



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 Ram Node 145.07  
An ARRL Affiliated Club



## **EARS Board Meeting Minutes**

**January 15, 2015**

### **I. Call to Order**

Mike Hightower, KF6SJ, President  
John Belstner, W9EN, Vice President  
Matt Tucker, N6EAJ, Secretary  
Robert Kitson, KI6SBL, Treasurer  
John McNelly, AF6UA, Emergency Services Coordinator  
Jo Ashley, KB6NMK, Officer at Large  
Dirk Reschly, N6SUN, Officer at Large  
Zac Petersen, KJ6MLT, Officer at Large  
Bud Hennessy, AE6BH, Officer at Large  
Roger Gagos, K6EQ, Officer at Large  
Jeff Murdock, AE6GM, Past President  
Also present:  
Vivian Wentworth-Kitson, W6NWF, Field day chair  
The meeting was called to order at 6:09 PM by Mike KF6SJ.

### **II. Approval of Minutes**

A motion to approve November's board meeting minutes was made by Bud AE6BH and seconded by John AF6UA. The minutes were approved unanimously.

### **III. Officer & Committee Chairman Reports**

- a. President's Report - Mike KF6SJ  
The 70cm EARS repeater was sent back to Yaesu. Turn-around time was unknown.  
The digital net is currently held after the analog Sunday evening net. Moving the digital net was discussed. Mike will get a feel from digital net participants if the current night and time are good.
- b. Program Director's Report – John W9EN  
Submitted by e-mail. An official thank you to Ryan McCourt for his excellent presentation on HF Communication Studies for the Military. Judging from the number of questions, it appears the topic was interesting to the audience.

The February 2015 presentation will be given by Gene, WB9COY on the topic of Broadband Ham Network (BBHN). Through the use of common off the shelf Wifi equipment (Linksys/Ubiquiti) amateurs now have the ability to construct a full featured high speed network. This seminar is intended to be more hands on rather than technical. Gene will take a new Ubiquiti Rocket M2 out of the box and go through the factory flash update process and then configure the node with a call sign and put it on the air. Hopefully we can connect to the San Diego BBHN from the third floor.

Some discussion is needed regarding the venue for our April Club Auction. I don't believe our current meeting room is sufficient for hosting the auction.

The months of September, October and November 2015 are still open. I've received a few suggestions and pursuing those, but so far nothing concrete.

c. Treasurer's Report – Robert KI6SBL

Savings = \$4509, Checking = 1676.38

Robert asked to be reimbursed for the \$29 that he paid to cover the higher insurance rate that was needed to have the new Yaesu repeaters covered. The motion was approved unanimously, but the names of the people that motioned and seconded were not recorded (by error). Paypal is taking a cut of payments to EARS. Mike will check on fees and will try to remove the social security # of our past treasurer from the Paypal account.

Dirk N6SUN requested a profit/loss annual report for taxes. He will request Quickbooks files from Terry or John. Dirk will look into getting Quickbooks from Inuit at a discount. Joe KB6NMK made the motion to purchase Quickbooks through Dirk using his discount, John AF6UA seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Robert suggested that we no longer have HTs for the club opportunity drawing as it has been hard to sell tickets. Mike KF6SJ suggested we let go of the of the Alinco HT at the February 2015 EARS meeting and offer a silver Yaesu FT-1D as the opportunity drawing starting in March. Robert KI6SBL made the motion to approve Mike's suggestion, it was seconded by Jeff AE6GM, and approved unanimously. Mike KF6SJ and Matt N6EAJ volunteered to pick the FT-1D up at HRO in the near future.

d. Secretary's report - Matt N6EAJ

Matt has more EARS membership forms / flyers if anyone needs some.

Matt will update EARS affiliation with the ARRL. Steve W6TAN suggested in an e-mail to wait until March to do that since the EARS membership numbers and ARRL membership will be more concrete by then.

e. Technical Committee Report

We discussed analyzing the mystery 70cm antenna and perhaps using that antenna when the 70cm repeater is returned from repair.

- f. Emergency Services Coordinator Report – John AF6UA  
John AF6UA volunteered to organize EARS involvement in both the Grape Day and Escondido Christmas parades.
- g. Membership Report – Steve W6TAN/G0TAN  
Submitted by e-mail. As of 13th Jan 2015, the current EARS membership is 71, of which 13 are paid, 58 are life. ARRL membership is 51 which is 72% of the total membership, so affiliation is good.  
  
I'm aware that there are at least another 18 renewals, and 3 new members in the works, so with any luck we should have 91 in total. Only another 70 to go!
- h. Newsletter Editor's Report – Rob KI6SBL  
Rob asked if we liked the Board Member talk part of All EARS. He removed contact information for EARS officers and board members from All EARS. There is a link in All EARS that takes you to the current contact information on the web page. The thinking is that people may not want their information living on the internet for the rest of time.
- i. SANDARC Report – Mike KF6SJ  
Mike KF6SF told us that the next SANDARC meeting is on January 29, 2015. Mike and Zac KJ6MLT said they plan on attending.
- j. Webmaster's Report – Steve W6TAN/G0TAN  
Submitted by e-mail. EARS website has been updated with 2015 officer information.  
2015 tentative program schedule added.  
Added January's All EARS.  
Updated EARS event calendar.  
Need program overview for February's general meeting (John B).  
Need opportunity drawing update if necessary (Rob K?)

Next month I plan to update the access methods of some of the .php files on the server to improve security, which should stop erroneous e-mails to EARS members.

Could you please confirm that Matt is now the trustee for EARS - if so, I will update the EARS History page.

#### **IV. New Business**

Matt N6EAJ is going to have Mike sign the ARRL form so that he can become the EARS repeater trustee (voted on in November 2015). Matt will then submit the paperwork.

The auction location and time was discussed. Jo KB6NMK will contact the LDS church about location and tables/chairs. Zac KJ6MLT will provide the call sign database again for the auction.

Roger K6EQ discussed the Arcom controller option that will let the EARS owned Arcom controller interface with the Yaesu DR-1X repeater. It appeared that the Arcom would only be useful during analog mode and not in digital mode. No decision was made for purchase.

**V. Adjournment**

Mike KF6SJ adjourned the meeting at 7:38PM.

**VI. Next Meeting**

The next board meeting will be 6PM, February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 900 Canterbury Pl, Escondido CA.