

# BCARES BOARD MEETING – October 23, 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	N
LARC Primary	Ron Thomas KCØNEV (Secretary)	Y
LARC Alternate	Jerry Schmidt NØOUW	Y
RMVHFS Primary	Len Koppl KDØRC	N
RMVHFS Alternate	Mike Borenstein NØBP	N
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	Y
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 September Board Meeting

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

### 2. Treasurer's Report – John/Allen

Mark Huff resigned as treasurer via email on October 22, 2013. The board accepted his resignation and unanimously elected John Clary to the position.

The bank statement dated October 9, 2013 reports that BCARES has \$772.61 in the checking account.

#### a. Transfer Accounting Records from Allen to John

John and Allen are going to meet at Wells Fargo in Louisville to modify the signature card for the BCARES bank account.

#### b. Receipts / Disbursements / Balance / Planned

George Weber wrote a check for \$40.00 for BCARES hat sales and gave it to John for deposit. Joe reported that one MERN operator by the name of Steve is mailing a check to BCARES for a donation.

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

Immediately prior to the meeting, George provided Jerry with a full backup of the current BCARES training record.

Several individuals have contacted George about wanting to volunteer for the CU football games, but are not ATV qualified. George is going to contact these individuals and advise that training is one of the purposes of the ATV operations at the football games, so ATV qualifications is not required.

Allen has produced a sample of the BCARES credentials. Jerry is going to provide Allen with a fully-updated training list, and Allen will produce qualification cards for the rest of the members. The initial plan is for Allen to deliver the qualification cards to the BCARES cubicle, but George might be able to mail them out to the members.

### **4. MERN Updates**

#### **Next FCC Training Dates for Nederland and Allenspark – George**

George has sent invitations out to several people, but has not yet received any response. Allen recommended that George work with Joe to use the IMA distribution list.

### **5. BCARES Website, Email, and General IT – Ron**

Following the model of the BCARES Board distribution list, Ron is going to create a BCARES Members distribution list. Ron will subscribe members to the list and members will be unsubscribed upon request. Ron checked out the PC left in the BCARES cubicle. It was definitely left by an amateur radio operator, presumably for our use.

### **6. Grant Status**

#### **a. Ball Aerospace Project Grant – Dale**

There was no update from Dale on any grant from Ball Aerospace. Allen is going to reach out to Dale again.

#### **b. MERN – FEMA and Foothills United Way**

The BCARES board has begun coordinating a wish list via email to start the grant process.

Joe has met with the IMA and determined that the IMA would like to participate in any grant request process for equipment that would benefit MERN.

There are FEMA grant funds available for flood recovery or mitigation. Linking the MERN repeaters could be considered as a flood mitigation site. The possibility of linking the MERN repeaters via the Longmont water tower was raised.

Allen recommended the creation of a MERN committee consisting of Joe Callahan as the head, Mike Borenstein and Dave Sharpe as technical resources, and representatives from each of the IMA communities.

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

Joey has attempted to contact Doug Sharpe to obtain information and status of the D-STAR repeater equipment. Joey has also attempted to get the root password from Nate, but has not been successful. Joey reached out to Brian Roode (NJ6N) about the possibility of recreating the user database after rebuilding the equipment. Joey is still hopeful that he will get the appropriate information from Doug and Nate to avoid having to rebuild things, but rebuilding is definitely an option.

The thinking is now to relocate the CDS repeater (formerly at Mount Thorodin) to Devil's Head. Joey can manage the system remotely, but he will likely need to be physically present when the CDS repeater is brought back online.

The W0DK D-STAR system (currently located at Boulder Municipal Airport) will be relocated to Lee Hill with Joey as the trustee with a newly created club call that George is going to identify.

**8. Boulder County Site Survey Project Status – John**

John has a local copy of the site survey spreadsheet and will update it on the website as it develops.

**9. Redbook Updates – All**

Dale was coordinating all the Red Book updates, so someone needs to track him down. Allen will attempt to reach out to Dale via telephone at Ball Aerospace.

**10. Donated Repeater Status**

Allen retrieved the donated repeater and the antenna tower from Nederland several weeks ago.

**11. Uniform Update – Allen**

Allen has requested an electronic copy of the new ARES logo from Robert Wareham, but has not yet heard back. John has had a shirt and hat made with the new ARES logo customized for Boulder County.

## **New Business**

**1. Moratorium on New Members – Allen**

Due to recent events, the board unanimously agreed to place a moratorium on accepting new BCARES applications to review minimum membership requirements. The board will review the moratorium at the next board meeting.

**2. New Member Requests – George**

Marcus Kiley Ward submitted a membership application. The board unanimously approved his becoming a member, pending the termination of the moratorium on new members, compliance with new membership requirements, and, BCSO approval.

**3. Celly Performance During Boulder Flood – Joey**

Joey opened a discussion with the board regarding plans on rolling Celly out to the BCARES board and the membership at large. Celly has recently updated their web interface to add functionality and appear more professional. Joey is going to write a process document for review by the BCARES board and then distribution to the membership.

**4. BCARES Cubicle Equipment – George**

George Weber and Bill McCaa got two notch filters tuned and working to improve the stability of incoming ATV transmissions.

There is a version of the X-6000 antenna available in Europe that is supposedly better than the X-6000 antenna available in North America. Jack advised that Andrews makes a good tri-band antenna that would be a good substitute.

The HF tuner currently in the BCARES cubicle is only rated to 30 watts, so the recommendation is to replace it with an LDG AT-897 Plus.

**5. Boulder Flood After Action Report**

Jack is pushing for solid after action reports for the response to flooding in Colorado. Allen is going to take a first pass at a report for BCARES and forward it to the rest of the board for input. George has compiled a lot of statistics from the BCARES response and the September

meeting minutes contain notes from the board's conversation and informal review of BCARES support of flood response.

**6. BCARES Support of LARC Repeater Move – Jerry and Ron**

Ron has spoken with Vince Jordan with Longmont Power and Communications about the possibility of locating the BCARES D-STAR stack at the Price Park water tower in Longmont. Vince indicated that the technical capability to locate the repeater at that location definitely exists, but approval and direction would be needed from the City of Longmont and Boulder County. Additional support and information is needed to move this forward. Ron has asked Allen, Joey, Jack, and Jerry for help with building support.

With the change in direction of D-STAR repeater location, Ron and Jerry are adjusting the plans to fit the LARC repeater only. Jerry is going to contact TuffShed to find out whether they could donate a structure to help augment Longmont's ability to respond and remain resilient to emergencies.

Allen is going to draft a suggested letter that Sheriff Pelle could send to Vince (or the appropriate person) in support of the LARC repeater move. Ron will coordinate this with

Ron is going to contact Vince and identify whether backup power is available at the water tower location, if physical access for using the structure as storage is available, and the appropriate recipient of a letter from Sheriff Pelle.

If moved to the new location, the LARC repeater should be upgraded to include an auto-patch and IRLP functionality. LARC should also plan to eventually host a APRS receiver or IGate.

**7. Joey Wants to Resign as Longmont Liaison**

Joey has begun transitioning the Longmont Liaison role to Jerry. Joey will stay on as liaison until the transition is complete.

**Next BCARES Meeting:**

**Thursday, November 21, 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 22:48.

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