



**MATANUSKA AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION
MINUTES
Board Meeting/Zoom Version
March 10, 2021**

Call to Order/Quorum Established:

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
KL5BF	Chris Hamman, Vice President/Director
KL3PAM	Pam Whitehead, Secretary/Director
KL1XM	John Carrington, Treasurer/Director
KL2HF	Ken Hudson, Director/VE
KL7JFT	Don Bush, Director/DEC/Repeater Trustee
KL4B	Bridgit Larson, Director
KL7SLM	Scott McCormick, Director

Not present:

KL3SRO	Shelia Olson, Past President/Director
AL7LA	John Mears, Director/Class Instructor

Agenda Review / Additions or Changes / Approval:

Following review via screen share:

MOVED Carrington/KL1XM, **SECONDED** Hudson/KL2HF, for approval of the Agenda as presented.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Meeting Minutes / Approval: Pam Whitehead, KL3PAM
02/10/2021 Board Meeting -- pending.

Question of the Month: Hypothetically, if MARA were to provide radio communications again for the Iditarod, what checkpoint would you choose? Don--Rome River/good people, good chow; Ken--Willow startpoint; John C.--Yetna; Bridgit--any station out in the bush/with a good warm-heated cabin; Scott--Iditarod; Chris--Safety; Pam--Safety; Tabitha--Safety.

President's Report: Tabitha Sherman/KL4FZ

- Discussed getting beyond Covid and back to normal again; hopefully being able to host Hamfest and attend Emergency Fairs, noting it's been a long time since we've set up the trailer;
- There was brief discussion about setting up the trailers for training and encouraging new hams to get involved.

Vice President's Report: Chris Hamman, KL5BF

- No report this month.

Secretary's Report: Pam Whitehead, KL3PAM

- No report.

Treasurer's Report: John Carrington, KL1XM

- Book account: \$1,202.00 -- John Mears/AL7LA submitted \$200/cash for 8 books sold;
- General account: \$2,967.00; includes a rebate for membership dues paid through ARRL.

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

- Reported on the status of the website being up to date;
- Reported the Swap & Shop is still current;
- Noted QRZ has had a number of Kenwood 480s and Icomm 7300s for sale;
- Informed his next newsletter will contain a tutorial on QRZ and how to use it;
- Provided the latest Skywarn weather spotters report.
- Everything is good on the Trailer -- Battery chargers are doing a good job;
- Next COMEX is Saturday 3/13/21, 1000 to 1400; will be a "Virtual Dog Race" check in on VHF or 3920; Winlink will be used between the main stations; there is now a generic form on Winlink for all kinds of races; explained the details of how to check in and traffic to be reported.
- Also, this coming weekend will be a SOTA and a POTA. There was brief discussion re both.

VE Report: Ken Hudson, KL2HF

- Reported 3 new Technicians who also joined MARA, 2 upgraded to General, and 1 upgraded to Extra.

Don/KL7JFT reported that new members are contacting Elmers for guidance on radio equipment and how-to's.

John/KL1XM announced/reminded that Don Bush/KL7JFT for being selected **MARA 2020 HAM OF THE YEAR!** Congratulations Don! Don spoke in appreciation; also reported he received a certificates for the Quarter Century Club 45 years and ARRL for 50 years; also received a 52-year letter from MARS. Board members spoke in appreciation of his expertise and well-deserved awards.

Licensing Classes: John Mears, AL7LA

- John/KL1XM reported he has ordered books and is recruiting and teaching; that the book resource is now shipping.

Sunshine Committee: Tabitha Sherman, KL4FZ

- Reported no new activity.

Upcoming Events:

1. 03/20/2021 Virtual Breakfast meeting via Zoom, 9-10 am
2. 03/16/2021 MARA General meeting, via Zoom, 7:00 pm
3. 03/27/2021 Licensing Exams, Am-Vet Building, Wasilla, 7:00 pm
4. 04/14/2021 MARA Board Meeting, via Zoom, 7:00 pm
5. 04/24/2021 Licensing Exams, Am-Vet Building, Wasilla, 7:00 pm
6. 04/24/2021 MARA General Meeting, via Zoom, 7:00 pm

Ongoing Business:

New Business:

1. March General Meeting program discussion -- Chris Hamman/KL5BF

Solicited ideas for the March program. Don/KL7JFT offered to put together a Presentation of the MARA Trailers to encourage new members to come out for training. Further discussion followed with regard to presentation content.

2. Hamfest -- May or September? Venue?

Following open discussion with regard to venue and when to have it, the consensus of the Board was to wait until September 12 for better recovery from covid restrictions and check availability for the Valley Church of Christ venue (same as last year--good venue). John will have Betty/KL1XL check with the Paster.

3. April Board and General Meetings -- Tabitha not available (could be for board if on a different night). As Tabitha has time conflicts for the April meetings, following discussion, it was decided that the Board meeting will be changed to *Monday*, April 12, 2021 from the second Wednesday of the month, and Chris/KL5BF as Vice President will chair the General Meeting on April 30, 2021.

Non-agenda items / announcements:

Reminder: Daylight Savings Time starts this weekend -- Spring forward!

John/KL1XM announced that Pavilion A has been reserved for July 17, 2021 the MARA Picnic.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Next Board Meeting: April, 2021.

Next General Meeting: April 30, 2021

Pamela J. Whitehead [Electronic signature]

Pam Whitehead/KL3PAM, Secretary
Matanuska Amateur Radio Association