



**MATANUSKA AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION
MINUTES
Board Meeting
Wednesday, January 8, 2020
Mat-Su Regional Hospital, Matanuska Room**

Call to Order:

The MARA Board Meeting was called to order by President Tabitha Sherman at 7:05 p.m.

Present and constituting a quorum were:

KL4FZ	Tabitha Sherman, President/Director
KL4B	Bridgit Larson, Vice President/Director
KL3PAM	Pam Whitehead, Secretary/Director
KL1XM	John Carrington, Treasurer/Director
AL7LA	John Mears, Director/Class Instructor
KL2HF	Ken Hudson, Director/VE
KL7JFT	Don Bush, Director/DEC/Repeater Trustee
KL7SLM	Scott McCormick, Director

Not present:

KL3TP	Shelia Olson, Immediate Past President/Director/Website Facilitator
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Agenda Review / Additions:

The written agenda was accepted as presented. There were no additions.

Meeting Minutes: Pam Whitehead, KL3PAM

01/31/2019 Christmas Party/General Meeting - no minutes were taken.

12/13/2019 Board Meeting - submitted for Board review/posting to the MARA website.

11/29/2019 General Meeting - submitted for Board review/posting to the MARA website.

Question of the Month:

What would be your ham radio 2020 New Year's resolution?

- Moving around the table, board members stated their new year resolutions related to ham radio.

President's Report: Tabitha Sherman/KL4FZ

- Did not have much new to report; noted she finally was able to secure a key to the church for early arrival and setup.

Vice President's Report: Bridgit Larson, KL4B

- reported she is working on presentations for the next meetings, noting she has prepared a general questionnaire for members to submit what they'd like to see for programs
- will be working on programs for presentations on voice, Skywarn, APRS.

Treasurer's Report: John Carrington, KL1XM

- reported Book account \$927.83; General account \$1938.00; member donation, \$78.00.

Website Facilitator: Shelia Olson, KL3TP -- no report.

VE Report: Ken Hudson, KL2HF

- reported most recent VE Testing produced two new Techs, one new upgrade to Extra (Tabitha/KL4FZ).

ARES Report: Don Bush, KL7JFT

- reported the next COMEX will be scheduled for the March timeframe;
- DMR: reported he is in the process of collection who all has the capability; explained how it works -- new mode to operate without the internet (hot spot);
- continues to work on the new system.

Suggestion Box: John Mears, AL7LA

- reported zero new suggestions. There was discussion/concensus amongst board members to suspend use of the suggestion box until further notice as it was not being used. There were no objections.

Licensing Classes: John Mears, AL7LA

- reported he is working on the next class to be held at the St Hermon's Orthodox Church; doesn't have a date yet.

Sunshine Committee: Tabitha Sherman, KL4FZ

- reported has a card for everyone's signature to set to Jim Wardman in Texas.

Tailer Committee: Don Bush, KL7JFT

- reported on current status of the Comm Trailer -- everything is okay; will continue winter mainenance on the next "warmer" day.

Upcoming Events:

- 01/25/2020 Valley Testing, Red Cross, 7 p.m.
- 01/30/2020 MARA Luncheon, at Denali Restaurant, Wasilla, 11:30 a.m.
- 01/31/2020 MARA General Meeting, GSLC, 7 p.m.
- 02/12/2020 Palmer/Wasilla CERT Team Meeting, Mat-Su Regional, 6 p.m.
- 02/12/2020 MARA Board Meeting, Mat-Su Regional, 7 p.m.

New Business:

1. Board Members' phone numbers:

- President Sherman asked board members for their phone numbers for ease of quick contact should the need arise.

2. Looking ahead / planning:

Open discussion took place regarding:

- Updating the MARA website; various website hosting platforms; website items needing to be updated; **Moved Carrington, Seconded McCormick,** to contact webmaster TJ to entrust Don Bush/KL7JFT and Bridget Larson/KL4B with the passwords to the website. There were no objections.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

- Matanuska Sportsman Gun Show -- February 8-9, 2020; table has been reserved; will need volunteers to work the table.

- HamFest 2020 - scheduled for May 9, 2020.
- Field Day 2020 -- schedule for June 2020 -- need to decide date and venue.

Old Business:

1. Christmas Party Debrief:
 - Discussion took place on how the Christmas Party went, what was good, what could be improved on. Thank you to Betty Carrington/KL1XL for spearheading the decorations and set up.
 - Discussion with suggestions on how to improve the Chinese Auction.
2. HOTY Followup:

Although the HOTY was announced at the Christmas Party, the winner was not present. Don volunteered to contact him to assure his presence at the next meeting. The presentation was postponed for the next general meeting on January 31, 2020.

Non-agenda items / announcements:

- Thank you to George Strother for continuing the donation program;
- Treasurer Carrington will be preparing and filing the IRS Form N990.
- New Sound System from Costco -- John still needs to pick up but will do it soon and get it to Bridgit for setting up/testing prior to the next general meeting;
- Carrington provided a good report on the MARA Antenna and Equipment at Wasilla High.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Next board meeting: February 12, 2020.

Pamela J. Whitehead [Electronic signature]
Pam Whitehead/KL3PAM, Secretary
Matanuska Amateur Radio Association