

# BRARA Board Meeting

**Date: Saturday 29-FEB 2020 Location: The Shack Start Time: 12.13pm**

Attendance: Bruce KO4XL, Patrick KE4OBV, Jerry K4BFL, George WA2VNV, Jeff K4BH, Jay N2ELG, Michael W2RT, Michael K8BQ, Bonnie KC2JVS, John.C N1QFH

The following items were discussed and actions assigned:

## SETTING THE AGENDA

- We all offered our subject areas for the meeting.
- Next mid-month is 18-March 2020 at PBC Library Glades branch 6.30pm.
- Radiator Grille 21-March

## PAYPAL

We reviewed the PayPal fees (approx. 1.5 pct) and the net we may expect.

**ACTION:** Bruce to get PayPal HTML and provide to John.C for website implementation

**ACTION:** Bruce to create secondary logon

**ACTION:** Bruce to generate PayPal report for Patrick

## DMR MICROWAVE PROJECT

Art updated board on repeater site history and status.

**ACTION:** Art, Lew, and Jerry will relocate dish on 2m or 70cm antenna

**ACTION:** Jerry to determine when the dish relocation can occur and advise Art, George and Lew

## REPEATER STATUS

The cabinet door was removed since it could not be closed due to new amp. No need to swap out cabinets.

**ACTION:** Bruce connect with Lew to update our DMR repeater details on database (FL spectrum coordinator FSMA)

**ACTION:** John.C to connect with Ricky.E on Boca hospital assets

## SATELLITE PROJECT

George provided the board the implementation steps and costs to complete. He has offered the club his IC-910H transceiver at a reduced price. We discussed rotator status. Patrick suggested we have rotors refurbished by known source. We discussed the need to relocate the antennas near the satellite system.

From George on Satellite station status.

Cement base is cured and 2 tower tilt over sections attached. Grounding strap needs to be reconnected tower base & corner ground rod with hose clamps. The acquisition of the Yaseu Az/EI rotor fell thru as it was sold locally. We have requests out for another used one. We should budget an approx cost for at \$400 if one becomes available. New cost is \$750 - 800. Rick, K1DS did evaluations of the U100 & controller, works for elevation The G800 & controller, works for azimuth. It may need a rebuild as it's noisy when turning. Budget \$\$ ~120+/- . Current thoughts are the tower, antennas, rotors, are suitable for satellite. I would proceed with what we have and leave EME out of the equation for now. EME requires more antenna, tighter aiming, and higher power. Build what we have now and add/upgrade in the future. We can still do limited EME with the big gun stations.

Next steps:

1. Get a bearing made (Walter ?) for a vertical the mast (8-10 ft) that fits the U100 and tower top tube section. Evaluate the elevation mast that is currently in the U100 rotor to see if it is usable as is. Do not disassemble it. Clean up the fiberglass & spray with U/V Krylon.
2. Decide which mast is to be used and its length and how far above the top of the tower it should be.
3. Budget \$\$ for rotor control cables, polarization control cables and coax cables & connectors for antennas. Check available cables with ohmmeter and coax with TDR. Cost ~\$150
4. Check the antennas with the appropriate metering to assure the driven elements are OK and the circularity coax phasing lines are OK and the circularity switching relays are working. Also check their impedance and frequency resonance.
5. Procurement of 144/432 satellite tracking rig and computer for the above. In this regard, I have an Icom 820h that I am willing to sell to the club for \$500. Current going used market is \$850. I will donate to \$350 difference. New cost was in the \$1600+ range with some options. It is the perfect rig for our situation. Runs 100 Watts out on 144 & 75 Watts on 432 and has the hi stability oscillator option. We already have the Mast preamps for both bands. There is also a 1296 option if you can find one. I will bring the rig back with me this weekend, otherwise next possible time is next fall. Please advise me this weekend.

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Summary. We are looking at spending in the area of \$750 to \$1000 to finish building the station. (maybe an Az/EI rotor in the future) We need board action to continue. i.e. - spend some money!

**ACTION:** Next step: define project tasks and cost estimates

**ACTION:** Satellite team look into refurbishing rotors

**ACTION:** Relocate antennas that may block the satellite system

## 1-YEAR MEMBERSHIP

**ACTION:** Bruce will send letter

## AED UPDATE

Jerry updated us on PBC plans to permit an AED onsite and logistics to have PBC for onsite visit. We have a number of members wanting to take AED/CPR and first aid training. Jeff.S is certificated instructor for both.

**ACTION:** Jerry will continue linkage with PBC for AED

**ACTION:** Two board members will be present for this visit

## BADGES

Bruce has another local supplier he'll follow up with for badges. Need to keep our setup for the badges.

