

Minutes for Bella Vista Radio Club

July 6th, 2017 – Approved 8/3/17

The Bella Vista Radio Club held its July meeting on 7/6/2017, at its normal location, Highland Christian Church. The meeting was led by president Ken Mummery, K6RLA, with eighteen (18) members and guests in attendance.

Minutes for the June 2017 meeting were approved as posted on the website.

Club Treasurer W0KYZ reported a bank balance of \$1,617.21. Due to the future added use of the church meeting room for monthly VE Testing, the club voluntarily voted to increase our use fee from \$25 to \$35 per quarter. After discussion with VE Coordinator Glenn, WB5L, and VEC Darryl, WA1GON, \$1 per VE Test will be remitted to the club to help offset the increase.

OLD BUSINESS:

Club Repeater – K5SAW reported on a project to implement “Emergency Power Announcements” to be programmed into the repeater controller. The project would generate on-air alerts in the event of a disruption of electrical power at the repeater site. The repeater has a UPS backup power supply that should provide battery power operation for up to an hour. It is anticipated that this will be enough time to notify New Mac Electric Cooperative of an outage.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS: WB5L, is leading a new ARRL affiliated Volunteer Examiner team that will begin monthly license testing on Saturday, July 8. The VE team will consist of at least three Volunteer Examiners, and the testing will be held in the Club’s normal meeting room at Highland Christian Church, 2 p.m., on the 2nd Saturday of each month. Complete details are posted on the BVRC website. Our new VE testing has also been widely promoted on-air, via brochures, emailed flyers, and area newspaper announcements. Glenn reported that at least two hams have indicated intentions to take upgrade exams this week.

There have also been preliminary discussions between Glenn, K5QBX and K5XK, about conducting Technician license preparation classes. Anyone interested in assisting should contact either the three.

NEW BUSINESS:

Liaisons for BV Fire Stations – W0KYZ reported on his and KG5MCF’s efforts to license BV police and fire department personnel so they can operate amateur emergency communications, as needed. At present, VHF stations are already available at two locations, Towne Center and Fire Station #4. Additional donations of Two Meter transceivers and antennas are wanted to complete availability at all fire department locations.

In addition to the needed gear, Whittlesey and Fellenzer are looking for club members to volunteer as liaisons throughout the city, two hams per station, to provide emergency communications preparedness.

WA1GON also recommended that the Club also liaise with other local clubs, for emergency communications and public service communications. Darryl reported that BCRO would like assistance from BVRC with the 8/19 'Tour de Cure' bicycle event, which will be conducted in the Bentonville and Bella Vista area benefiting the American Diabetes Association. He said the event is an opportunity to demonstrate how area ham clubs can cooperate in demonstrating the value of amateur radio with real-time emergency & public service communications.

PROGRAM:

Marc, W0KYZ, presented a most interesting program on the SteppIR antenna design, use and maintenance. Marc has seven years experience with his SteppIR DB-18, which is an 8 band, 40 through 6 Meter yagi. The antenna is mounted on a 72-foot motorized crank-up/tilt-over tower, from which Bella Vista is well-represented on regular basis.

Members & Guests present on 7/6/2017:

1. K6RLA – Ken Mummery, President (BV)	12. KE6UWB – Tom Carroll (BV)
2. K5XK – Ron Evans, Secretary (BV)	13. KG5ANT – Frank Majdan (BV)
3. K5SAW – Steve Werner, Club Tech Ofcr (BV)	14. W0KYZ – Marc Whittlesey, Treasurer (BV)
4. KE6UWB – Tom Carroll (BV)	15. WA1GON – Darryl Wagoner (Decatur)
5. K5HJS – Harold Sobotka (Rogers)	16. WB5L – Glenn Kilpatrick (BV)
6. KK6LNC – Jeffers Dodge, (Btntl)	17. K4PPL – Bob Flickinger (BV)
7. Sondra Dodge (XYL, KK6LNC)	18. N5XR – Mike Elliott, Guest (Miami, OK)
8. AD6OQ – Mal LaMotte-Kerr (BV)	
9. AC5LX – Bob McIntire (BV)	
10. AF5XH – Phil Wright (BV)	
11. KF5ZIM – Gregg Doty, (Rogers)	

New Member Dues were remitted by proxy for James Blount, N1ELS, of Elkins.

The next BVRC meeting will be *Thursday, August 3rd, 2017.*