

Alabama Repeater Council Meeting Minutes – Huntsville Hamfest – August 20, 2011

The meeting was called to order by David Drummond, W4MD at 11:00 a.m. The minutes from the previous meeting, Birmingham HamFest was read, approved with minor corrections.

NOTE: Birmingham HamFest were submitted to be approved at the Huntsville HamFest, due to the fact that the ARC Meeting scheduled for Greenville on May 7, was cancelled due to the events of April 27, 2011.

Presidents Report given by David Drummond, W4MD:

David commented upon how well, in his opinion, that ARC is functioning as an organization. He has numerous emails and comments about how well ARC Directors, Officers and Frequency Coordinator stay updated on latest issues. He also has numerous contacts around the Southeast that share information about how other Repeater Councils are disorganized or confused.

David reminded everyone to make sure they stay current with yearly dues. ARC does carry fund in order to assist with mailings, applications and any legal issues that may arise.

Officer and Director Elections will take place at this meeting, and any subsequent yearly meetings of ARC at Huntsville Hamfest. Officer and Director terms are four (4) years with their term beginning and ending at the Huntsville Hamfest on the four-year anniversary of their election. One single Director from each Region will be elected at the Huntsville HamFest, and begin service. Each Director slot will then be elected on a yearly rotation at the Huntsville Hamfest.

Treasures report given by Kirk Junkin, N4KRJ

Current checking balances as of August 20, 2011:	Main Checking: 2711.69	
	Secondary: 197.20	
	Cert Deposit: 5758.46	<u>8667.45</u>

Discussion was made over the status of the banking accounts. BBVA Compass is charging ARC 3.00 a month for online banking and additional fees for non-use of the accounts. Kirk had prepared a Resolution for signatures of the Officers to close the BBVA Compas accounts, and withdraw all monies and Certificate of Deposit.

Previous discussions were to open a new banking account with Regions. Several members present stated that Regions had also began to charge Not For Profit Corporations fees.

Kirk agreed with members present to contact Regions, and Wells Fargo banking to see which company would not charge NPO's fees. He will communicate with David and newly elected Vice President – see elections section – to establish the new banking account which was in the best interest of ARC.

Status of 501c3 was discussed. Kirk reported that ARC had actually retained its 501c3 status by ARC submitting the yearly IRS paperwork on contributions, and would be receiving its 400.00 check back from the IRS.

Frequency Coordinator report given by Howard Grant, K4WWN

Only a few coordination pending. Not much activity. Most UHF/VHF frequencies north of Montgomery are full. Mobile was relocating several repeaters. Pheonix City was wanting to improve its antenna and power and was having to conduct a frequency swap and coordination. 1-DSTAR application for Greenville, otherwise not many more.

Frank, commented that voting would be taking place in Florida very soon, and a meeting was scheduled for December for Florida Repeater Council to approve / deny their plans for narrow-banding.

Howard agreed that ARC may have to consider narrow-banding plans in the future.

There were some minor complaints that Howard was aware of between the Enterprise, AL and Crestview, FL DSTAR Repeaters. They are on the same frequency. Frank agreed he was aware of the issues, but it wasn't a major issue.

Questions were raised from the group about how ARC can pursue "Paper" Repeaters that have been off the air for years. That discussion also led into additional comments about how there are numerous cities that have several repeaters that are sometimes never used. And more comments about how the features listed in the ARRL Handbook, or ARC online resources may not be accurate.

David, Howard and several others agreed that those type issues have always been problems. They stated that it is the responsibility of the repeater owners to accurately report with their repeater coordination, power, location, ERP, and other features, correctly and truthfully on all elements of the application. ARC is the coordinating body for the state of Alabama for all repeaters. The ARC does not have the manpower or ability to confirm or validate the accuracy or truthfulness of a coordination application. It can step-in, however if interference or other issues arise because of a coordination request.

Directors Reports:

Southern Region

Bob Luman, W4MPQ – no major issues. Andalusia is on the air, temporarily. UHF in Georgianna is installed

South-Central Region – no report

North-Central Region – no report

Northern Region – no major issues. Events of April 27th, tested all Hams and repeaters and all responded well, and represented the Hobby well.

2011 Elections: Serve term from August 2011 – August 2015

Office of President –David Drummond, W4MD

Office of Vice President – Bill Clingan, KC00NR

Office of Secretary / Treasurer – Kirk Junkin, N4KRJ

Northern Region Director – Ralph Hogan, W4XE

North-Central Director – Lester Crane – WA4CYA

South-Central Director – Tommy Golden, W4WTG

South Director – Ben Baldwin, WX4MOB

Meeting was adjourned at 12:00

Kirk R. Junkin, N4KRJ