



W5AC

## Texas A&M University Amateur Radio Club



Thursday, 13 February 2020

### Minutes from the February 2020 General Business Meeting

President/WG1GEM called the meeting to order at 1938L, Treasurer/KG5YRW, Secretary/KE0MXN, and Advisor/N5TLT were also present. Thirteen voting members, one non-voting member, and six guests were physically present.

#### Officer Reports

- **President's Report**

- **Introductions:** WG1GEM had all members introduce themselves and noted that there was a test session before the meeting.
  - **Lid:** W5QZ remarked that the club's unofficial mascot, Lid, had a name that is a derogatory term for bad telegraph operators.
- **KG5EYV/SK:** WG1GEM noted that KG5EYV, former president of W5BCS, has passed away and that W5AC remembers him through a card passed around.
- **Shack Cleaning:** WG1GEM extended his thanks to those who cleaned the shack and encouraged members to clean up after themselves to ensure that the shack stays clean. Moreover, he asked all members to label their water bottles with their initials and alert the EC when the club runs out of water.
- **T-Shirts:** WG1GEM noted that he would like to fund the purchase of t-shirts and set t-shirt prices at the meeting. He remarked that the cost per shirt is \$12.50, and he asked the club to sell them for \$15 to members and \$20 at Belton. KI5CLW noted that he could finance the shirts if the club would pay him back, but asked the club to raise the price to \$20 per shirt for members as well. The club then briefly discussed financing and shirt counts for Belton. W5QZ noted that the club could carry t-shirts over to future calendar years and suggested that the club purchase 50 shirts: 20 large, 20 extra-large, some extra-extra-large, and some extra-extra-extra large. The cost would be around \$1,000 but the club could make \$1,000 in the process. KE5MUX suggested selling them online and having a credit card option available at hamfests. *See Motions and Votes.*

- **Vice President's Report**

- *Not present.*

- **Treasurer's Report**

- *See "Motions and Votes".*

- **Secretary's Report**

- *See "Motions and Votes".*

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### Director Reports

- **QSL Manager's Report**
  - *Not present.*
- **Director of Operations' Report**
  - **Texas State Parks on the Air:** KI5BVJ noted that W5AC has invited N5XU to participate in TSPOTA with us, but they have not yet responded. He further noted that W5AC will be going to Lake Sommerville which is about 37 miles away. W5QZ noted that there was a pecan farm out on fifty to go to. N5TLT directed the club, specifically WG1GEM, to fill out the paperwork for TSPOTA.
- **Historian's Report**
  - **Elmer Groups:**
    - **Foxhunt:** W5QZ noted that for the Foxhunt group, he intends to use CCG, NSG, and WCG to get a reading on the fox. Each team will need a compass rose, a licensed operator, and a map in a sheet protector. They will then each get a bearing and plot a location. The group will likely meet next week.
  - **Voltage v. Current:** W5QZ discussed how electricity kills and that water lowers ones' contact resistance, thereby making those who are more nervous sweat, and are therefore more likely to be harmed.
  - **School Club Roundup:** W5QZ noted that the club needs more multipliers to do well in SCR and that the club needs to get a good link from here to his shack. He then discussed that those who use 20m and park from 14.250-14.275 do best, and that there are nets above 14.300 which make it undesirable to park up there for QSOs.
  - **QSL Cards:** W5QZ passed around QSL cards.
- **Director of Repeater Operations' Report**
  - *Nothing to report.*
- **Website Manager's Report**
  - *Not Present*

### Club Business

- **Wall:** WG1GEM discussed tearing out one of the walls of the building. N5TLT noted that it would require an electrician and that he reckons it will cost between \$2,000 and \$3,000. KI5CLW asked N5TLT to investigate getting a quote. N5TLT noted that it will take some time to get one.
- **Repeater:** WG1GEM noted that the repeater is dead again, as the power supplies have blown another fuse. If anyone would like to pitch in to fund a new power supply, the club likely needs a 70 amp 12V supply. KI5CLW asked if the 70 amp supply would be sufficient for future projects, such as 220MHz, to which WG1GEM replied that the closet is nearing capacity already. Each half of the repeater takes around 20 amps and there is some overhead for the Raspberry Pi and SCOM 7330. WG1GEM and KI5CLW noted that anyone willing to fund these projects (say, by buying t-shirts at Belton or by buying a repeater sponsorship) could have their name or callsign on the equipment.

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- **Page of Projects:** KI5CLW noted that the club should prepare a handout for Belton of current projects. W5QZ suggested having a photograph of the club so that folks could see us in the shack, and that the club could send the photograph to QST.

