

OCRA Board Meeting Minutes – July 25, 2023

Board Meeting Attendees – Bruce (N1LN), Dan (KR4UB), Aurora (KN4VXB), Chris (KY4OU), Dee (KU4GC), Bill (N8BR), John (KX4P), Wilson (W4BOH), and Laurie (N1YXU)

The meeting minutes from the June BOD Meeting were updated due to a comment from Dee and were then approved.

There was no Membership Meeting in July.

Discussion Topics:

- Old Business
 - Baha'i Center Filter Status – Dan will go ahead and order a few of the filters that we have agreed on in prior Board meeting discussions. When Dave (W4SAR) has an update from the Baha'i Center, Dan will have some filters available to bring to the meeting site. Bruce will send Dave an email, copying Dan, asking about the current status.
 - Upcoming Membership Meetings
 - August – Dave (W4SAR) will give a drone presentation and demonstration. Bill will call Dave to confirm the program.
 - September – John is working on the program for the SX-99 presentation, and most of it is ready to go. He needs to add a few videos that include making contacts.
 - Additionally, a good friend of John's from Charlottesville, Virginia, who is the editor of the "Dots and Dashes" magazine and astronomer invited John to attend an August conference at the Green Bay radio telescope area in West Virginia. John hopes to get a lot of pictures and stories that could be turned into an update or presentation at an upcoming OCRA meeting.
 - We have options for the October and November meetings –
 - Bruce will get in touch with Dave Wright (W4LMW) about when his group will be able to give the overview of the IEEE van communications capabilities.
 - Aurora has checked with Ben (KO4BHX) about giving a presentation on the satellite tracker that he built for Field Day. He said he can do a presentation in October, November, and whenever is best for the club.
 - Our December "meeting" will be our Christmas party on December 11. We will have the topic on the Board meeting agenda for next month and discuss it further. To lock down the location, Laurie will follow-up with the pastor at Union Grove United Methodist Church and see if the date can be "penciled" into the church's calendar.
 - Emergency Communications Survey and Status –

- Thanks to Aurora for her quick action in putting the survey together for club members to complete!
 - Board members were encouraged to complete the survey, if they had not already.
 - At the time of the Board meeting, 27 responses had been submitted. Note that during the meeting, an additional respondent's answers were recorded bringing the total to 28 responses.
 - Aurora shared the graphic results with the group. The majority of respondents indicated that they are interested in participating in some type of emergency training.
 - Aurora will periodically download the graphic results and send them to Bruce.
 - One of the next steps that the Board will take (with help from OCRA members) is what to do with the information we will have gathered. We will need to develop training to address the needs/requests of our membership.
 - To ensure members are able to complete the survey, the deadline will be extended and a reminder will be sent to the membership.
- Chris gave the group an overview of the email that was sent earlier in the day regarding the Introduction to Radiological Emergency Volunteer Corps (REVC), scheduled to kick off via a Webex call on August 7.
- Repeater Update - Dan
 - John (N4SKW) has linking working in prototype mode on the 443.475. This will support the low tower linked systems, if that is the strategy that we adopt. As additional repeaters are moved to address the overall repeater plan, the same linking will be done to the repeaters. The result would be a transition to linkable repeaters.
 - Conversations continue with Charlie Durst (call sign) about how the DFMA repeaters will be included in the overall plan.
- Officer Reports
 - Dan (Treasurer) – There are 99 members who have their dues current. There are 7 members need to renew, and 4 memberships are expiring.

Respectfully submitted,
 Laurie Meier, N1YXU
 OCRA Secretary