

FPRA BUSINESS MEETING

March 15, 2024 via zoom

Meeting started at 1901 via zoom. The meeting will be recorded on zoom.

Introduced attendees:

Jim Tripp, Bob Wiser, Heatherly Takeuchi, Tim Takeuchi, Gale Foss, Liam Hostrop, Marc Goldman, Cesar KG6BJR, Linda Bittner, Dave Hitch

Net Control, Dave Hitch is willing to give it a shot. Cesar might be willing later after studys he is doing.

Website hosting fee will need to be paid at some time during the year.

Election of officers: Linda and Tim were re-elected and Liam is now an official member of the tech committee.

Call sign for FPRA repeater call sign transfer. Heatherly discussed the steps that have been taken to transfer the call to the repeater. We have to wait out the two year waiting period before we can apply for the K6JE call sign. NARC currently has the repeater frequency listed as K6JE and that it is a linked repeater to KC6ERT.

ARRL relationship discussion. Pacific Division appears to be stagnant at this time. Bob has had zero communication from the

new Pacific Division Director. Bob has not renewed his ARRL membership.

Fremont Peak Report: Liam gave an update on what is going on with the code for the link to the KC6ERT repeater in the south county. Clock is working properly. He is now looking at the audio quality of the signal.

A new antenna and a new antenna location is available for the 440 repeater and even though a longer coax run will be required, amazingly, the signal loss will be cut in half. Waiting for a time when the climber and weather are available for this work to be done.

KSBW has a new station manager and she is very excited that FPRA has a repeater in their building offering emergency service to the area. Bob has key access to the facility and is allowed to go up to work on the equipment at any time.

The 2 meter repeater is working great. The UHF repeater may have an issue because there have been some reports of people having problems accessing the UHF repeater. Bob will test it out the next time he goes up on the hill.

There has been a report that the audio coming into the ERT repeater is somewhat muddy in quality. He knows what he needs to do to improve the high end frequency response and Bob is working with a person to learn what mods can be done to the radio to improve the audio.

Liam talked about the two tone courtesy tones and they are different for each repeater. If the signal is hi to low then the signal is from UHF to VHF. Then low to hi going the other way.

South county hams can send a code to K6JE. The code is A411 and the repeater will tell you the status of the link.

KN6GWQ, a ham in the Watsonville area was recently in south county and he was able to carry on conversations with folks in the Watsonville area perfectly.

W6FM is a SK and all his gear is in limbo.

Bob and Liam have a method to be able to measure the forward power and reflected power without having to go up on the hill. They will need to purchase equipment to be able to do this. A proposal will be given later. Bob think the cost may be in the neighborhood of \$500.

Tim asked if we could arrange that we only hear the K6JE call sign and not the KC6ERT callsign. Bob says the squelch tails of the ERT repeater needs to be changed to make the courtesy tones to be shorter.

South county can shut down the link if it becomes necessary.

Right now the digipeater at Fremont Peak is shut down because of a competing digipeater at the site.

Discussion about incorporating an online dues payment. It seemed that most agreed it would be good to have an online payment system.