**CARA BOARD MINUTES April 13, 2023**

**Board Members Attending: President Erik Johnson KC3QQD, Vice President Brian Kress KB3WFV (via Zoom), Treasurer Dick Ratcliffe W3RBR, Secretary Shawn Donley N3AE, Director Dale Sollars KC3RKP.**

Meeting called to order 6:40pm

Approved March Board minutes.

The K3CAL license has been renewed and now expires on 04/18/2033. Don, KR3A, remains the license Trustee. The ARRL VEC staff was very helpful providing the steps to renew a club license. The $35.00 license renewal fee was paid by N3AE who was reimbursed by the Treasurer.

Treasurer’s Report: CARA’s bank balance as of March 31 is $5927.32, not including a pending expense to KB3WFV in the amount of $445.00 for the two AC power sequencers at the repeater sites. The Board discussed the now-diminished repeater repair and maintenance fund (down to about $45.00) and decided to ask the membership to increase it back to $500.00.

The recent TMARC repeater email report created some confusion because of information related to the Calvert Amateur Radio Club repeaters and links. Newer Calvert Amateur Radio Association members were not aware of the distinction between the organizations and the history behind them.

Erik reported that we will be supporting the annual firemen's parade in Prince Frederick on April 30. Details are still sketchy at this time since the firemen’s POC was away on vacation. We need to tally CARA volunteers to ensure we have enough people to cover the event. KC3QQD will contact the firemen’s association to see if they need any communications support. CARA did pay for an advertisement in the parade program ($250.00 for a full page).

No new membership applications were received over the last month.

The Board meeting closed early at about 7:15pm

**CARA MEMBERS MEETING MINUTES APRIL, 2023 (Rev A)**

**Attending: President Erik Johnson KC3QQD, Treasurer Dick Ratcliffe W3RBR, Secretary Shawn Donley N3AE, Director Dale Sollars KC3RKP, Andy KC3WRX, Charlie AB3LE, Bob KF3AA, Steve N3IPN, Dave KB3RAN, Peter N3PH, Dave W3PQS, Bob N3PPH, Don KR3A**

**Via Zoom: Vice President Brian Kress KB3WFV, Matt N3IVK, Kim K3OCM, Todd W3EME, Dave KC3RWT, Ed WB6NCO**

The meeting was called to order by President Erik Johnson at 7:35pm with Pledge of Allegiance. This was a General business meeting.

New members: No new applications were received last month. CARA members are encouraged to invite people that may be interested in becoming amateur radio operators and possibly CARA members to our meetings.

The membership voted to approve the March minutes.

Treasurer’s report: CARA’s bank balance as of March 31 was $5927.32. A pending expense of $445.00 (repeater power sequencers) has not been deducted yet. The Board proposed we restore the repeater repair and maintenance fund to $500.00. The members voted to approve.

Dave, KC3RWT, reported out that the audit committee found no discrepancies in the association’s financial records and all are in order. Dave was asked to provide a brief written letter to document the audit committee’s findings.

The K3CAL license has been renewed. See the Board minutes above. Two copies of the new license have been printed for display at the repeater sites. A note to CARA members: If you have not already done so, you need to register in the new FCC CORES system and link that new account to your FRS number. Hopefully you already had a FRS account with the FCC. You will need your FRS account password to link the FRS to the new CORES account. See <https://www.arrl.org/news/fcc-legacy-cores-system-to-be-retired> for further information and instructions.

The southern Maryland firemen’s association has been contacted and would like our communications support for their parade on April 30th. CARA volunteers should contact Erik, KC3QQD as soon as possible. Further details will hopefully coming soon.

Dale, KC3RKP, has arranged for CARA picture badges. Picture badges should be available after May 11 for those that were interested.

NVIS day is April 22 and will be at Kings Landing Park near the swimming pool. So far, N3AE and W3PQS plan to participate. Setup is around 9am. Info at <https://ohd3ares.org/wp/?p=6822>

Field Day meals – Dale proposed we plan on a pot luck for our Field Day meals this year. He will be emailing members to get commitments for various food items.

Upcoming Hamfests: The Maryland Mobileers annual hamfest is on Sunday, April 23, 2023 at the Odenton Fire Hall located at 1425 Annapolis Road (Route 175), Odenton, MD 21113. Info at <https://sites.google.com/view/marylandmobileers/hamfest?authuser=0> The Dayton Hamvention is on May 19, 20 & 21st in Xenia, Ohio. This is by far the biggest hamfest in North America. Information at <https://hamvention.org/>

Andy, KC3WRX, has been working with NWS to make our repeaters the Skywarn repeaters for Southern Maryland. That is now official; see the Skywarn subnet listings at <https://www.wx4lwx.org/Frequencies.php> We can now run Skywarn nets provided we follow the net scripts found on the Skywarn site and the person reporting to NWS is a trained spotter with a Skywarn number. Members interested in becoming Skywarn NCS’s are asked to contact Andy. NCS training will be virtual at some point down the road. Andy is working with Kara Buckmaster (Calvert Emergency Management) to get Basic Skywarn training here in the county. There is discussion at NWS of splitting Prince George’s county into two separate reporting areas due to terrain that makes communications difficult. Brian, KB3WFV, has included new announcements on the repeater system to support Skywarn.

Dale has arranged for Jeff, from the Anne Arundel club, to come to our next meeting and give a presentation on how they support runner’s events. As a backup, in case Jeff can’t make it, Bob, N3PPH, will try to have a discussion/demonstration of DMR.

50/50: Don, KR3A, won the 50/50 (pot was $45) and donated $40 to CARA. Thanks Don.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40p

2023 Meeting Presentation Schedule

May – Jeff (Anne Arundel) on comms for runner’s events. Backup – N3PPH on DMR

June - Open ...... Field Day Overview

July - Business Meeting

Aug - Open

Sept - Open

Oct - Business Meeting

Nov - Open - Elections

Events for 2023

April - NVIS Day April 22nd - <https://arrl-ohio.org/SEC/nvis_day.html> contact N3AE

May - OPEN

June - Field Day - Dale KC3RKP - Dave W3PQS

July - OPEN

Aug - MDC QSO Party - Andy KC3WRX

Aug - Lighthouse weekend

Sep - Fox Hunt followed by picnic

Oct - OPEN

Nov - OPEN

DEC - Christmas Party