



ESCONDIDO AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY  
P.O. Box 3243 – Escondido, CA 92033  
<http://www.earsclub.org>  
146.88 PL107.2 (EchoLink Node 2846), 449.24 PL127.3, 224.14 PL 156.7  
ESCN Net Rom Node 145.07  
An ARRL Affiliated Club



## EARS Board Meeting Minutes

May 19, 2011

### I. CALL TO ORDER

The EARS Board meeting was called to order by John N6EP at 7:07 pm PDT. John W9EN collected meeting minutes in the absence of the Secretary, Teri W6TRB.

☒ Present    ☐ Not Present

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	John Musselman, N6EP, President
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	John Belstner, W9EN, Vice President
<input type="checkbox"/>	Teri Bloom, W6TRB, Secretary and Treasurer
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fred McDavitt, W6PBR, Emergency Services Coordinator
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jo Ashley, KB6NMK, Officer at Large
<input type="checkbox"/>	Vivian Wentworth-Kitson, W6NWF, Officer at Large
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jeff Murdock, AE6GM, Officer at Large
<input type="checkbox"/>	Dirk Reschly, N6SUN, Officer at Large
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Marvin Munster, W6MJM, Officer at Large, Property Manager
<input type="checkbox"/>	Robert Kitson, KI6SBL, Immediate Past President
<input type="checkbox"/>	Harry A Hodges, W6YOO, Historian

### II. Approval of Minutes

John N6EP noted that the April meeting minutes were titled “Agenda” and not “Minutes”. Jo KB6NMK made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected; John W9EN seconded. The motion was unanimously carried.

### III. Special Announcements

Vivian W6NWF said that Robert KI6SBL was hospitalized at Palomar Hospital with cellulitis in his leg and foot. He may be able to go home tomorrow. Pictures of his leg are posted on Robert’s Facebook account.

### IV. OFFICER & COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS

#### a) Program Director’s Report

John W9EN submitted the following written report.

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Our May presentation was a tag team between Jim KI6ZUM, Lauren KJ6KDZ and Kerry N6IZW centered around the Adobe Bluffs Elementary School ISS contact this past February. The membership seemed genuinely interested in the topic and there were several excellent

follow up questions. Unfortunately, I forgot to bring the EARS pins so they were each mailed one along with a Thank You card.

The topic of the June 9 meeting will be Antenna Design and Optimization with particular focus on Field Day. Dr. Frank Parks, NB1Z will be our presenter. Frank is a colleague of mine and whiz when it comes to antenna theory. If you have ever had any burning questions regarding the black magic of antennas, June 9 will be your opportunity to ask.

On July 14, EARS will host Allen AK6AK who will demonstrate the reliable voice and data capabilities of D-Star as it applies to Emergency Communications. In addition, Allen will share his secrets to making his equipment portable.

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Vivian W6NWF reminded everyone that Vince W6CD will be giving brief pitch about Field Day at the beginning of the June 9 meeting.

**b) Treasurer's Report**

There was no Treasurer's Report this month due to the Treasurer (Teri W6TRB) attending the 2011 Dayton Hamvention.

**c) Technical Committee Report**

There was no update on the Repeater Controller installation progress.

Jo KB6NMK noted that John AF6UA reported via email that during the weekly CERT net on the EARS repeater, a couple of people commented that the repeater output seemed a little low power. Both Joe and Fred W6PBR commented that the comments were related to audio level and not RF power. John W9EN and Marvin W6MJM speculated that the previous unsuccessful attempts to install the new controller on Hubbard Hill may have created this condition, and that it should be corrected once the new controller is installed. John W9EN replied to John AF6UA by email.

John W9EN submitted the following written report.

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The first step in our installation process is complete; the EchoLink hardware has been installed at the Salvation Army Building. However, repeater connectivity will still be off-line until the remaining equipment is installed at the repeater site. Since the IP address lease time on the Salvation Army wireless router is configured for only 1 day, I assigned the EchoLink computer a fixed IP address and configured the Linksys Router to port forward the necessary UDP and TCP ports to that fixed address. This should avoid unnecessary outages due to IP address churn.

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**d) Emergency Services Report**

Fred W6PBR submitted the following written report.

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1. May/June activities of the Escondido CERT include:
  - a. 5 May: The quarterly CERT Team Leader's Meeting was held at Fire Station #1. Jo - KB6NMK, John - AF6UA and Fred - W6PBR were in attendance.

