



**MATANUSKA AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION  
MINUTES  
Board Meeting  
February 12, 2020  
Mat-Su Regional Hospital, Matanuska Room**

**Call to Order:**

The MARA Board Meeting was called to order by President Tabitha Sherman at 7:03 p.m. Present and constituting a full board quorum were:

KL4FZ	Tabitha Sherman, President/Director
KL4B	Bridgit Larson, Vice President/Director
KL3PAM	Pam Whitehead, Secretary/Director
KL1XM	John Carrington, Treasurer/Director
KL3SRO	Shelia Olson, Immediate Past President/Director
AL7LA	John Mears, Director/Class Instructor
KL2HF	Ken Hudson, Director/VE
KL7JFT	Don Bush, Director/DEC/Repeater Trustee/Website Facilitator
KL7SLM	Scott McCormick, Director

**Agenda Review / Additions:**

The written agenda was accepted as amended, adding the following New Business items:

6. Radios for CERTs/KL7JFT;
7. Family Membership Rate/KL1XM;
8. Communications Support request for "Dog Jog."

**Minutes:** Pam Whitehead, KL3PAM

01/08/2020 Board Meeting - submitted for Board review and posted to the MARA website.

01/31/2020 General Meeting - submitted for Board review and posted to the MARA website.

**Question of the Month:**

- Board members discussed what they loved best about ham radio?

**President's Report:** Tabitha Sherman/KL4FZ

- see items listed discussed under New Business.

**Vice President's Report:** Bridgit Larson, KL4B

- reported the program scheduled for the next General Meeting will be DMR (Digital Mobile Radio) presentation by KL7JFT.

**Treasurer's Report:** John Carrington, KL1XM

- reported Book account: \$927.82 + \$50.00 received today; General account: \$1977.44.
- reported 34 paid members so far for 2020.

**Website Facilitator:** Shelia Olson, KL3SRO

- see discussion under New Business.

**VE Report:** Ken Hudson, KL2HF

- reported one new upgrade to Extra from the 01/25/2020 testing;
- Next testing: 2/22/2020 -- will need one more VE -- KL7JFT volunteered.

**ARES Report:** Don Bush, KL7JFT

- provided a recap of MARA's participation in the Matanuska Sportsman Gun Show held Feb. 8-9, 2020;
- discussed upcoming DMR presentation at the February general meeting;
- informed of being contacted by Long Family Electric concerning BRI, a business interfacing platform for promoting businesses within a group;
- reminded of next COMEX - March 21, 2020 - training exercise entitled "Ides of March"

**Licensing Classes:** John Mears, AL7LA

- reported next Licensing Technician Class expected to begin April 4, 2020 plus the next three Saturdays at Houston Fire Station, Houston AK.

**Sunshine Committee:** Tabitha Sherman, KL4FZ

- No activity.

**Trailer Committee:** Don Bush, KL7JFT

- reported status of comm trailer maintenance; took inventory;
- will get the trailer fueled;
- advised the police car blocking access issue has been resolved.

**Upcoming Events:**

1. 02/22/2020 Valley Testing, Red Cross, 7 p.m.
2. 02/27/2020 MARA Luncheon, Denali Family Restaurant, 11:30 a.m.
3. 02/28/2020 MARA General Meeting, GSLC, 7 p.m.
4. 03/11/2020 P/W CERT Team Meeting, Mat-Su Regional, 6 p.m.
5. 03/11/2020 MARA Board Meeting, Mat-Su Regional, 7 p.m.
6. 04/04/2020 Science Olympiad, Teeland Middle School, 6:30 am - 5:15 pm

**New Business:**

1. What to do with the nicer door prizes that were donated:

President Sherman inquired of the Board what to do with the nicer ham radio related items that have been donated, noting in particular those donated by John Orella (estimated worth \$500). Following discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to continue to offer them as Club Door Prizes at General Meetings. President Sherman will bring it up as an agenda item at the next general meeting.

2. Website/Facilitator Discussion:

Following discussion resolving confusion regarding training to post updates to the MARA website, it was decided that both Don/KL7JFT and Shelia/KL3SRO will have administrative access, but because Don is already familiar with the website platform, he will take the lead as Website Facilitator and Sheila will train as a backup. There were no objections.

3. Thanking Matt Lemons of HPAC:

MARA Secretary, Pam/KL3PAM, will send a thank you note to Mr. Lemons for the well-received program last month on Avalanche Awareness Safety.

4. Venue for Hamfest:

President Sherman advised that she checked with the Church for the HamFest venue (May 9, 2020) and was advised it is not available. The Board will brainstorm for another venue.

5. If President and Vice President can't make it .....

Following discussion, it was concensus of the Board that if neither Tabitha or Bridget could attend a meeting, that Shelia/KL3SRO, as Immediate Past President, will chair the meeting. There were no objections.

6. Radios for CERTs:

Don/KL7JFT explained the proposal for MARA to donate 6 handheld radios (FRS T52 Motorolas) to support the Palmer/Wasilla CERT teams). Following discussion:

**Moved Carrington, Seconded Bush**, to approve expenditure of \$125.00 for purchase of radios to support the P/W CERT Teams. There were no objections.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

7. Family Membership Rate:

John/KL1XM proposed instituting a Family Membership Rate of \$48.00/year for a family of 2 or more qualified members. Following brief discussion:

**Moved Carrington, Seconded Mears**, to approve the Family Membership Rate to include 2 or more qualified members at a rate of \$48.00/year. There were no objections.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

8. Communications Support request for "Dog Jog."

Don/KL7JFT reported that he was contacted by Lisa McCarty (Headquarters Embroidery-long time MARA supporter) asking for the Club's assistance providing checkpoint communications for the "Dog Jog" on June 6, 2020, to run the length of Trunk Road from the Park-and-Ride Lot off the Parks to Bogard Road. Following discussion:

**Moved Carrington, Seconded McCormick**, for MARA to provide communications support for the Dog Jog on June 6, 2020. There were no objections.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Old Business:**

1. Child Protection Policy:

Don has the file of club members who have signed the Child Protection Policy.

2. Donated Radios:

Bridget/KL4B suggest the donated HF/VHF radios (as is) be auctioned at the HamFest (see Bridgit's email to Board Members dated December 16, 2019) for an itemized list).

**Non-agenda items / announcements:**

Publish reminder to website reminding No MARA meetings will be conducted in June or July, 2020.

Reminder for Board members to find alternative venue for the HamFest.

**Adjournment:**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Next Board Meeting: March 11, 2020.

Next General Meeting: March 27, 2020

*Pamela J. Whitehead* [Electronic signature]

Pam Whitehead/KL3PAM, Secretary  
Matanuska Amateur Radio Association