

BCARES BOARD MEETING – November 20, 2013

CALL TO ORDER

The BCARES Board meeting called at 19:10 by Allen Bishop (KØARK) in the Pawnee room of the Boulder Regional Communications Center / EOC, 3280 Airport Road, Boulder, Colorado 80301-2226.

Attendees:

Board Member	Name (Position)	Present?
BARC Primary	Mike Derr W3DIF	N
BARC Alternate	Dave Sharpe KIØHG	Y
LARC Primary	Ron Thomas KCØNEV (Secretary)	Y
LARC Alternate	Jerry Schmidt NØOUW	N
RMVHFS Primary	Len Koppl KDØRC	N
RMVHFS Alternate	Mike Borenstein NØBP	Y
2 year At-Large Primary, elected even yrs.	George Weber KAØBSA (Vice Chairman / AEC)	Y
2 year At-Large Alternate, even year	Louis Perley III KCØVJE	N
2 year At-Large Primary, elected odd yrs.	Allen Bishop KØARK (Chairman / EC)	Y
2 year At-Large Alternate, odd year	Mark Huff KØLRS	N
1 year At-Large Primary	Joey Stanford NVØN	N
1 year At-Large Alternate	John Clary N1NES (Treasurer)	Y
Director, Office of Emergency Mgmt.	Michael Chard	N
Boulder County Sheriff's Office	Cmdr Phil West (BCSO Volunteer Coord.)	N

Additional Attendees: Jack Ciaccia WMØG (PIO), Joe Callahan KCØJCC (IMA Liaison)

OLD BUSINESS AND HOUSEKEEPING

1. Review of Minutes from October Board Meeting

Minutes of the previous BCARES board meeting, held October 23, 2013 were unanimously approved.

2. Treasurer's Report – John/Allen

John Clary and Allen Bishop are now the only authorized signers on the BCARES bank account. John has gotten online banking working and provided the following treasurer's report:

Current balance is \$732.54.

Deposits:

September Interest \$0.01

November Interest \$0.01

Check from George Weber for Hats \$40.00

Check from Mai Edwards for Donation \$30.00

Disbursements:

Check to Jim Andrews for ATV backpack replacement parts \$110.08

3. Training, Certification, and Credentialing – George and Jerry

Ron made the following motion and John seconded:

The qualification category of Home Based Operator (HBO) be created to exist between Applicant and Associate and be the first level of qualification for BCARES members. Members qualified at the HBO level are restricted to home-based deployments only. The requirements for HBO qualifications are:

Current Amateur Radio License,
Approval for membership by the BCARES Board,
Approval for membership by the Boulder County Sheriff's Office,
IS-100b (NIMS Compliant) obtain conformation e-mail from FEMA training website,
IS-200b (NIMS Compliant) obtain conformation e-mail from FEMA training website,
and NCS Qualification.

AND

That "access to reliable personal transportation" be added as a requirement to the Associate qualification level.

The motion passed unanimously.

Ron moved and Dave seconded that the moratorium on new members be lifted. The motion passed unanimously.

Dave moved and John seconded that BCARES application process be enhanced by adding the requirement of a personal interview conducted by a quorum of board members. The motion passed unanimously.

George is going to review the current BCARES application and consider what additional qualification or capability questions might be appropriate to ask.

4. MERN Updates

Joe has been attending the IMA meetings. Allenspark has been focused on developing their neighbor-to-neighbor contact methods and sees amateur radio as another tool to that end. The IMA is aware that additional FCC courses can be held, and they need to identify the individuals who are interested.

5. MERN Grant Status – Joe

The IMA are working on applying for available grants to restore their community to pre-flood conditions, and are investigating possible enhancements to protect their community from future hazards. Joe is building a team of individuals from each community that can identify the best use of available community resilience grant funds. Joe will be attending another meeting on Thursday, November 21, 2013 to keep this moving.

6. BCARES Website, Email, and General IT – Ron

Ron still needs to create the general membership distribution list. Allen and Jack attended the COARES Saturday breakfast and mentioned the staffing forms Ron created for the Boulder County Flood response. Several people are interested in duplicating the process and might reach out to Ron for additional info.

7. D-STAR Status (Statewide Net and Acquisition of Northern System) – Joey

John is working closely with Joey to get the D-STAR systems operational. John's currently chipping away at a long list of tasks that Joey provided.

Joey could not attend the board meeting, but he provided the following report on D-STAR via email:

1. WOCDS is a full free star box now. It's waiting on Doug to have some time for him, John Maxwell, and myself to get it setup and tested in Doug's garage. Possibly this weekend.

