



MATANUSKA AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION
MINUTES
Board Meeting/Covid 19 Zoom Version
November 11, 2020
**** Veteran's Day ****

Call to Order:

The MARA Board Meeting was called to order via Zoom by President Tabitha Sherman at 7:00 p.m.

Present and constituting a quorum were:

KL4FZ	Tabitha Sherman, President/Director/VE
KL5BF	Chris Hamman, Vice President/Director/VE
KL3PAM	Pam Whitehead, Secretary/Director
KL1XM	John Carrington, Treasurer/Director
KL2HF	Ken Hudson, Director/VE
KL7JFT	Don Bush, Director/DEC/Repeater Trustee/Website Facilitator/VE/Elmer
KL4B	Bridgit Larson, Director/VE
KL7SLM	Scott McCormick, Director
Not present:	
KL3SRO	Shelia Olson, Past President/Director
AL7LA	John Mears, Director/Class Instructor

Agenda Review / Additions or Changes:

MOVED Hamman, SECONDED Bush, to approve the agenda as presented.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

Minutes: Pam Whitehead, KL3PAM

11/11/2020 Board Meeting - submitted for Board review and posting to the MARA website.

MOVED Hudson, SECONDED Carrington, to approve the Minutes as presented.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

Question of the Month:

- Board members introduced themselves to new VP Hamman, stated what they do for MARA and what they've done for a living and expertises in life; and in honor of Veteran's Day, Veteran members described their military service.

President's Report: Tabitha Sherman/KL4FZ

- Noted she is looking forward to serving another year as President;
- Spoke to coming up with new ideas to maintain Club interest and engagement because of Covid restricting in-person activities, such as virtual training sessions;

Vice President's Report: Chris Hamman, KL5BF

- Discussed/solicited ideas for upcoming programs: perhaps earthquake preparedness as we're coming up on the 2-year anniversary of the big 7.1 earthquake; discussed use of the Kerberos SDR radio for direction/location finding.
- Commented he is enjoying the Club so far, and looks forward to what he might be able to contribute.

Treasurer's Report: John Carrington, KL1XM

- Provided an update of Club finances:
- General account: \$1,997.30
- Book account: \$1,002.62

- Trailer License registration renewal: \$50.00

Website Facilitator / ARES Report / Trailer Committee: Don Bush, KL7JFT

- Reported the MARA website has been updated;
- Reported having received the Club's Certificate of Participation in the 2020 Great Alaska ShakeOut;
- Informed he has a report that covers most of the details on the November, 2018 earthquake and will send it to VP Hamman for review.
- Reported with regard to the tsunami/earthquake alerts, most recently on the Aleutian Chain; he coordinates reports from Coastal communities and passes the information on to the Tsunami Warning Center.
- Reported status of the battery load test on the trailer;
- Informed having to move the trailer to the middle of the parking lot for MEA to work on nearby power lines; will continue to monitor; reported status of the battery usage and generator.

VE Report: Ken Hudson, KL2HF

- Reiterated his recap from the General/Annual Meeting November 30:
- A total of 52 exams conducted from September 2019 to September 2020 (27 Technicians, 14 Generals, 11 Extras); October 2020 testing session produced an additional 10 (7 Technicians, 3 General upgrades); has had 1 contact for the November session;
- Spoke to the implementation of new Covid safety rules at the testing sessions; further discussion on the topic followed.

Licensing Classes: John Mears, AL7LA (not present)

- No report.
- John Carrington will contact John to check if any classes are being conducted and report back.

Sunshine Committee: Tabitha Sherman, KL4FZ

- No activity in the last month.

Upcoming Events:

1. 11/21/2020 Sat Virtual Breakfast Meeting, 9:00 am via Zoom
2. 11/27/2020 Fri MARA General Meeting, 7:00 pm via Zoom
3. 11/28/2020 Sat Licensing Exams, AmVet Building, 7:00 pm
4. 12/09/2020 Wed MARA Board Meeting, 7:00 pm via Zoom
5. 12/18/2020 Fri MARA General Meeting, 7:00 pm via Zoom
6. 12/19/2020 Sat Virtual Breakfast Meeting, 9:00 am via Zoom
7. 12/26/2020 Sat Licensing Exams, AmVet Building, 7:00 pm

Old Business: None.

On-Going Business:

1. Ham-of-the-Year:
 - KL3PAM initiated discussion regarding the logistics of receiving HOTY nominations;
 - Committee of three: Pam/KL3PAM, John/KL1XM, and Bridgit/KL4B was formed to coordinate receipt of the nominations (via Zoom).

New Business:

1. Virtual Christmas Party:
 - There was open discussion on how to conduct and what should be included in the Virtual Christmas Party on December 18.

- MARA-tech Discussion Group -- Bridgit, KL4B
- Spoke regarding the new tech discussion group and asked for input on who should be included on the invite list. Further discussion followed regarding the importance of instituting guidelines by which to administer the discussion group. It was agreed that the discussion group be available only to paid MARA members.
- Program for November General Meeting -- Chris, KL5BF
Emergency Preparedness for Earthquakes - information on what to do before, during, and after.

Non-agenda items / announcements:

- Don/KL7JFT updated regarding the Skywarn Program -- currently about 10 members completing weather observation certificates (all online training); Coordinator is Harry Lind/AL6F, Fairbanks, recently retired 20 years from the Weather Service.
- Noted he has received phone calls from the Anchorage Weather Office asking for weather information.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

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