

# Minutes

## Palomar Amateur Radio Club

### Board of Directors Meeting

September 14, 2011



The meeting was called to order by President Dennis Baca KD6TUJ at 7:27pm at the home of Ron Pollack K2RP. In attendance were:

President	Dennis Baca KD6TUJ
Vice President	Ron Pollack K2RP
Secretary	Paul Williamson, KB5MU
Director #1	Don Johnson, WD6FWE
Newsletter Editor	Michelle Thompson W5NYV
Membership Chairman	Al Donlevy W6GNI
Repeater Technical Chairman	Conrad Lara, KG6JEI

#### Secretary's Report

Secretary KB5MU distributed copies of the June, July, and August Board meeting minutes. Motion by Al Donlevy W6GNI to approve the June minutes. Seconded by W5NYV. Motion passed unanimously. The data in the header of the July minutes was corrected to July 13. Motion by Conrad Lara KG6JEI to approve the July minutes as corrected. Seconded by W5NYV. Motion passed unanimously. Motion by Ron Pollack K2RP to approve the August minutes. Seconded by Don Johnson WD6FWE. Motion passed with KG6JEI abstaining.

#### Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Georgia Smith KI6LAV had distributed the Treasurer's Report by email. Motion by Paul Williamson KB5MU to approve the Report as published. Seconded by Michelle Thompson W5NYV. Motion passed unanimously.

Tom Martin KG6RCW had requested reimbursement of his expenses in purchasing a plaque for Fred Atchley AE6IC in recognition of the work he did on the Oceanside antenna ordinance. Board members expressed some concern about approving expenses incurred without prior authorization, as required by the Bylaws. Motion by K2RP to reimburse KG6RCW "reluctantly". Seconded by W6GNI. Motion passed unanimously.

#### Upcoming General Meeting

K2RP reported that the October meeting would feature the annual auction, and the November meeting would be on Go Kits, presented by Ken Cohen KI6HRH. The December meeting will be the annual holiday social. Logistical details of the auction were discussed briefly.

## **Nominating Committee**

KD6TUJ asked for suggestions for members to serve on the Nominating Committee.

## **Membership**

W6GNI reported that the membership is down a few to 259. At the last meeting only three renewals and one new member were processed. Of forty notices sent out to non-renewing members, ten bounced and only three renewed. Some members habitually renew a few months late, in effect paying for 12 months every 15 or so months.

The club collects email addresses on the meeting sign-in sheet, but this sheet has not been making it to W6GNI for use in Membership canvassing. In the future they will be routed to W6GNI first before being saved for activity points accounting for the prize drawing at the picnic.

## **Repeater Technical Report**

Repeater Technical Chairman Conrad Lara KG6JEI reported that the controller CPU on the 146.73 MHz repeater resets when there's a power loss, and that's not supposed to happen. One recent outage on August 29 was explained when we learned that SDG&E replaced one of the poles on the club's property on that day.

A new receiver board was made available to the club on loan while the failed board is debugged and repaired or replaced.

The TNC on the 146.700 MHz packet repeater is giving what appears to be garbage text on the serial port, even though the baud rate DIP switches appear to be set correctly. The repeater is off the air until this can be investigated further. The 145.05 MHz node and the Metro net node are online, but they were offline during the power outage since have not yet installed DC-to-DC power converters for them.

A work party tried bypassing the cavities on the 6m repeater. That didn't work. Testing points to a problem with the cavities, which we hope can be fixed by retuning them.

The backup batteries appear to be in good condition. We've obtained documentation (on paper) for these cells, and we have a refraction-based acid measurement tool for checking their condition.

Motion by K2RP to authorized KG6JEI to spend up to \$400 to purchase three more Mean Well SD-350C-12 DC-to-DC converters to complete the conversion of the site to 48VDC battery backup operation. Seconded by WD6FWE. Motion passed unanimously.

## **Power Outage Net**

K2RP requested that the next Scope contain a mention of the great job W5NYV did running the net on the 146.730 MHz repeater during the recent extended power outage.

## **Paypal**

K2RP asked KB5MU yet again about the status of the club accepting membership fees and other monies via online transfer using Paypal. KB5MU stated that there was nothing preventing it from being done, he just hadn't set it up yet.

**Repeater Request**

KG6JEI requested primary but non-exclusive use of the 146.730 MHz repeater from 6am to 6pm on October 29 for an event. Motion by KB5MU to approve the request. Seconded by W5NYV. Motion passed unanimously.

**Next Board Meeting Location**

It was agreed that the next Board meeting would be held at the home of K2RP at 7pm on October 12, 2011.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Paul Williamson KB5MU  
Secretary