**ACTION:** Bruce to follow-up with potential suppliers of badges and shirts

**ACTION:** Patrick will forward to Bruce link to previous supplier's web site

## TRAINING AND TESTING

We discussed the DMR class logistics and course of study. The may be 1 or 2 days over multiple weekends such as ½ day as class and ½ day as clinic which has to be on a Sunday.

**ACTION:** Bruce to connect with Jeff.R

**ACTION:** Jay, Jeff.R, Roger, Al to define DMR curriculum

**ACTION:** DMR class on Sunday 19 April

**ACTION:** Jerry will send request for VE's a week before the testing

## BOARD ADMINISTRATION

The board reviewed fall election logistics, personal desire to continue and who can be on nominating committee. Event dates reviewed. Radiator Grille is on 21-Mar. The Holiday Party and December member meeting will not be part of policy book.

**ACTION:** Board to define nominating committee for 2020 director elections by June

**ACTION:** Spring Radiator Grille (Saturday 21-March 2020) will be completed by the Board

**ACTION:** John.C to train Michael K8BQ admin tasks

**MOTION:** Move by Patrick, John 2<sup>nd</sup>, to add Holiday Party to replace December meeting in policy book, does not carry.

**ACTION:** Patrick to provide donation letter to Dirk for Wx station, see Jeff.S FMI

## EQUIPMENT STATUS

Board discussed how to handle reviewing inventory. Keep separate or identifiable items that have been dispositioned. Art, George, John,C, Bruce, Jerry, Ralph, Michael are resources for ELC and invite board. Target a Sunday for availability.

**ACTION:** Define members on Equipment Liquidation Committee (ELC).

**ACTION:** John.C to work with ELC to set a Sunday in April.

**ACTION:** Jay will revive select desktops and he needs disk drives

## THE SHACK

Bruce updated us on IC-7600 status and Mike W2RT and Grant K4KEK's work to resolve the settings on the radios and PC.

**ACTION:** Resolve the IC-7600 and PC configuration for FT8 and document the process and settings

**ACTION:** Purchase sand to reset pavers and add more stones (20 bags)

**ACTION:** Bruce to purchase 10x10 popup

**ACTION:** Jerry to rekey storage room locks and distribute

**ACTION:** George to replace the damaged lightening arrestor pellets

**ACTION:** Jeff.R and Bruce to coordinate training and rekeying shack and gate

**ACTION:** George and John.C to address the rat nest of wires in VHF/UHF room

**ACTION:** John.C to have lightening protectors in-line to bonded ground

**ACTION:** John.C to remove large inkjet printer from shack (complete)

**ACTION:** Bruce or Jerry to design a raspberry-pi device to enable wireless printing

**ACTION:** Jay updated monitor to make it easier to read

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**MOTION:** By Jeff.S and 2<sup>nd</sup> by John.C, through Bruce to accept IC-910H transceiver for \$500, passed

## HAMCATION

We reviewed all the charges and logistics of this event.

## PROJECTS

Discussed how we may be able to have county locate light poles inside gate and we provide base.

- Tower maintenance
- Build housing for tower motor
- Replacing the conduit power outside the shack
- Re-factor all stations for cabling and connections as learned from 2020 WFD

**ACTION:** Bruce will purchase power conduit, connectors, boxes, glue etc.

**ACTION:** Bruce and Art will connect with tower maintenance service provider

**ACTION:** Radio Team to refactor all stations before 2020 Summer Field Day

**ACTION:** John.C to access with feedback on metal cowling previously used or other options

**ACTION:** Relocate fan dipoles and locate light poles in shack foot-print

**ACTION:** Relocate light poles to inside gate

**ACTION:** John.C to organize list of tasks

**ACTION:** Jerry to ask PBC about locating poles

## PRESENTERS

We discussed having at least 2 months of presenters identified.

**ACTION:** John.C will connect with Jeff.R on future presenters

## 2020 WINTER FIELD DAY

We discussed how to setup radios and computers and how to restore to normal operation. Need to backup radio config to MEMORY stick. Michael updated us on the use of radios and PCs. We discussed unique logon id to each PC, ways to avoid damage and restore processes.

**ACTION:** Define core team to address each station and station setup notebook including N1MM

**ACTION:** Jerry to send John.C all WFD data and member presentation

**ACTION:** Michael and John.C to document and publish radio and PC settings and configurations

## OTHER ITEMS

We reviewed event dates such as Radiator Grille and testing dates. The dates were handed out. Bruce will be away from 14-May until 28-May and 5-Dec to 21-Dec. We discussed stored items in shed and timing. Jeff.S cannot make radiator Grille due to other commitments. Need to continue cross backup of secretary and treasurer.

**Next Board meeting:** 6.30pm 18-MARCH 2020 at PBC Library Glades branch

By request of the president, the board convened to executive session.

**Adjourn:** Jeff moved, 2<sup>nd</sup> by John and approved at 2.21pm.

Respectfully submitted

John Cole N1QFH / Secretary