

# **Minutes, Alabama Repeater Council meeting May 1, 2004**

By Howard: K4WWN – with a few edits by Ron: W4VM

**The Alabama Repeater Council met at the Birmingham Ham Fest Saturday, May 1 in Forum Room 2.**

**ARC President Dave Baughn presided over the meeting, called to order at 1:00 pm**

**The chair recognized guest Greg Sarrat, W4OZK, Alabama Section Manager. Greg provided a brief report on the goals of the Alabama Link Network (ALN) including portions of AICN. Goals included:**

- 1) Get local repeaters operational.**
- 2) Get more ALN system repeaters on the air.**
- 3) Tone the system.**
- 4) Consider Link or IRLP into the system.**

**ARC president Dave Baughn, KX4I reported the Tuscaloosa AICN system was ready to put back in service on Tuscaloosa tall tower as soon as weather conditions would permit.**

**ARC Frequency Coordinator Ron Shaffer provided a visual demonstration and review of the new ARC web site developed by Kirt Junkin. Ron urged a membership drive and proposed “membership only” access to database information via the new website. Ron provided an update on coordination activity.**

**In April 2004 ARC President Dave Baughn appointed Howard Grant, K4WWN, to the position of assistant frequency coordinator. After discussion and review of the need for an assistant frequency coordinator, Howard was unanimously elected to assume the position of assistant frequency coordinator, designated to process coordination activities for the 222/440 frequency bands, excluding link systems, and to assist the frequency coordinator in other coordination activity as directed. Howard currently serves as ARC vice president & assistant frequency coordinator.**

**Ron provided a review of the coordination activity that has transpired since he assumed frequency coordinator position, including an update on activity currently in progress.**

**Ron provided a brief discussion on his attendance to the SERA meeting, suggesting that Alabama may want to consider joining the SERA association at some point in the future. Ron said SERA has continually expressed a desire to have Alabama become a member of the association and that we should keep an open mind. More ARC trustees should be knowledgeable about SERA. Ron emphasized that his desire is to do whatever is best for Alabama repeater trustees but only a few have voiced opinions about joining SERA – both for and against. Ron also emphasized**

that weather we ever join or not, we continue to enjoy an excellent working relationship with SERA coordinators in our day to day coordination efforts.

**Kirt Junkin provided a discussion and brief overview regarding membership access to the ARC website.**

**Dave Baughn and Ron Shaffer provided a discussion regarding updates to the database listings. ARC will do a newsletter/repeater update mailing this year. It was emphasized that de-coordination will occur if ARC does not have at least one valid means of contacting the Holder of record or repeater trustee. (Phone, mail address or e-mail.**

### **Electronic Votes:**

**Electronic voting by ARC officers/directors was discussed and agreed/confirmed that officers/directors may conduct official ARC business as required by electronic discussion and voting.**

### **By-Laws:**

**JT Malone, N4ZDY, was appointed to review/study the by-laws and report on any recommended changes/updates or activities that may need to be addressed.**

### **Director for Mobile Area:**

**Nominations and election of a director for the Mobile area will be conducted during the ARC meeting at Huntsville hamfest.**

### **Elections:**

**Election of ARC officers will be conducted at the Huntsville hamfest.**

### **Re-coordination requirements:**

**After extensive discussion, the requirement for repeater Qualified Automatic Device Re-coordination was amended to add the following requirement:**

**The location of the device or the location of its' transmitting or receiving antenna is changed BY MORE THAN 3 MILES.**

**Prior to this amendment, repeaters/QAD's were required to re-coordinate when physically moved any distance, although moves of 1-mile or less were permitted.**

**Complete re-coordination requirements as approved are;**

- 1) The Effective Radiated Power (ERP) is increased by three (3) db or more over the coordinated power.**
- 2) The antenna height above average terrain (HAAT) is increased by more than fifty (50) feet.**
- 3) The location of the device or the location of its transmitting or receiving antenna is changed by more than 3 miles.**

- 4) The antenna pattern is changed from the coordinated pattern
- 5) The device was coordinated based on error or misrepresentation.

In addition for coordination to remain current, ARC must be notified if ANY items below change;

- 1) The device is out of service for more than ninety (90) days.
- 2) The device is sold,
- 3) The Trustee of the device is changed. A change of trustee requires a letter of explanation from the previous trustee or a club officer.

### **Separation Criteria:**

After some discussion, the required mileage separation was amended to reduce the required separation of 10khz separation/offset from 90 miles to 75 miles. No changes to other separation requirements. As approved, separation mileage is:

Co-channel	100 miles
5-khz	100 miles
10-khz	75 miles (only change – was 90 miles)
20-khz	0-miles ( Proposed 25 miles, not approved)
25-khz	0-miles

### **Packet Repeater Tracking:**

Ron provided a brief discussion regarding the need to at least track (not coordinate) packet activity in the ARC database for instances where packet activity effects coordination of repeaters and links. One DX packet cluster 440 frequency was coordinated by ARC years ago (prior to ARC / SERA 440 band plan) in the repeater sub-band. Also, there are coordinated repeater links in packet sub-bands, apparently grandfathered due to occurrence prior to the band planning.