2. The road closes to Devil's Head on the 1st and there is some site work to do there before we can install. I doubt we'll get everything setup especially since I won't be around.
3. I had to replace the harddisks in W0CDS because the old ones are failing. I still have the old ones which are setup on the hybrid system (I setup the hybrid system and then noticed the disks were bad) so if the Free Star system doesn't work and we're in a crunch I can put those back in and they should last for a short while longer.
4. I have all the FCC paperwork for W0DK's replacement. I need to get that to George. I'm waiting on the vanity call paperwork and approval. Once we get that I can convert W0DK to the new callsign and to a full Free Star system.
5. I've been working with the Free Star Devs and we've gotten the deployment of a Free Star hotspot down pat for the Raspberry Pi. The hotspot runs the full repeater system and can do all the things a regular repeater can do. The RF module is the red DVAP. The catch is that it's simplex. We've just implemented DTMF routing on it so you can call me, for example, by keying up and hitting 1006. It'll beep my hotspot and connect you. Pretty cool! You can view the hotspot over the internet at <http://nv0n.nv0n.net>
6. I've created a software program, and published it publicly, that queries all the D-STAR systems in the Colorado/Wyoming group and reports on their health. You can view it live at <http://dstar.nv0n.net>
7. One thing that strikes me is that we have 1 full system north of Denver (W0DK, the one in Fort Collins is not a full rack nor online all the time) and we have 7 south of Denver (plus the reflector is south of Denver). This makes me really wonder about placing W0CDS down on Devil's Head.

In response to point 7, Jack advised Devil's Head has line of sight all the way to Cheyenne and is a fantastic location for north and south coverage.

8. Boulder Flood After Action Report

Jack reminded BCARES that he needs after action reports for the Boulder County Flood response.

New Business

1. BCARES Annual Meeting Plan

The BCARES annual meeting will be held on Monday, January 27, 2014 in the Houston Room of the Boulder County Clerk and Recorder's office at 1750 33rd Street, Boulder, CO 80301. BCARES will provide very light refreshments. Doors will open at 6:00 and the meeting will start at 6:30.

The board will finalize the agenda for the annual meeting at the December board meeting.

2. New Member Requests – George

Marcus Kiley Ward's application was pending from the previous board meeting and Thomas E. McMitchen has recently applied. The board unanimously approved both applicants to move forward to the in-person interview phase.

3. Rip's Repeater "Giveaway"

Dave picked up some of the available repeater equipment and parts that Rip generously offered to BCARES.

4. CU Football Support Status

The most recent game had plenty of volunteers, but volunteers at other games have been light. Some of the newly minted hams from the CU engineering class have assisted with providing video support.

5. Celly Deployment – Joey

Joey emailed the board with draft language for an email to BCARES membership regarding signing up for Celly. John has responded with some information, but the rest of the board will review and provide Joey with comments.

6. BCARES Seal and Secretary Documentation Transition

Following a discussion on IRS filing requirements, Mike Derr sent a package containing the BCARES corporate seal rubber stamp and a DVD of the electronic records from his tenure as secretary to Ron Thomas on October 29, 2013. Ron will maintain possession of the rubber seal and has added the files to his personally-stored secretary records.

7. Amendment to BCARES Bylaws to Update Physical Address

The BCARES Bylaws last amended in February 2013 still contains the old 33rd street address. The Colorado Secretary of State has the correct and current address, but it appears not to have been updated in the Bylaws.

Ron moved and George seconded that the following amendments be made to the BCARES Bylaws:

Change the address in BCARES Bylaws, Article I, Section 1 from "1806 33rd. Street Boulder, CO" to "3280 Airport Road, Boulder, CO 80301, United States", and

Change the address BCARES Bylaws, Article I, Section 2 from "1806 33rd. Street, Boulder Co. 80301" to "3280 Airport Road, Boulder, CO 80301, United States".

8. BCARES Cubicle Equipment – George

George has been working with some equipment in the BCARES cubicle and has discovered that the triplexer and the ID880 radio has likely been lightning damaged.

George is going to attempt to identify local resources to repair the ID880 radio, but the triplexer needs to be replaced.

Dave moved and Allen seconded that the board authorize George to spend up to \$100.00 to purchase a Diamond MX-3000 Triplexer. The motion passed unanimously.

Next BCARES Meeting:

Monday, December 16, 2013 at 7:00 pm

**Location: Boulder Regional Communications Center / EOC, Pawnee Room,
3280 Airport Road, Boulder, Colorado 80301-2226**

ADJOURNMENT

The Board meeting was adjourned at 21:58.

**Respectfully submitted,
Ron Thomas – KCØNEV
LARC Primary Liaison
BCARES Secretary**