

## **BRITISH COLUMBIA AMATEUR RADIO COORDINATION COUNCIL**

### **DRAFT MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: May 31, 2015**

at North Shore Emergency Management Office, 145 E 14<sup>th</sup> Street, North Vancouver, BC

- 1. Opening of Meeting:** President Ian Procyk VE7HHS was chair, and called the meeting to order at 10:20 AM. There being 16 clubs and over 20 delegates in attendance, the Chair declared a quorum. (The Constitution specifies a quorum as 9 representatives, representing at least 3 clubs)

- 2. Welcoming comments and Introductions:**

Tom Dunn VE7TD, Vice-President of the North Shore Amateur Radio Club, welcomed delegates and guests on behalf of the club and on behalf of Dorit Mason VE7SLH, Director of the North Shore Emergency Management Office. Tom described the support that NSARC receives from NSEMO which includes use of the adjacent radio room and the well-equipped meeting room.

#### **Introduction of Special Guests**

Al Munnik VE7RMP, Assistant Director for BC and Yukon for Radio Amateurs of Canada, brought greetings from RAC Director Bill Gipps VE7XS who was unable to attend.

#### **Introductions**

The Chair introduced the BCARCC Directors and Officers in attendance, and listed the names of those unable to attend. The complete list is attached to these Minutes.

All attendees were asked to introduce themselves, giving their Name, call-sign and Club.

- 3. AGENDA:** The Agenda was approved as presented.

- 4. MINUTES of 2014 Annual General Meeting:**

No errors or omissions were noted. The Minutes were approved as presented

- 5. CORRESPONDENCE**

Most correspondence related to coordination issues which were referred to Chief Coordinator, George Merchant VE7QH.

Several e-mails from the Arrowsmith ARC concerned conflicts to their repeater VE7KU near Port Alberni from a co-channel repeater VE7RFR in the Highlands municipality of Victoria. This matter was investigated and appears on the way to being resolved.

Industry Canada reported a complaint from the public concerning safety concerns of a ham tower in Victoria. After input from BCARCC, IC contacted the amateur and the matter appears resolved.

- 6. REPORTS**

President Ian advised that most matters will be covered in the following reports. Ian also reported that former President Jim Forsyth VA7FJE has partially recovered from his illness, but has not returned to work.

- 6A. Chief Coordinator's report**

George Merchant VE7QH reported that six new repeaters came on-line in the past-year. Letters sent to Interior repeater operators resulted in a small number of updates. However, an overall lack of responses confirming operation of a repeater creates a problem for BCARCC in the status uncertainty of many repeaters. George described several possible actions. Letter or e-mails will be sent to the remaining repeater operators. With the availability of low-cost repeaters from Yaesu, the demand for repeater channels has

increased.

Several complaints were submitted concerning overlapping coverage on co-channel stations. Most are being resolved by the proper use of CTCSS access. A more difficult problem has arisen as a result of WWARA coordinating new 2m repeater pairs with a 1 MHz split using portions of the 2m simplex channels.

George moved that his report be accepted. Carried. The full report of the Chief Coordinator is attached.

#### **6B. Treasurer's report**

Treasurer Brian Summers VE7JKZ presented the financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2014 reporting an operating surplus of \$666. This was caused by an increase in membership income, minimal travel expenses submitted, and a delay in using the secretarial service.

Brian moved that the report be accepted. Carried.

Treasurer Brian submitted a proposed budget for 2015 in which similar amounts were budgeted for travel expenses and resumption of paid secretarial services, assuming membership fees remained at \$20 per delegate.

Brian moved that the budget be approved. Carried.

Treasurer Brian moved that the membership dues for the current year be set at \$20 per delegate. Carried.

#### **7. BUSINESS ARISING from the minutes of AGM of May, 2014:**

- a. The 2m Band Plan for south-western part of B.C. was revised by Bill Tracey VE7QQ and has now been posted on the BCARCC website. The principal changes are described in notes 6) and 7) of the plan.
- b. The BCARCC website was discussed as needing an update in appearance. No changes were made in the past year, but VECTOR delegate Mike Watkins VE7WV volunteered to review the website and suggest changes to the Board. Chief Coordinator George Merchant VE7QH will assist Mike in this project.

#### **8. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. **Report from Industry Canada:** The Surrey Spectrum office of Industry Canada again provided a report on issues of interest to the amateur community. The principal issues are:

CPC 2-0-03 on Antenna Systems was revised in Issue 5 released in July 2014. The changes involve commercial structures, but amateurs should note the changes.

CPC-3-24-01, released in April 2015. Provided a new system of applying penalties.

A new system for the application of radio licenses is being prepared for release in 2016. Amateurs will continue to be served by the Amateur Radio Service Centre.

A copy of Industry Canada's report is attached to these Minutes.

- b. **Use of 2m Simplex channels for emergency nets** by the Municipal Emergency groups in the Lower Mainland.

Although the Council does not coordinate simplex frequencies, the Council has received complaints from several amateurs that their use of simplex channels is being interfered by new Washington state repeaters that are operating on the simplex channel with a 1 MHz split. Merchant explained that WWARA permitted such operation without consultation with BCARCC on the basis that WWARA found little or no traffic on those

simplex channels.

BC municipalities are using a Simplex plan created in 2004, and perhaps it was time to review this plan. Delegate Al Munnik VA7MP volunteered to review the situation and to report to the Board.

## 9 ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

Directors continuing for the second year of their two-year term are:

Fraser Valley:	Nick Gaudiuso VE7TE Maple Ridge ARC
Greater Vancouver	Tom Dunn VE7TD North Shore ARC
Greater Vancouver:	Bill Tracey VE7QQ North Shore ARC

The Chair called for nominations for the following regions:

Greater Vancouver: Mike Watkins VE7WV VECTOR was elected, there being no other nomination.

Vancouver Island South: Ed Gorse VE7ED Capital Region District Radio was elected, there being no other nomination.

Vancouver Island North: No nominations; declared vacant

South Interior: No nominations; declared vacant

North Interior: No nominations; declared vacant

**10. Closing Remarks** - Thanks to host (NSEMO and NSARC), and retiring directors

**11. Adjournment** at 1145

Following the adjournment, the new BOARD OF DIRECTORS met to select 2015-2016 officers.

- President: Ian Procyk VE7HSS (There being no candidate for President, Ian remains President in accordance with bylaw 26-4).
- Vice-President: Ed Gorse VE7ED
- Treasurer: Brian Summers VE7JKZ
- Secretary: Ed Frazer VE7EF
- Chief Coordinator: George Merchant VE7QH
- Policy Chair: Bill Tracey VE7QQ