- b. 10 May: A 2 meter Escondido CERT net was conducted from the Escondido Emergency Operations Center for Chief Randy Licata. John - AF6UA was net control. Six EARS members participated in the net.
  - c. 14 May: Wildfire Protection Planning training was conducted for CERT members at Fire Station #1.
  - d. 21 May:
    - i. An Open House will be held at Escondido Fire Station #5 from 10 AM to 1 PM. CERT will have a tent to inform neighbors of the dangers of, and how to make preparations for wildfire season. Fred - W6PBR will participate.
    - ii. San Diego County CERT will conduct a day long "Back to Basics Drill" in Bonsall
  - e. 11 June: The annual Escondido CERT Picnic will be held at Kit Carson Park from 11 AM to 2 PM (times may change)
2. North County/Back Country CERT conducted a HAM licensing event on 14 May from 8:30 AM to 6:00 PM in Ramona. 34 new CERT members completed the day long training and took the Technician test. 33 passed the test. There were 12 VEs in attendance, three Extra Class and nine General class. Fred, W6PBR participated as a VE. The next North County Back Country HAM licensing event will be conducted on 13 August in Julian.

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**e) SANDARC Report**

Due to Robert's hospitalization, there was no SANDARC Report this month.

**f) Membership Report**

Steve G0TAN submitted the following written report via email.

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Current Paid membership (Life & 2011+): 109 (68 ARRL members)

2010: 28

2009: 8

2008: 8

2007: 3

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**g) Newsletter Editor's Report**

Steve G0TAN submitted the following written report via email.

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Thanks to all of those who contributed to last month's AllEARS.

Submissions for June's AllEARS required by June 2<sup>nd</sup> 2011.

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**h) Webmaster Report**

Steve G0TAN submitted the following written report via email.

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Monthly updates:

- May's AllEARS added
- Program schedule updated for June
- June's program details updated

- Opportunity drawing updated

New features added:

- None

Bugs fixed:

- None reported

Planned work:

- Emergency services section added to database
- EARS event photographs

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**i) PR Director's Report**

Due to Robert's hospitalization, there was no PR Director's Report this month.

**j) Field Day Chairman's Report**

Vivian W6NWF reported that the letters have been mailed to the local city officials and served agencies. The Press Releases are also ready to go. The position of "Fuel Monitor" remains unfilled. This person would be in charge of monitoring generator fuel levels, purchasing and delivering fuel to the Field Day site. Everything else is looking pretty good at this point.

Marvin W6MJM reported that he will regrettably be out of town Field Day weekend and will not be able to handle the food preparation as planned. Marvin handed off the Field Day signs to Vivian. Vivian will send out an email looking for a volunteer to fill in for Marvin.

Vivan also noted that there is a Field Day Twitter feed. If you have a Twitter account and are interested in receiving Field Day "Tweets", please notify her. The next Field Day preparation meeting is Thursday May 26 at 6:30 PM.

**V. OLD BUSINESS**

**a. Liability Insurance**

John N6EP asked Teri W6TRB to obtain an insurance quote from the new ARRL insurance provider even though we had already paid for 2011. The letter indicated premiums could be as low as half of what we are paying now.

**b. Plaque for Konrad**

Vivian W6NWF reported the presentation of the plaque was all ready to go at the last membership meeting but Konrad did not show up. John N6EP will try and get Konrad to show up at the next meeting so the presentation can be made.

**c. Cloud Storage**

John W9EN reported on his investigation into various cloud file storage options for the club to store pictures, meeting minutes, presentation, etc. Steve W6TAN indicated there is a fee associated with additional file storage from our Web Host and is looking into exactly what that fee might be.

The following is a top 5 sampling of cloud storage providers; there are certainly others out there, but they are either more expensive, require special software or do not allow file sharing. John's criteria for ranking was first: Free Storage Size and second: Reasonable pricing for Additional Storage.

ADrive

50 GB - Free

100 GB - \$139.50/yr

250 GB - \$339.50/yr

Google Docs

1 GB - Free

20 GB - \$5/yr

80 GB - \$20/yr

200 GB - \$50/yr

400 GB - \$100/yr

1 TB - \$256/yr

mimedia

7 GB - Free

250 GB - \$99/yr

[box.net](http://box.net)

5 GB - Free

25 GB - \$9.99/mo

50 GB - \$19.99/mo

Dropbox

2 GB - Free

50 GB - \$9.99/mo

100 GB - \$19.99/mo

John advises, if EARS will NEVER exceed 50 GB of files, then ADrive is the clear winner. However, if EARS may exceed 50 GB of files, then Google Docs is the winner.

John N6EP recommends we scan in as much material as we can and see where we are with respect to storage space before committing to any paid service. In parallel, we could experiment with an account on one of the free cloud services.

**d. Other Old Business**

Vivian W6NWF asked if there was any progress on the "Audit of the Books". John N6EP reported he did as Dirk N6SUN if he would perform such an audit and he agreed. No progress has been reported by Dirk on this effort.

**VI. NEW BUSINESS**

John N6EP reported that the Valley Center Western Days will be May 27 & 28 this year. EARS has been asked by VCCERT to help with parade communications.

**VII. ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned by John N6EP at 7:50 pm PDT.

Respectfully Submitted,  
John Belstner, W9EN