed upgrading of club assets. An upgrade of club computers was considered. The purchase of a scope for one of the K3 transceivers was also discussed.

3. Field Day: **Daryl Knight-N5WK** stated that four club members had volunteered to be antenna captains, but more were needed. **Terry Brown-AK4D** stated that he would circulate a volunteer list for antenna captains along with the attendance sheet at the next club meeting. **Gene Bowman-WB4MSG** stated antenna captains would need to come by his house to launch and test the antenna that they would be responsible for deploying for Field Day. Gene also discussed antenna layout plans for Hobby Park. On other items for Field Day, **Harold Richardson-N4HER** stated that he would handle the educational exhibit. **David Shoaf-KC4X** would serve as safety inspector. **Don Edwards-WS4NC** led discussion on food to be served for Field Day, focusing on BBQ. **Doc Holiday-WB4QIZ** and **Henry Heidtmann-W2DZO** would handle publicity and invitations of dignitaries. **Geoff Rudy-KK4MOV** would handle coordination with Boy Scouts.

4. FARC Repeater Discussion:

a. Dale Mierisch-WB9SZL updated everyone on the 146.64 repeater Echolink issue due to a recently blocked port during Red Cross IT maintenance work. Dale stated that he would contact Tom Dunn with the Red Cross on this.

b. Dale Mierisch-WB9SZL updated everyone on the Yaesu DR-1X repeater purchase of \$600 to replace the present 444.275 club repeater. He had not heard confirmation on the purchase but was hopeful.

c. Henry Heidtmann-W2DZO asked if the phone line costing \$36 per month for the 146.64 MHz repeater was necessary. **Dale Mierisch-WB9SZL** stated that the autopatch on the repeater was currently disconnected.

Discussion was held on replacing the phone line with point to point communication.

d. Repeater Upgrade and Replacement: Discussion was held on upgrading the clubs 145.47, 146.64 and 444.275 MHz repeaters. Discussion followed on lightening protectors, impacts from recent and planned Baptist Hospital construction, wireless control communication and new hardline that needs to be run. Listed below are possible upgrade and replacement items described in phases in an email from **Dale Mierisch-WB9SZZL** dated 15 February to club officers. Phase 1 of purchasing a Yaesu DR-1X repeater to replace the present 444.275 club repeater is currently in progress, discussed previously and not included below. Phase 2 considered the purchase of duplexers for the 444.275 repeater upgrade. **Don Edwards-WS4NC** stated that the club already has duplexers that can be used. Therefore, phase 2 is not included below. Phases three through five from Dale's email are shown below, are being considered and discussed.

1. Phase 3: This phase considers the purchase of a "Voting System" for the 145.47 Repeater. The idea will be to "plant" (1 to 8) Satellite receivers around the area to extend the coverage of the 145.47 repeater. The satellite receivers can "Grow" from 1 to 8 receivers as the needs/funds are available. The Tour to Tanglewood or other emergency situations can be served better by "planting" a satellite receiver near the operating area. A possible system that could be purchased is the LDG RVS-8 Eight Channel Voting System with a cost of \$319.00 + \$50.00 for cables for a total cost of \$369.00.

2. Phase 4: This phase considers the purchase of 1 to 4 Satellite receivers (with power supply, antenna and coax) required for the Voting system (phase 3 above). New transceivers can be purchased, or preferably Midland VHF/UHF programmable radios can be used. The proposed satellite station cost would be \$150 per satellite node. (Radio \$50.00, Power Supply \$40.00, Antenna & Coax \$60.00)

3. Phase 5: Phase 5 considers the purchase of the optional MH-48A6JA (\$60.00) microphone and Voice Guide Unit FVS-2 (\$32.00) for the DR-1X repeater. This would allow the system to be programmed/tested onsite versus using another radio.

4. Breakdown of Cost of Phases Three Through Five: Note that shipping costs have not been included in any of the options.

<u>Proposed Costs</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Total</u>
Phase 3:	\$ 369.00	\$ 369.00
Phase 4:	\$ 150.00	\$ 519.00
Phase 4a:	\$ 150.00	\$ 669.00
Phase 5:	\$ 92.00	\$ 761.00

5. Status of Phases 3, 4 and 5: No motions were made for these phases 3, 4 or 5 but they remain under consideration.

5. Boy Scouts Yaesu FT-450 Transceiver and Sale of Collins Receiver: **Geoff Rudy-KK4MOV** stated that he had tested the Yaesu Ft-450D obtained from the proceeds of an estate sale and no issues were noted in the testing. The transceiver is to be used by the Boy Scouts. Geoff also stated that another of the Boy Scout leaders, **Jonathan Sharp-KM4RAD**, had gotten his Technician license recently and had upgraded to General license. **Henry Heidtmann-W2DZO** stated that he had not received the rebate check from Yaesu from the purchase of the radio. **Gene Bowman-WB4MSG** stated that the Collins receiver from the estate had been sold for \$600. Gene discussed getting a packet controller and power supply for the Boy Scouts.

6. Upcoming Monthly Club Programs: Possible upcoming club programs are:

- a. 11 April-maybe Jim Brown-K9YC on RFI. Work need to be done to allow presentation to be done remotely.
- b. 9 May-Whisper program by Harold Richardson-N4HER
- c. 13 June-Preparation for Field Day
- d. 11 July-Possible QSL card
- e. 8 August-no program selected yet
- f. 12 September-Modern Test Equipment by Don Edwards
- g. 10 October-open
- h. 14 November-open
- i. 5 December-Annual Holiday Dinner meeting. Reservations have been made at River Ridge Tap House, 1480 River Ridge Drive, Clemmons.

7. Club Business Cards: **Harold Richardson-N4HER** and **Jerry Minor-K4GW** discussed business cards for club officers and Board of Directors. Vistaprint was discussed as a potential vendor.

8. Adjournment of Meeting: Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by **Jerry Minor-K4GW**, seconded by **Doc Holiday-WB4QIZ**, affirmed by all and meeting was adjourned at 2054 hours.