

## **OCRA Membership Meeting Minutes – April 13, 2026**

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**Meeting Attendees** (Total of 29 in-person and on Zoom) – Bob (W4FK), Dave (W4SAR), Karen (KD4YJZ), John (KM4MDR), Juan (KR4EQW), Paul (N2XZF), Dave (NA4VY), Sam (KJ4VWG), Ben (KO4BHX), Dave (K4DJW), Boyd (KO4GJO), Ken (KO4DHJ), Ron (KO4RON), Laurie (N1YXU), Bruce (N1LN), Steve (KZ1X), Matthew (KQ4ZYW), George (KF8CNA), JR (N4JQR), John (KR4GOK), Jerry (KR4NJ), Fred (KN4QBZ), Charles (KQ4TNF), Mark (KR3AM), Aurora (KN4VXB), Jery (KR4NJ), Ryan (N7RYN), Randy (KF4O), and Wilson (W4BOH).

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### **Meeting Topics –**

- Boyd started off the meeting talking about the Curiosity rover on Mars, as he had been inspired by the recent Artemis II trip around the moon to do some research. He found out that the rover had been created by Jet Propulsion Labs with NASA. When NASA told JPL they wanted a marker on the wheels that could be used to see how far the wheels went, JPL originally wanted to put the letter J, P, and L as stamps on the wheel. When NASA shot that idea down, they instead put those letters as morse code imprints on the wheel.
- Bob W4FK mentioned the DFMA picnic will be at Bennett Place Historic Site on April 25 at 11:30AM. Wilson will be working with Bennett Place to have a telegraphy exhibit with an old keyer and sounder.
- Matthew KQ4ZYW: POTA event with DFMA will be May 2<sup>nd</sup> (May 3<sup>rd</sup> if it rains) from 1-4PM. The event will be at the Little River Regional Park at the small shelter, which is reserved for the entire day for both dates. Bring food if you want it, as there is a small grill.
- Presentations:
  - Ben (KO4BHX) gave a presentation on propagation. He covered definition of terms, how to understand propagation, why is it important, how the sun affects it, how the ionosphere plays a part, and what software can be used.
- The May Membership Meeting will be held on Monday, May 11th.
- The YouTube video for this meeting can be found at the link below – <https://youtu.be/x465gZ1X6HE>

Respectfully submitted,  
Matthew Stafford, KQ4ZYW  
OCRA Secretary