

Minutes for Bella Vista Radio Club

August 3rd, 2017 – DRAFT

The Bella Vista Radio Club held its August meeting on 8/3/2017, at Highland Christian Church, with Ken Mummery, K6RLA, presiding. Sixteen (16) members and guests were in attendance.

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

Treasurer WOKYZ reported an updated bank balance of \$1,616.76. With the newly discovered 1993 By-Laws, Marc reported that membership dues include all licensed family members.

OLD BUSINESS:

Club Repeater – K5SAW and K5QBX reported their plan to add new “Emergency Power Outage” and “Net” announcements to the repeater controller had been delayed. The “Net” announcement would alert listeners that the repeater is currently allocated for a special event. (Note: The BVRC repeater has been designated as the secondary / backup repeater for “Tour de Cure” on Saturday, August 19, from 6 a.m. to 4 p.m. That day, the combined efforts of hams from BVRC, BCRO and other clubs, will provide communications for the day-long cycling event. More info below, under New Business.)

Fire Station Communications Project – WOKYZ reported on the project to provide a “Go Kit” with 2 Meter capability for emergency backup communications at each of the four Bella Vista fire stations. Marc reported that only one Go Kit is available at this time, and it is at the new Fire Station #4 on Hwy 279. More gear is needed for the other fire stations. Another part of the plan is for BVRC to provide two licensed volunteers to staff radios at each station, should the need arise. Meanwhile, dispatchers and firemen have been encouraged to obtain their Technician class license.

NEW BUSINESS:

Tour de Cure – Loren Lawrence, N5PUV, president of Benton County Radio Operators group, appeared personally to request that BVRC join the effort to provide operators with radios for this month’s 2017 Arkansas Tour de Cure, on 8/19. For the first time, the bicycling road race, which benefits the Diabetes Association, will be staged in northern Benton County, southern McDonald County, and extending as far west as the Grove area in Oklahoma. Hams with Two Meter radios are needed to provide communications and safety assistance. Volunteers will provide communications as “SAG” (‘Supply And Gear’) wagon riders, Rest Stop Volunteers, Net Control operators, and also to provide back-up & relief operation for these, as needed.

Additionally, Lawrence stated that the event is also an opportunity for area clubs to show how various groups of hams can cooperate in demonstrating the value of amateur radio with real-time emergency & public service communications.

Bob Heil, K9EID - The September 2017 program will be provided by Bob Heil. Prior to the August meeting, Highland Church pastor Paul Seal indicated the meeting room has a capacity of about 125, maximum. Preliminary reports are that we will have many guests from outlying areas for Bob's program. President K6RLA recommended that we ask for RSVPs in an effort to insure that we can adequately handle the crowd.

PROGRAM:

Fred, K5QBX, presented an informative program on the newly relocated BVRC Repeater, and repeater etiquette & protocol.

Members & Guests present on 8/3/2017:

1. K6RLA – Ken Mummery, President (BV)	12. KE6UWB – Tom Carroll (BV)
2. W0KYZ – Marc Whittlesey, Treasurer (BV)	13. KG5ANT – Frank Majdan (BV)
3. K5XK – Ron Evans, Secretary (BV)	14. K4PPL – Bob Flickinger (BV)
4. K5QBX – Fred Lemley, Repeater Trustee (BV)	15. N5PUV – Loren Lawrence, Guest (Pres., BCRO)
5. K5SAW – Steve Werner, Club Tech Ofc'r (BV)	16. KC7DQY – Paul Blomgren, Guest (Webmaster, BCRO)
6. KE6UWB – Tom Carroll (BV)	
7. K5HJS – Harold Sobotka (Rogers)	
8. AD6OQ – Mal LaMotte-Kerr (BV)	
9. AC5LX – Bob McIntire (BV)	
10. AF5XH – Phil Wright (BV)	
11. KF5ZIM – Gregg Doty, (Rogers)	

NOTE: The September BVRC meeting will be Thursday, 9/7, with Bob Heil, K9EID, of Heil Sound & the Ham Nation webcast, live and in-person as special guest and presenter.

Mark your calendars and plan to attend with your audio-related questions!