

# BCARES BOARD MEETING – February 26, 2013

## CALL TO ORDER

The BCARES Board meeting was called to order at 07:06 PM by Allen (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	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	Y
2 year At-Large Alternate, even year	Louis Perley III KCØVJE	N
2 year At-Large Primary, elected odd yrs.	Allen Bishop KØARK	Y
2 year At-Large Alternate, odd year	Mark Huff KØLRS	Y
1 year At-Large Primary	Joey Stanford NVØN	Y
1 year At-Large Alternate	John Clary N1NES	Y
Director, Office of Emergency Mgmt.	Michael Chard	N
Boulder County Sheriff's Office	Cmdr Phil West (BCSO Volunteer Coord.)	N

Additional Attendees: Dale Scott (KAØQPV), Peter Goldman (WB2DVS)

## OLD BUSINESS AND HOUSEKEEPING

### 1. Review of Minutes from BCARES Annual Meeting

Minutes of the previous BCARES Annual meeting, held January 28, 2013 were unanimously approved.

### 2. Treasurer's Report – Jim K. and Allen

Jim Kubitscheck is still out due to illness, so the report was given via Allen Bishop. As of the February 11 statement, the balance was \$2,707.35. There are two outstanding checks totaling \$84.50, leaving an actual bank balance of \$2,622.35.

### 3. Training, Certification, and Credentialing

### 4. MERN Updates

#### 4a. Repeaters – Dave

Dave advises that the repeater appears to still be running fine and all users are happy. There are current plans to upgrade the power supply. Dave has a couple of power supplies with integrated battery backup functionality, so he's thinking that we can swap the current power supply with one with battery backup.

There is some additional grant money available that can be used to purchase batteries for the MERN repeater. Dave is going to provide Joey with specifications on the battery charging circuitry for the proposed power supply to Joey. Joey is then going to provide Allen with a recommendation on AGM batteries.

#### **4b. New Amateur Radio Licensing – George Weber**

MERN has requested another FCC Technician training course. Allen has advised them that another course can be held, but only if there are at least 10 solidly confirmed participants. Allen believes that 15 individuals are interested, but he will obtain confirmation and a list of names before scheduling the next course.

#### **5. Website Updates – Ron and Mark**

Ron advises that the new webhosting and registrar are available and the only remaining steps are to turn on the site at the new webhost, change the DNS records, and await propagation to DNS servers.

#### **6. Red Book Updates – Dale**

Dale doesn't have any new updates on the Red Book. Dave is going to continue to drive the update of the Red Book and will continue to do so until it is fully updated.

#### **7. Operation Lights Out Tabletop Preview – Allen and Dale**

Dale and Allen attended a tabletop exercise for Operation Lights Out. During this tabletop exercise, several basic assumptions were challenged, such as availability of spare personnel for outside agency assistance, and loss of power at sewage lifting stations. The exercise participants determined that while Colorado emergency management has great planning and expertise in handling localized emergencies such as fires or floods, preparation for a large-scale, statewide event is lacking. The next tabletop exercise will focus around increased coordination with Colorado National Guard and the military.

#### **8. Grant Status**

##### **DHS/OEM – Allen**

The \$2,700 Department of Homeland Security Office of Emergency Management grant was approved and paid for all requested items, except for a VHF radio. Allen is going to attempt to redirect the funds intended for the VHF radio to purchase two AGM batteries as mentioned earlier.

##### **Ball Aerospace – Dale**

Dale has no specific updates, but he spoke to an individual at Ball that is partially responsible for processing the grants who felt optimistic about the funds being available, assuming healthy financial results.

##### **Intrado / Steve Meer – Allen**

Steve is currently out of town, but Allen has spoken with him to request a donation of \$5,000 to \$10,000.

#### **9. D-Star Status – George W. and Joey**

George has been involved with the D-Star system on Mount Thorodin.

By default, the D-Star system is run with ICOM software controlling the radio and D-Star interface. BCARES has been using D-Plus as the software on top of that. Joey has discovered a better alternative to D-Plus called Freestar. Freestar is seeing increasing acceptance by the D-Star community.

Allen raised the question of being able to provide internet connectivity via D-Star. Joey advised that a microwave backbone link is required to replace the Internet for linking D-Star nodes.

## **10. Boulder County Site Survey Project Status – Dale**

The board discussed several different ways to further the newest site survey including another push to the membership, planned survey work days or events, data collection via the BCARES website, use of new MERN members, and consideration of seasonal variations from mountain heating or summer foliage.

