**CARA BOARD MINUTES June 8, 2023**

**Board Members Attending: President Erik Johnson KC3QQD, Vice President Brian Kress KB3WFV (via Zoom), Treasurer Dick Ratcliffe W3RBR, Secretary Shawn Donley N3AE. Members attending: Dave, KB3RAN (via Zoom)**

Meeting called to order 6:49pm

Approved May Board minutes.

Note: Patrick “Dave” McDowell has replaced Jackie Vaughn (retired) as the Calvert County Public Safety Director

Holiday Party – Erik will be the coordinator for this year’s holiday party

Talk-Around Tuesday – Erik will donate $1.00 to CARA for every check-in to the next Talk-Around Tuesday net.

Treasurer’s Report: CARA’s bank balance as of May 31 is $5348.38. CARA just received its last donation from Amazon Smile in the amount of $29.00. CARA’s liability insurance was renewed for one year (to July 2024) at a cost of $200.00 . The insurance is via ARRL and their insurance partner, Hanover.

The Board confirmed that there is $400.00 in the budget for Field Day plus similar events like Maryland QSO party.

No new applications for membership were received.

N3AE mentioned that the estate of N3EDD donated a Kenwood TS-450 to CARA, along with an LDG auto-tuner. Checks on the bench confirm that both the receive and transmit functions are in good order, but there is a bad capacitor in the audio output stage which prevents the speaker output from working. A high impedance headphone WILL receive adequate audio. In addition, there’s a broken shaft on microphone gain control potentiometer. Fortunately, the pot is set at a good spot for voice transmissions using the stock microphone. Both the cap and pot problems can be repaired. CARA membership will need to decide if the radio should be sold as-is or kept for Field Day use.

The Board meeting closed early at 7:10pm

**CARA MEMBERS MEETING MINUTES June 8, 2023**

**Attending: President Erik Johnson KC3QQD, Treasurer Dick Ratcliffe W3RBR, Secretary Shawn Donley N3AE, Peter N3PH,**

**Via Zoom: Vice President Brian Kress KB3WFV, Andy KC3WRX , Dave KB3RAN**

The meeting was called to order by President Erik Johnson at 7:30pm with Pledge of Allegiance.

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 May minutes.

Treasurer’s Report: CARA’s bank balance as of May 31 is $5348.38. CARA just received its last donation from Amazon Smile in the amount of $29.00. CARA’s liability insurance was renewed for one year (to July 2024) at a cost of $200.00 . The insurance is via ARRL and their insurance partner, Hanover.

Repeater Status – Issues found by video survey of antennas (Lusby and Mt Hope) to be discussed with the county by N3ZMX, our RACES officer.

Skywarn Basic Training – June 15, 6-8pm at Harriet Brown. Registration almost full (29 out of 30 seats). County expanding to 50 seats. N3AE will bring some handouts about amateur radio. Skywarn net control training is “close” to being offered. The net control training will be on-line.

N3AE, with the help of KC3WRX, KC3QQD and others has updated our ICS-205 communications plan (frequency list). The RT Systems database has been updated and all RACES radios will be reprogrammed in the near future. At that time, the ICS-205 will be sent to CARA and AUXCOMM members.

CARA received a thank-you letter from the Southern Maryland Volunteer Firemen’s Association for placing an advertisement in their convention brochure.

There was no 50/50 this meeting.

Field Day Discussion – Discussion was limited since neither FD coordinator (KC3RKP & W3PQS) could make the meeting. The next AUXCOMM meeting on June 21 will be repurposed for last minute field day planning. In any case, there will not be an AUXCOMM meeting in June. N3AE has reserved a quiet Honda generator and will pick it up on FD Saturday. KB3RAN plans to bring his PSK-31 station but requests help in setting up an antenna. As usual, the number of stations will be dictated by the number of (hopefully) non-interacting antennas we can set up on-site. This is likely to be four stations, i.e. 4A entry. We still expect a visit by Calvert County’s emergency communications van. Also by Kara Buckmaster from Calvert Emergency Management, and (found out just after the meeting) some cadets from the local Civil Air Patrol squadron.

Upcoming Hamfests: June 18 - [Father's Day Hamfest at Arcadia](http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/father-s-day-hamfest-at-arcadia-3)Upperco MD  Baltimore Amateur Radio Club  **Website:** [http://W3FT.com](http://w3ft.com/)

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm

2023 Meeting Presentation Schedule

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

July - Business Meeting

Aug - Open

Sept - Open

Oct - Business Meeting

Nov - Open - Elections

Events for 2023

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