### January Recap

- **Lab:** KG5YRW noted that the lab has been stocked with new supplies, including a new Hakko soldering iron. He asks for \$70 for the soldering iron. *See Motions and Votes.*
- **Rotor Lockout:** KI6KYX noted that he is building a keyswitch into the rotor controller and that the key will be added to the keychain for those who have access. KZ3G noted that the club ought to have rotor training sessions and radio training sessions to get people familiar. N5TLT noted that the bylaws ought to include a procedure for training. *See Motions and Votes.*
- **Lab:** KG5HZE noted that the lab has been cleaned up, but that there is also still much to do. KG5HZE asks all members to keep the lab clean and return tools to their rightful place. KG5YRW noted that he will make a list of things to purchase for the shack and share it. W5QZ noted that if the club doesn't find good test equipment by Dayton Hamfest, he can look for some there. He also asked whether the club wanted all-new or refurbished test equipment.
- **Field Day:** W5BCS, at their January meeting, invited W5AC to participate with them again during June Field Day.

### Motions and Votes:

- **Club T-Shirt Funding:** WG1GEM et al. motioned to advance \$350 of club-branded t-shirts. N5TLT motioned to accept the purchase, KI5GIH seconded the motion, and the motion passed without opposition. KE0MXN certified that the meeting had quorum. *See Presiden't Report.*
- **Club T-Shirt Pricing:** WG1GEM and KI5CLW asked to set the price of t-shirts to \$20 for both club members and others. KZ3G motioned to accept the price, KI5CLW seconded the motion, and the motion passed without opposition. KE0MXN certified that the meeting had quorum.
- **Treasurer's Report:** KG5YRW read the treasurer's report, which KI5CLW motioned to accept and which KI5BVJ seconded. The motion passed without opposition. KE0MXN certified that the meeting had quorum.
- **January Meeting Minutes:** The minutes were not read as they were sent out over the listserv. KI5CLW motioned to accept the minutes and KI5BVJ seconded the motion. The motion passed without opposition. KE0MXN certified that the meeting had quorum.
- **Hakko Soldering Iron:** KI5CLW motioned to reimburse KG5YRW for the soldering iron. KI5GIH seconded the motion and it passed without opposition. KE0MXN certified that the meeting had quorum.

### Good of the Order:

- **Belton:** WG1GEM noted that the club will attend Belton and has purchased a table. Interested parties should contact KE0MXN.

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- **O&M HF Station:** WG1GEM noted that the club is helping to set up an HF station for TASC/TAMMSCAMS, and that they need assistance. W5QZ asked what bands they will have access to, and WG1GEM said 40m.
- **Tower Work:** WG1GEM noted that the 40m beam may need tuned again. W5MHN noted that he will replace the dipole that's up there with his folded terminated dipole that he is donating to the club. KG5YRW noted that the tower work should take place before it gets warm again.
- **Houston Hamfest:** WG1GEM noted that Houston Hamfest will be on 07 March 2020.
- **Projects:**
  - **220 MHz Repeater:** WG1GEM et al. discussed acquiring materials for the 220 MHz repeater.
  - **900 MHz Repeater:** WG1GEM noted that the club is working on a 900 MHz repeater as well. KZ3G said that he is looking into finding duplexers for the repeater projects.
  - **Storage Room:** WG1GEM noted that the storage room still needs cleaned. KI5CLW noted that he will work on that after the meeting. W5QZ noted that the display cabinets are being worked on and will help preserve some of the antiques presently held in the storage room.
- **Weekly Meetings:** KI5GIH asked whether the club would switch to weekly meetings. N5TLT argued that the weekly meetings will not become a thing. W5QZ noted that the Elmer Groups are a thing and encouraged interested individuals to sign up.
- **Disaster City:** KE5MUX noted that TEEX is hosting a mass casualty project and that they need volunteer victims. Interested individuals should contact KG5YRW.

**Adjourn:** At 2046L, N5TLT motioned to adjourn the meeting until 13 February 2020 at 1930L. KI5GIH seconded the motion, the motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 2046L.

**Presentation:** KE5MUX presented on the MS150.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jace Nelson / KE0MXN  
W5AC Secretary

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### Callsign Index:

KE0MXN Jace Nelson

KE5ISM Eric Laird

KE5MUX Theresa Williams

KG5EYV/SK Mark Hnatiuk

KG5INI Nick Petta

KG5HZE Max Lesser

KG5SDD Jacob Morgan

KG5YRW Max Witek

KI5BVJ Alex Olah

KI5CLW Alex Hueselbusch

KI5CWD Emily Newby

KI5DRO Robert Filloramo

KI5GIH Michael Nelson

KI6KYX Robert Preston

KZ3G Bill Preston

N5TLT Kevin Glueck

W5AC Texas A&M University Amateur Radio Club

W5BCS Bryan Amateur Radio Club

W5MHN Marty Nau

W5QZ David Gent

WA5MWD David Cheek

WG1GEM Connor Farrell

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