

OCRA Membership Meeting Minutes – October 13, 2025

Meeting Attendees (Total of 26 in-person and on Zoom) – Bob (W4FK), Paul (N2XZF), Boyd (KO4GJO), Laurie (N1YXU), Bruce (N1LN), Dan (KR4UB), Matthew (KQ4ZYW), JR (N4JQR), Ken (KO4DHJ), Jerry (KR4NJ), Jon (KR4GOK), Marc (KR4GOI), Randy (KF4O), Greg (KE8NNJ), Tim (KC1TWR), Ron (KO4RON), Charles (KQ4TNF), Mark (KR3AM), Ryan (N7RYN), Dave (NA4VY), Doug (KA5ETS), Sam (KJ4VWG), Joe (K4SAR), Bill (KI4RAN), John (KM4MDR), and Wilson (W4BOH).

Meeting Topics –

- Opening Comments
 - Before the discussion of the proposed bylaws updates, Bruce reviewed the work that had been done recently related to the bylaws.
 - In March of this year, the membership approved updated bylaws with the understanding that additional changes would be presented later in the year.
 - There has been significant time spent reviewing and updating the bylaws document. This work was first done by Laurie and Ron. Their updates were reviewed by the Board and approved to be brought forward to the membership for additional discussion and, ultimately, for a vote to be adopted.
 - Based on requirements in the bylaws, the membership received a draft of the proposed bylaws over two weeks before the October 2025 membership meeting. This allowed time for everyone to review the information, ask questions, and be prepared to vote to adopt the updates. Note that, prior to the meeting, no questions were received from the membership.
 - Those attending the meeting were reminded that only members in good standing, those who are current on their dues, are eligible to vote. The attendees were also reminded that, based on the March 2025 approved bylaws, a simple majority of those members in good standing (in-person and virtually) is needed to approved the proposed changes to the bylaws.
- Proposed Bylaws Updates – Laurie and Ron
 - Note that the comments below essentially mirror the topics and slides shared at the meeting. Please watch the YouTube video (referenced later in these minutes) for the full discussion and rationale of the updates.
 - Changes from the approved March 2025 bylaws
 - Examples were provided. Note: The examples do not include all changes that were made. The vast majority of the changes related to making cosmetic updates, reordering sections, and adding clarity.
 - Example 1 - Bylaws Introduction
 - Approved March 2025 Bylaws - These Bylaws govern the day-to-day operation of the Orange County Radio Amateurs, as provided in articles 4, 5, and 6 of the Articles of Incorporation.

- Proposed October 2025 Bylaws - These Bylaws govern the day-to-day operation of the Orange County Radio Amateurs (OCRA), as provided in articles 4 (Membership), 5 (Directors), and 6 (Officers) of the OCRA Articles of Incorporation dated July 28, 1992.
- Example 2 – Primary Responsibilities of the President
 - Approved March 2025 Bylaws - The President shall be the chief executive Officer (CEO) of the club and shall, subject to the control of the Membership, supervise the affairs of the club and the activities of the Officers. He or she shall perform all duties incident to his or her office and such other duties as may be required by law, or by these Bylaws, or which may be prescribed from time to time by the Membership. The President will preside over and maintain order in all meetings. In consultation with the Board of Directors, the President will set agenda for meetings. He/She shall enforce the due observance of the constitution and Bylaws, decide all questions of order, and sign all official documents.
 - Proposed October 2025 Bylaws –
 - Subject to the control of the Membership, the President shall supervise the affairs of the Club and the activities of the Officers.
 - The President shall perform all duties incident to the office and such other duties as may be required by law, by these Bylaws, or which may be prescribed from time to time by the Membership.
 - The President will preside over and maintain order in all meetings.
 - In consultation with the Board of Directors, the President will set the agendas for Membership meetings and the Board of Directors meetings.
 - In Board of Directors meetings, the President shall act as Board Chair and shall vote only to break a tie.
 - The President shall enforce the due observance of these Bylaws, decide all questions of order, and sign all official documents.

- Updates to key sections

Approved March 2025 Sections	Proposed October 2025 Sections
	0. Definitions (In Good Standing and Present) *new *
1. Directors	1. Board of Directors (Officers + Directors) *new *
2. Club Leadership Team (Officers)	2. Club Leadership Team (Officers)
	3. Board Members at Large (Directors)
3. Elections, Vacancies, and Removal of Officers/Directors	4. Elections, Vacancies, and Removal of Officers/Directors
4. Membership	5. Membership
5. Bylaws	6. Bylaws
6. Meetings	7. Meetings
7. Dues	8. Dues
8. Committees and Special Interest Groups	9. Committees and Special Interest Groups

- Section 0 - Addition of Definitions

- In Good Standing: Club Members are considered in good standing if their membership dues are current. Members must be in good standing to vote in elections and on other matters.
- Present: Club Members attending a meeting in an approved manner will be counted as present for purposes of determining voting counts.

- Section 1 – Addition of BOD Components

- The Board of Directors (BOD) shall consist of the following -
 - A. The Club Leadership Team (Officers) - The President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Club Station License Trustee (Trustee), all of whom are elected from the Membership.
 - B. Board Members at Large (Directors) - Four to eight persons who are elected from the Membership.

- Section 2 – Vice President Responsibilities Updates

- The Vice President shall assume the duties of the President in the case of the President's death, resignation, or absence.
- The Vice President shall provide leadership in the identification and presentation of programs for Membership meetings.