## **New Business**

### **1. New Members – George W. & Jerry**

Starr Aldrich has applied for membership and passed the BCSO background check. The board unanimously approved Starr for BCARES membership.

### **2. Certifications – George W. & Jerry**

George and Jerry are continuing to track the incoming training certifications and have been sending copies of the membership tracking spreadsheets back and forth to each other to ensure each of them has a currently updated copy.

Jerry has been tracking certifications numbers of the membership. There are 76 members on the roster, 4 have absolutely zero activity but are kept on the list, 38 have completed EOC orientation, 27 associates, 11 facility qualified, 12 field support, and 4 field qualified. Each of the totals for the previously listed categories include all members in the higher-rated categories (e.g. the 4 field qualified users are counted in the 27 associates). We have

- 12 – Associate
- 3 – Facility Qualified
- 7 – Field Support
- 4 – Field Qualified

### **3. Exercises**

#### **a. NDMS – DIA – June 5, 6:00 am to 3:00 pm**

#### **b. Vital Connection – May 15th through 17th – Allen**

Military/civilian exercise specifically designed to test interoperability. ATV support has been specifically requested. This is a mid-week exercise with operations scheduled from 8:00am to 5:00pm.

#### **c. Good Sam Evacuation Exercise – May 31st – Doshia / George K.**

#### **d. MERN Exercise – Nederland to Lyons – Date TBD – Allen**

This would be an exercise simulating a wall of fire along Peak-to-Peak highway on an extremely high fire danger day. Allen is coordinating with the area fire chiefs and will look to schedule this exercise after the Allenspark repeater is online.

### **4. Annual Meeting Review**

#### **a. Welcome to Joey Stanford as a new board member (replacing Dale Scott)**

#### **b. Review BCARES Bylaws**

Ron proposed an amendment to the bylaws striking the text “other than an Alternates” from BCARES Bylaws, Article V, Section 1. Joey seconded the amendment. After discussion, the amendment was approved unanimously.

**c. 2013 Officer Nominations and Appointments (Chair/EC, Vice Chair/AEC, Secretary, Treasurer)**

**Chair/EC**

Allen Bishop was nominated and elected unanimously.

**Vice Chair/AEC**

Dave Sharpe was nominated and declined.

George Weber was nominated and elected unanimously.

**Secretary**

Ron Thomas was nominated and elected unanimously.

**Treasurer**

Jerry Schmidt and Mark Huff were nominated.

Mark Huff was elected unanimously.

**d. Assignments**

**The following are assigned specialist and committee roles:**

CU / CU EOC Liaison	Mark Huff and Dave Sharpe
Boulder / OEM BCSO Liaison	Allen Bishop and TBD
Broomfield / OEM Liaison	George Weber and Dave Sharpe
Longmont / EOC Liaison	Joey Stanford and Ron Thomas
Louisville, Lafayette, Erie Liaison	Dale Scott and Jack Ciaccia
Lyons, Allenspark Liaison	Allen Bishop (Sal De Vincenzo pending)
Membership Coordinator	George Weber
Credential/Certification Coordinator	Jerry Schmidt
Website Committee	Ron Thomas, Joey Stanford, Mark Huff, and Allen Bishop
Grants Coordinator	Allen Bishop
RED Book Coordinator	Dale Scott
BCARES Equipment Coordinator	Pete Goldman
D-STAR Coordinator	Joey Stanford
ATV Coordinator	Dave and Jim Andrews
Packet Coordinator	Len Koppl and Pete Goldman
Repeater Hardware and Frequency Coordinator	Dave Sharpe
AUXCOM Coordinator	Allen Bishop and Joey Stanford
Site Survey Coordinator	John Clary
Trustee WØBCR BCARES License	Jim Andrews
Hospital Liason	Doshia Kretke
BCARES Monday Net Manager	Jane Pzedpelski
State Net Liaison	George Weber
D10 Liaison	Louis Perley
D27 Liaison	Len Koppl
Red Cross Liaison	Joe Callahan
Public Information Officer	Jack Ciaccia
Bylaws	Mike Derr

**5. Uniforms – Should we update them?**

This topic was tabled until next meeting

**6. GroupMe – Should we kill it or keep it?**

This topic was tabled until next meeting.

**Next BCARES Meeting:**

**Tuesday, March 26, 2013 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 10:22 PM.

**Respectfully submitted,  
Ron Thomas – KCONEV  
LARC Primary Liaison and backup scribe**