

OCRA Board Meeting Minutes – July 28, 2026

Board Meeting Attendees – Dan (KR4UB), Matthew (KQ4ZYW), Ron (KO4RON), Aurora (KN4VXB), Boyd (KO4GJO), Ken (KO4DHJ), Ben (KO4BHX), Dave (W4SAR), Karen (KD4YJZ), Wilson (W4BOH), Jon (KR4GOK), and Bob (W4FK)

The minutes for the July Membership Meeting and the June BOD Meeting were approved at this meeting after typos were fixed.

Action Items: Shadows for any positions that are ending January 2027. Finding someone to handle the Zoom meeting and recording for the September meeting (and maybe later) as the secretary, Matthew, will be busy with a newborn!

Discussion Topics:

- Dave discussed Field Day, stating that the info has been submitted to ARRL and now all that needs to be done is to wait for the entire results to be published later this year. Also discussed that trying to download the CW info through N1MM would sometimes skip important info, and that Dave has to add that manually, and issues with it being converted to an adif file. The club will work with Dave to fix the issue by Field Day in 2027.
- Dan wanted to discuss the 147.135 repeater on the UNC TV tower and using it with Winlink. It was also discussed that the club updates the website description of the 147.135 repeater regarding digital, so it is more clear for people listening to the repeater that someone is sending digital over it. Also what areas the repeaters cover.

https://ncocra.org/WordPress_v1/tri-county-repeater-frequency-listing/

Dan wants the board to vote at the next board meeting to approve the change below:

147.135MHz Operational, located on a tall tower a few miles southwest of Chapel Hill, NC providing wide area coverage through +600kHz_offset out the Research Triangle and adjoining regions. (Channel 9)
PL82.5 Hz

- FM Analog Voice Repeater, optimized to support Winlink VARA FM digital messaging traffic.
 - Hazardous Weather & Other Events may result in simultaneous Winlink use from multiple counties.
 - The KR4UB-10 Remote VARA FM Message Gateway is one of several RMS gateways on this frequency to link Winlink traffic to the larger RMS/CMS Network. [Click here for more information](#)
 - In addition to standard repeater protocol, make a voice announcement per below for Winlink messaging:
 - Say “***your callsign, initiating a WinLink data session***”
 - {Start data session}
 - {Data session disconnects}
 - Say “***your callsign, data session complete***”
- Dan said he would run the Zoom and recording the September membership meeting. Dan will sit with Matthew at the August meeting to go over what is needed.
 - Aurora mentioned a show and tell and the next meeting or two. Dan can bring a Winlink show & tell for both the August meeting as well as the September meeting as Randy will be giving a presentation.

- Wilson brought up that he and other members tried a new net on 3.810 (80 meters) and it had 11 participants. The net went well, almost 100% coverage, only a few people had issues. Even went up to Virginia.

Respectfully submitted,
Matthew Stafford, KQ4ZYW
OCRA Secretary