

**Aurora 2024
NLRs Business Meeting Minutes
June 1, 2024**

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by club president, Jon, W0ZQ.

Silent Key Report:

None to report

Quorum Discussion: Janice, KA9VVQ, the club's secretary, informed Jon, W0ZQ, the club's president, that the business meeting did not have enough members present for a quorum. The club's constitution and bylaws states: "A quorum shall consist of one-third (1/3) of current members. Current members not present at a given meeting may convey written proxies to the Secretary regarding any votes to be taken at that meeting. Such proxies shall be considered as "current members present" for the purpose of a quorum." At the time of today's meeting, the club's member roster consisted of 134 current members. One-third of 134 is 45 members, and 40 were present at the business meeting. After discussion among the board and with the members present, it was decided to go ahead with the business meeting, with all votes being considered preliminary. Following the meeting, Jon, W0ZQ, will bring the business meeting's minutes and voting to the club's email reflector in order to achieve a quorum via proxy voting on the reflector. He will then report the reflector proxy voting results to the secretary. The secretary will add an addendum to these minutes with the outcome of email reflector proxy voting.

Reading of the 2023 Meeting Minutes:

The meeting minutes from the 2023 meeting were posted on the club's website for review by the membership prior to today's meeting. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Rob, K0XL, and seconded by Bill, WF0B. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report:

The treasurer's report was presented by the club's treasurer, Janice, KA9VVQ.

For the 4/2023-4/2024 fiscal year, the balance on hand 4/1/2024 was \$6537.95; the balance on hand 4/3/2023 was \$6784.60. This represents a decrease of \$246.65 over the past year. Of note, of the current balance on hand, \$3917.00 is held in a certificate of deposit (CD), which was purchased June 8, 2023, with the interest payment (paid

yearly) coming due June 8, 2024. Thus this interest payment is not reflected in the current report as it falls outside of the this fiscal year. **Income:** Income from Aurora 2023 attendee registrations was \$202.00. Member donations to the NLRS were \$50.00. QTH.net (email reflector) donations collected from NLRS members was \$182.60. 2023 was the first year of a pizza party lunch designed to keep attendees on premises and from having rushing out to and back from lunch before the technical presentation begin. Thirty-one (31) attendees participated in the attendee-pre-paid pizza lunches (@\$10/lunch) for \$310.00 lunch income. Thus, total income for the fiscal year was \$744.60. **Expenses:** The club sent \$70.00 to the WWROF to sponsor the 2023 CQWW VHF USA Rover plaque. The club also sent \$200.00 in seed money to the MN Amateur Radio Consortium to begin hosting the MN ARRL State Convention in October 2023. NLRS website expenses included \$17.50 for domain name registration renewal and \$59.40 for QTH.com website hosting. The QTH.net (email reflector) donations collected from NLRS members at the 2023 Aurora and sent to QTH.net was \$182.60. Pizza party lunches and supplies expenses were \$264.98. The West Medicine Lake Community Club hall rental fee for the 2023 Aurora was \$150.00. The club also spent \$26.77 for NLRS promotional brochure printing for the MN Section Convention and \$20.00 for a club table at the Midwinter Madness Hamfest. Thus total expenditures were \$991.25. In summary, for the fiscal year, the account balance decreased by \$246.65. The majority of this decrease was due to the one-time \$200 seed money sent to the MN Section Convention.

A motion to approve the report as presented was made by Jeff, KF0JW, and seconded by Donn, WA2VOI. The report was approved unanimously.

Committee Reports:

NLRS Net, Reflector, and Website: Jon, W0ZQ reminded the membership that the club's website is now at www.nlrs.club. He also reminded the membership that Matt, KA0PQW hosts a 2m net on 144.260 MHz, 9 pm each Sunday. The club also hosts an email reflector (via QTH.net), which is managed by Bruce, W9FZ. To sign up, go to the NLRS website.

