

Minutes of the Business Meeting of the Forsyth Amateur Radio Club – 16 November 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 called to order by President Sam Poindexter (NI4TG) at 1930 hours. The meeting was held on Zoom video conferencing software due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

2. Meeting Attendees: The 22 meeting attendees were, Don Edwards WS4NC, Sam Poindexter NI4TG, Harold Richardson N4HER, Stephen Patterson WA3RTC, Terry Brown AK4D, Ken Kayser K2KXK, Stacey MacArthur W1LLO, Michael Pope K4OLD, Kent Englebert K4HKE, David Shoaf KC4X, David Nicholson N2AWE, Doc Holliday WB4DOC, Van Key KC4WSK, Jerry Minor K4GW, Harlan Cobert W1HRC, Gene Bowman WB4MSG, Mason Matrazzo KM4SII, Terry Good W3NPS, Marcia Thompson NC4MT, Bruce Thompson AD4ET, Ron Gregoire W4UDB, and Steven Mierisch KG4JWU.

3. Announcements: A reminder there will be no business meeting in December. The December General meeting will not be held at Mi Pueblo but will be held on Zoom and follow the usual December meeting format. A welcoming committee was formed to welcome and engage with new and prospective members. Ken Kayser (K2KXK) has volunteered to lead up this committee. Also volunteered was Doc Holliday (WB4DOC).

4. Meeting: ARRL NC section held a meeting for club presidents and program coordinators; Sam Poindexter (NI4TG) and Don Edwards (WS4NC) were in attendance. Attendants discussed challenges due to COVID-19, how clubs are handling it, and new ideas for next year. Don Edwards organized a newsletter group for exchanging newsletters and information. Another meeting has been scheduled for February.

5. Field Day: The results for the 2020 Field Day was printed in the December issue of QST. Looking through the aggregate scores, we once again placed 9th in North America. We are confirmed for Hobby Park for Field Day 2021. Field day will once again be headed up by Committee. This Committee includes Stacey MacArthur (W1LLO) – Chair, Harold Richardson (N4HER), Don Edwards (WS4NC), David Nicholson (N2AWE).

6. Dues: The dues for 2021 were discussed the previous month, and all were invited to attend the business meeting to bring comments. The board put forth a standardized amount of \$25.00 for all memberships with no change to family memberships. No new attendees brought forth any concerns, and the vote was called and passed. As previously, members may pay forward at the old rate any time before January 1st. It is to be noted, the dues increase is not to eliminate a budget shortfall. Per the bylaws the dues must be reviewed once per year and adjusted based on current needs.

7. Mailing: Discussion for a mass mailing drive to members and a second wave to non-member hams in the area for dues renewals, new memberships, and donations. Included would be a letter from the

President, a membership form, and possibly an information pamphlet about the club. Some funds received will go towards video and presentation equipment.

8. Grant: The FCC recently sold a block of IP addresses previously allocated for amateur radio use. The funds from this sale are being made available to radio clubs and organizations in the form of grants. The Forsyth Amateur Radio club may be qualified to receive one of these grants. A grant proposal would need to be generated, and an application sent in. More information to come later.

9. Auxcomm: Harlan Cobert (W1HRC) presented the Auxcomm report. Although over the summer COVID had remained steady, over the past month there has been an uptick in cases in Forsyth county. Cases are doubling every 14 days, and by Thanksgiving they expect them to double every 7 days. The virus has become more contagious but fortunately it is no longer as deadly. New restrictions have not yet been considered, but are expected to be reevaluated in the next three weeks. There are multiple vaccines that show a lot of promise with 90-94% effectiveness and they are planned for release soon. The EOC NCS course is still ongoing and will be finished this coming Saturday. Basic Emcomm course will be held after the first of the year. An invitation to attend the monthly Auxcomm Zoom training the 3rd Thursday of every month. The details are on the W4NC.com website.

10. Adjournment of Meeting: The meeting was adjourned at 2038 hours.