- ~~▪ The Vice President shall also serve as a liaison with the Durham FM Association or other clubs with which we are holding joint activities (e.g. Amateur Radio Field Day) for the mutual benefit of their members. The exception to the Liaison responsibility would be if one of the BOD members is an officer in the other club(s). That member would then act as the liaison.~~
[This bullet point is deleted.]
 - When OCRA holds joint activities with another organization for the joint benefit of Members, the Vice President shall serve as Liaison, or shall appoint another Member to serve as Liaison. **[Update to above bullet]**
- Section 2 – Secretary Responsibilities Update
 - The Secretary shall maintain the Articles of Incorporation, the Bylaws, and all documents and associated records of the Club.
 - The Secretary shall keep minutes of the General Membership meetings and the Board of Directors meetings and report the same to the Membership.
 - ~~▪ The Secretary shall manage all club correspondence.~~ **[This bullet point is deleted.]**
 - The Secretary shall ensure an orderly and complete transfer of all records, correspondence, and documents to their successor.
- Section 2 – Update to the previous CSCSA Responsibilities
 - Club Station Call Sign Administrator (CSCSA) changed to Club Station License Trustee (Trustee)
 - Amended item iii. The Trustee shall take immediate action (e.g. repeater shutdown) and notify the OCRA Board of Directors of any violations of FCC regulations or violations of terms of use of OCRA radio property imposed by the OCRA Articles of Incorporation, dated August 11, 1992, Section 3 (Purposes) as amended and in the OCRA Repeater Code of Conduct approved by the OCRA Board of Directors on April 13, 2021, as amended and posted on the OCRA website [www.NCOCRA.org]. **[The addition of the reference to the club’s website eliminates the need to continuously update the bylaws if there are changes to the Repeater Code of Conduct. The most current version will be available on the club’s website.]**
- Section 4 – Elections
 - Addition of Nominating Committee
 - The President, with the approval of the BOD, will establish a Nominating Committee which will compile a slate of candidates for the election. The BOD will approve the slate of candidates. The President will provide the slate to the Membership at least two weeks in advance of the election.
 - Addition of statement that item b (below) will no longer be valid after the 2026 BOD elections. Note: This update will eliminate the possibility of most or all of the current BOD members to conclude their terms at the same time.

The update will help support the intention of having half of the board elected in even numbered years and the other half elected in odd numbered years. This will ensure overlap of experience as board members change.

- a) The term of elected Officers/Directors shall be as follows: For those newly elected into their position, the initial term will be two years.
 - b) For those who have chosen to run again for the same position, the candidate can choose to run for a term of one or two years.
 - c) ***Item b will no longer be valid after the election for the 2026 Board of Directors.***
 - d) Note: Those involved in the creation of the ballot should be mindful that the overall intent shall be to arrange the terms of the elected Board members so that half will be elected in alternating years.
- Questions and comments from OCRA membership
 - Questions were requested from those who were attending in-person and on Zoom.
 - Answers were provided to the questions that were asked and did not result in an update to the proposed bylaws updates.
- Vote to accept updated bylaws
 - Tim (KC1TWR) made a motion that the proposed updated bylaws be accepted, and Paul (N2XZF) seconded the motion.
 - All members in good standing (attending in-person or virtually) voted to accept the proposed updates. The OCRA Bylaws document will be updated to reflect the date the changes were approved by the membership.
- Christmas Party Update – Boyd
 - The Christmas party will be held on Monday, December 8 (in lieu of the monthly membership meeting). The location for the party is Union Grove United Methodist Church, 6401 Union Grove Church Road, Hillsborough. This is the same location as last year.
 - Boyd is asking for volunteers to help organize the party and also to set-up/teardown at the church. If you would like to volunteer to help, please contact Boyd directly at wordwalker3@gmail.com
 - You can also contact him to sign up to attend the party. The cost is \$10 per person, payable in cash or check. If you're paying by check, please see the instructions in the email that Boyd will send.
 - Those attending are asked to bring a dish to pass. When you sign up to attend the party, please let Boyd know what dish you will bring. An email will be sent periodically listing the food items that will be at the party and who will be bringing the items.
 - Later this week, Boyd will send an email to the club's reflector and will include more information about the party.
- Open Discussion –

- As we all know, the OCRA repeater is occasionally used as a primary or secondary means of communication during a third-party event (e.g. bike ride). The question was raised about how OCRA members can expect to receive communication about the scheduling of these events to make sure they are not caught off guard when using the repeater. The conclusion of the discussion was that the topic will be reviewed at the upcoming Board meeting and the decision communicated at an upcoming membership meeting.
- Matthew announced the Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) activity that will occur on Saturday, October 18, from 9 to noon. Everyone was invited to volunteer to help and/or participate.
- Wilson also reminded everyone about the group that has been meeting on Sunday afternoons from 3 to 5pm in Wilson's basement. The group has been working toward building a transmitter by dismantling four television sets and two radios. It is an informal gathering that anyone is welcome to attend.
- The YouTube video for this meeting can be found at the link below – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bQVFKEvF4TI>
- The November OCRA Membership Meeting will take place on Monday, November 10.
 - At that meeting, the final slate of candidates for the 2026 OCRA Board will be presented by the Nominating Committee. The vote will take place at the January 2026 membership meeting. Prior to the November membership meeting, if you are interested in running for any position on the Board, please contact a member of the Nominating Committee (Fred, Ron, or Bruce).
 - Also, the results of the programs survey will be reviewed. If you have not yet completed the survey, please do so as soon as possible. The email with a link to the survey was sent to the club's email reflector.

Respectfully submitted,
Laurie Meier, N1YXU
OCRA Secretary