Silent Key Estate Assistance: Jon, W0ZQ, mentioned that the NLRS does provide assistance to the spouse/family of NLRS silent keys with the disposition of the SK's ham radio equipment. This service is provided gratis. Jon encouraged members to periodically revisit their stashes of ham radio equipment and clean out that which is no longer of use or interest so that the disposal of their ham radio estate upon their death will not be a burden to their family.

Old Business:

Plaque Sponsorship: Jon, W0ZQ, reminded the club that the club sponsors three (3) ARRL June VHF contest plaques: Overall Single Operator, 3-band (SO3B), Dakota Division Single Operator Low Power (SOLP), and a divisional SOLP plaque rotated to a new division each year as chosen by the ARRL contest manager. The NLRS sponsor-

ship of these plaques is from 2023 to 2030 (inclusive). Lloyd, WB0ULX, who was present at this Aurora and the business meeting, was the winner of the 2023 Dakota Division Single Operator Low Power (SOLP) ARRL June VHF Contest plaque, and he thanked the club for the plaque he received.

New Business:

Elections: NLRS officer elections were conducted by Donn, WA2VOI. Each of the current officers: President Jon, W0ZQ, Vice President, Dave, N0KP, and Secretary/Treasurer, Janice, KA9VVQ, were re-nominated and ran unopposed for their respective positions. A motion to elect the slate of officers as presented was made by Bill, AE0EE, and seconded by Doug, N0NAS. The motion passed unanimously.

CQ WW VHF USA Rover Plaque Sponsorship for 2024: Jon, W0ZQ discussed the club's past sponsorship of this plaque and whether the club should direct funds (~\$70) for its sponsorship in 2024. Jon noted that the past year has seen the apparent demise of CQ magazine (the namesake of the contest, although the contest's management is via the independently run WWROF) as well as a change in the CQ WW VHF Contest's manager. Previously, the NLRS was contacted on a yearly basis by the contest manager to sponsor the rover plaque. The club has not yet heard anything from the new manager about again sponsoring the rover plaque, or for that matter the change in contest manager or status of the contest. After discussion among the membership present at the business meeting, it was decided that given the above unknowns, the club will hold off on its sponsorship for this year's CQ WW VHF rover plaque. However, a motion was made by Rob, K0XL, to give the board the discretion to direct funds to the plaque sponsorship should some clarity about the status of the contest be forthcoming and the club is approached by the contest manager to sponsor the rover plaque. The motion was seconded by Mike, KB0OZN. The motion passed unanimously.

Future Aurora Date Planning: This year marks the third Aurora conference to be held the first Saturday of June. Previous Auroras were held in April. Jon, W0ZQ, asked the members present if they wanted to continue with the first Saturday of June. Members unanimously agreed that June was a great improvement over April (especially due weather) and worked well with most people's schedules.

Parks On The Air (POTA): Jon, W0ZQ, mentioned that there is a MN POTA event June 8-9, 2024. There is sometimes VHF+ activity, especially on 6m in June, that members might like to work.

North Star Radio Convention (ARRL MN State Convention): Bill, AE0EE mentioned the North Star Radio Convention, a general interest ham radio conference, which will likely include some VHF+ talks, will take place October 5, 2024. Location is the same as last year, the Hennepin Technical College in Brooklyn Park, MN. See their website for details (<https://conv2023.tcfmc.org/>)

2022 Central States VHF Society Conference: Rod, K0DAS, Jon, W0ZQ, and Bruce,

W9FZ, discussed the upcoming CSVHFS conference, which will be held July 25-28, 2024 in Cedar Rapids, IA. A number of NLRS members are helping with the planning and execution of the conference. Rod, Jon, and Bruce encouraged NLRS members to attend...many good talks and activities are planned that will be of interest to VHF+ enthusiasts. See their website for details: <http://csvhfs.org/index.php/annual-conference/2024-annual-conference-registration>

Adjournment: Following the closure of new business, Jon, W0ZQ, motioned for a vote to close the business meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Submitted by:
Janice Hoettels, KA9VVQ
NLRS Secretary
