



Board of Directors Meeting - Minutes
(and Repeater Linking Subgroup Meeting)
August 7, 2024

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83431389165?pwd=Te4AiodxF9og3NGrp4tqDWfGoCoDaJ.1>

Meeting ID: 834 3138 9165 | Passcode: 347032

1. Repeater Linking Subgroup meeting (called to order 6:03 pm):

Members present: Craig Hange, Lee Gravesen, Rita Crawford, Dave Hoos, Mary Bastian, plus our guest from El Dorado, Bob Hess

- a. Lee's report from his visit with Ernie - Ernie has antennas in a pine tree and they swapped one to higher in the tree which seems to help. Ernie suggested preamps in both repeaters to help with linking. Battery backup had been earlier disconnected due to a hum, but Ernie is getting a whole-house generator installed so battery backup should not be a problem. Bob suggests against preamps unless absolutely necessary, they can sometimes introduce new problems.
- b. Where to put relay for line-of-sight between repeaters - Bob has modeled the potential sites we sent to him and they are not going to be useful. Bob was asked if there's another way to find a location. He suggested a free computer app called Radio Mobile although it's complicated to use. Craig suggested a couple phone apps he's found and Bob said that any Path Profile app should be sufficient to figure line-of-sight & that's probably the best way. Craig asked about the potential of using a drone as a 30-min backup solution for emergencies, and Bob said that the drone we'd need is probably out of our price range. Craig also suggested trying to find a member during the weekly safety net who can reach both repeaters. Bob said that was a great idea. Bob is currently dealing with the Crozier fire, but if he gets time he will play around with some location ideas. He also mentioned that sometimes it just comes down to knocking on doors.
- c. Rita asked Bob if the El Dorado group does any "lessons learned" sessions after a fire. Bob calls it a "post mortem" and says all the repeaters are recorded and they give classes on the good and bad of their communications. They also special sessions on the major fires. Rita expressed interest in being included in some of these and Bob said he would welcome any of us to attend. He will try to make it a practice to send invitations to our group and Fiddletown.
- d. Next Repeater Linking Subgroup meeting is Wednesday, August 21 at 6pm.

2. Core Group Meeting (called to order at 6:30 pm)

Members present: Craig Hange, Rita Crawford, Dave Hoos, Mary Bastian (Lee had a prior commitment)

3. Approval of Minutes from Board Meeting of July 10, 2024: *The July 10th meeting was fairly informal, with no written agenda and no minutes taken. No actions were taken during the July 10th meeting, including no approval of the minutes from the June 5 meeting. It was decided to bring the June 5*

minutes to the September meeting for approval. Mary will re-send the June 5 minutes with the September agenda.

4. Discussion items:

a. Old Business:

- i. *SafetyNet Controller sign-up for August-October is available on the web-site - Not much to discuss, still need more people, & just keep asking. Craig can do the upcoming SafetyNets for repeater #1. He will send out an email to the members about trying a double SafetyNet (repeater #1 & #2)*
- ii. *Tait Microphone fixes - Craig will pursue this with Bob H & Bob K.*

b. New Business:

- i. *Obtaining additional Tait base station radios - Rita will continue to leave her radio on loan to the group for the time being. Craig will pursue with Bob H & Bob K a potential purchase or donation of any of their spare equipment.*
- ii. *Streamline (website) invoice - The bill for the upcoming year (August 2024-August 2025) has gone up. It is \$75/mo instead of last year's \$60/mo. Some of their services have been enhanced and payment of \$900.00 is due September 3. After a bit of discussion, Dave moved to approve payment, Rita 2nd, approved unanimously. Dave will send the invoice to the Amador Community Foundation bookkeeper for payment.*

5. Treasurer's Report: *prior balance was \$5984.97, new balance is \$5834.97*

- a. *Revenue:*
- b. *Expenditures: \$150.00 was spent for the Ledger article (this was approved on short-notice basis through Groups.io)*
- c. *Total Funds Available:*
- d. *Discussion: Of the 5834.97 balance, \$1800 is earmarked as grant money for the repeater linking project, and \$900 is now earmarked for the Streamline invoice*
- e. *Applications for Grants:*

6. Marketing Report: *none*

7. Adjournment at 6:54 pm

Next Regular Board Meeting: September 4, 2024 at 6:30 pm