



**MINUTES**  
**NOVEMBER 11, 2015**

**Call to order**

7:30 PM, President Jim Lommen, KC7QY, presiding  
14 members, no guests present (see attachment 1)

**BUSINESS MEETING**

- Minutes for the October 14, 2015 meeting were approved

**REPORTS**

- **Treasury Dave Johnson KB5YIW**  
See attachment 2 (as submitted)
- **ARES Al Braun AC5BX**  
See attachment 3 (as submitted)
- **Charter School Jon Spargo KC5NTW**  
We have reestablished the licensing class at San Miguel. We now meet in the cafeteria at 3 p.m. on Tuesdays. We have also picked up a third student, Logan Lindahl. Logan lives in Magdalena and is home schooled. Logan's dad, Todd is a ham.
- **TARA Dave Johnson KB5YIW**  
Dave has been able to have TARA email forwarded to him.

**OLD BUSINESS**

- **Reroofing the shed**  
The week of 11/16, maybe.
- **Repeater discussion**  
Dave Johnson points out the seeming lack of response to his article in our October 2015 newsletter suggesting we get completely out of the repeater business. This prompted a long discussion centered on how to avoid the high fees we will need to pay to stay in the Chevron building (the state land office is suggesting that our yearly rent at the Chevron building may approach \$5000/year). Dave notes that this is too large amount to cover by in-kind services. The question was asked as to whether or not the state land office could be asked to take a different stance, or if Don Tripp might be able to intercede.

The consensus seems to be to move the 68 machine to the West Peak, but it is not currently clear what, if any, fee structure might be imposed at that location, or if we would be given permission for the move. Some questions were asked about operating out of the garden shack and other locations such as Ladrone, Polvadera Peak, South Baldy or Grassy.

Paul Choc is going to send some gear, including a large antenna and a preamp, to help mitigate known blind spot issues that will crop up if the 68 machine is moved to West Peak.

Part of post move effort will involve doing simplex contacts with the machine, once moved, to see if the antenna helped open up some of the blind spots. Issues associated with mounting the antenna onto the horizontal beam available at West Peak need to be understood and resolved. Since the generator will not be moved we might also consider installing some of our existing solar panels and controllers.

Another mechanism for mitigating the blind spots was suggested by Ed James. This would require internet connectivity and possible associated costs from Tech. Another suggestion was to resuscitate the 70cm cross band link that used to exist.

We could consider moving the D-STAR machine, as well. Regardless of whether we move this machine or not, if it is kept in service we should consider the offer from Rocky Mountain Ham Radio to negotiate a MOU to allow them to take over the daily system administration for this machine. Hardware expenses would remain the responsibility of SARA.

Instead of moving the machine we could consider that ARES embrace and use it, meaning that the County EOC would likely continue to cover the costs. Johnson and Grey will attempt a demonstration of sending images over RF before serious consideration of such a move. This should probably include understanding the configuration (and usage?) of the Icom 2820 radios in the mobile unit (do they include the D-STAR radios?).

If the EOC & ARES are not interested, the question of 'why D-STAR' needs serious consideration. It (and maybe the 68 machine?) could be sold and we could use Megalink and some of the orphaned state repeaters.

We need a plan in place no later than May.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

- **Christmas party**

This year it will once again be a potluck affair held at the DeBont/Johnson home (1307 Lopezville Rd.). December 9, 2015 beginning at 6:00 PM. As is customary, SARA's December 'meeting' is a more social gathering that includes families. Please join in. KB5YIW makes posole once a year and this will again be the day for 2015. If he can find some decent tamales, he'll have some of these as well. A coffee pot will be going along with a few seed beverages, but if you have a favorite beverage that you would like to enjoy, please bring it along. Bring something edible to share. Desserts, veggies, main dishes, etc. are welcome.

#### **Adjournment**

8:33 PM

Prescott Grey, W1PCG

Secretary, Socorro Amateur Radio Association



## Socorro Amateur Radio Association Treasurer's Report October 31, 2015

Transactions		Debits	Deposits	Balance
mo-yr				
Oct-15	Statement Opening Balance			\$ 8,712.58
<b>Debits</b>				
	Check			
10/5/2015	619 ARRL VEC VE exam fees)	\$ 90.00		
10/5/2015	620 Prescott Grey (hamfest donuts)	\$ 35.94		
10/5/2015	621 David B. Johnson (hamfest coffee, creamer, etc.)	\$ 17.32		
10/8/2015	622 New Mexico Tech (flyer postage)	\$ 792.99		
10/12/2015	623 Bodega Burger Co. (banquet)	\$ 995.77		
-	624 VOID	\$ -		
10/14/2015	625 Jim Lommen (prize postage & canned hams)	\$ 34.70		
10/15/2015	626 David B. Johnson (3 new member badge orders)	\$ 34.50		
10/15/2015	627 Amateur Radio Relay League (member dues)	\$ 109.00		
10/15/2015	628 Jim Lommen (SARA NM Corporation Report)	\$ 11.25		
	<b>Total Debits</b>	<b>\$ 2,121.47</b>		
<b>Deposits</b>				
10/8/2015	Hamfest proceeds		\$ 2,437.55	
	<b>Total Deposits</b>		<b>\$ 2,437.55</b>	
31-Oct	Statement Closing Balance			\$ 9,028.66
31-Oct	Checkbook Closing Balance			\$ 9,028.66
	Difference Between Statement & Checkbook Closing Balance			\$ -

  

<b>TARA</b>	TARA Funds				
		Opening Balance			\$ 411.08
	<b>Debits</b>	Check			
			\$ -		
	<b>Deposits</b>				
			\$ -		
	31-Oct	TARA Balance			\$ 411.08

  

<b>SARA</b>	SARA Funds		
	31-Oct	SARA (Balance less TARA)	\$ 8,617.58

Checkbook Balance w/ Outstanding Checks	\$ 9,028.66
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Renewal Due - November		
Oty	Jim	WB5GWH
Oty	Alice	NC5NTZ

Renewal Due - December		