

Minutes of the Business Meeting of the Forsyth Amateur Radio Club – 16 March 2020

By Stacey MacArthur (W1LLO)
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, 16 March 2020 on the 145.470 repeater due to concerns over coronavirus. The net was called by Stacey MacArthur (W1LLO), and the meeting was called by FARC President Sam Poindexter (NI4TG) at 1930 hours, welcoming all meeting attendees.

2. Meeting Attendees: The 17 meeting attendees were, Don Edwards WS4NC, Sam Poindexter NI4TG, Harold Richardson N4HER, Stephen Patterson WA3RTC, Terry Brown AK4D, Jim Register KV4SJ, Van Key KC4WSK, Ron Gregoire W4WDB, Ken Kayser K2KXK, Stacey MacArthur W1LLO, Michael Pope K4OLD, Dale Mierisch WB9SZL, Harlan Cobert W1HRC, David Nicholson N2AWE, Kent Englebert K4HKE, Mike Vernon W4MAV, Henry Heidtmann W2DZO.

3. State of Emergency: As North Carolina is currently under Federal and State implemented State of Emergency alerts due to the coronavirus outbreak, many topics slated for this meeting will be revisited later due to the sensitivity of some information over the air. Sixty-Six Pizzeria where we usually hold the business meeting was notified of the cancellation for this evening.

4. Mi Pueblo: The room for the annual Christmas dinner has been reserved at Mi Pueblo located on Stratford Road for 6pm on Dec 14th.

5. Coronavirus Response Committee: A committee addressing the club's response to the coronavirus emergency was formed last week. This committee consists of Sam Poindexter (NI4TG) Terry Brown (AK4D) Don Edwards (WS4NC) and Harlan Cobert (W1HRC). The purpose of this committee was to make decisions if needed pertaining to the coronavirus response as well as provide a response to the health department if requested. Any concerns about the virus or how it will affect the club and future activities, please see a member of this committee.

6. April Meeting: A program is tentatively scheduled for the April meeting. Failing presenter availability, there are multiple back up presentations that can be organized. Whichever direction, most likely this will be a streamed online presentation via YouTube to prevent the spread of virus among our more susceptible member base.

7. Tower Cleanup: The tower clean-up project has been put on hold momentarily while engineering concerns are being researched.

8. Fund Raiser: Recently there has been discussion about how to raise money for the club apart from member dues and ham-fests. Harold Richardson (N4HER) has volunteered to lead an antenna building initiative that would provide the club with product to sell at not only our ham-fest, but others in the area bringing in a much-needed source of revenue. The club would provide the funding for the raw materials, and Harold would make his workshop available to club members willing to assist in the

fabrication process. Assistance was volunteered from multiple participants. A motion was called, seconded and passed.

9. Auxcomm/Ares: Due to coronavirus, many current Auxcomm activities have been cancelled. This includes the April 4th Hanging rock event, and all classes that were to take place at the Red Cross building. Still awaiting word on the April 18th MS walk event but is expected to be cancelled as well. The state-run Web EOC classes are still being held as there is limited attendance and individuals can be spread out to avoid contact. The weekly Auxcomm nets will still take place. Auxcomm has been asked to be prepared to be deployed locally. Although deployment is not anticipated at this point, the situation is still evolving. Reminder to only get your information from reputable websites such as the CDC or local public health departments. Beware of email and telephone scams as well as email containing viruses claiming to be from the CDC or public health.

10. Cancellations: Raleigh Amateur Radio Society ham-fest has been cancelled, as well as Dayton Hamvention.

11. Testing: Until further notice, license testing will be cancelled at the Red Cross.

12. Adjournment of Meeting: After a brief informal session, the meeting was adjourned at 2022 hours.