



Minutes of Meeting of
SARA Board of Directors
October 28, 2009

Location: Jake's Restaurant, Saratoga-Sunnyvale Road, Saratoga, CA
The minutes were respectfully submitted by Don Steinbach, Acting Secretary.

Attendees:

- David Ritchie, W6DR, Director
- John Glass, NU6P, Director
- Don Steinbach, AE6PM, President
- Ray Rogoway, W6RAR, Secretary
- Yin Shih, N9YS, Treasurer

The meeting, having been duly noticed, began at approximately 7:15 PM and was called to order by Don Steinbach, President. Rob Vance, N6ROB, Vice President, was unable to attend.

Old Business:

- The minutes from the January 21, 2009 meeting were approved.
- The Fire Department has the revised version of the agreement for adding a HF antenna on the roof of the fire station. This document incorporates changes recommended by Dave Ritchie and Christina Sand and is awaiting FD concurrence.
- The "Emergency Response Plan for Saratoga" still needs updating. Rob Vance had started to do this, based on the Cupertino version. John Glass suggested (again) that a handbook/notebook containing all of the emcomm information that an operator would need be compiled and given to every member likely to be involved in emergency communication. Ray Rogoway said he would prepare an "Introduction to Emergency Communications" document toward this end.
- The EOC station startup instructions have been written and are on file at the EOC operating position.
- The EOC packet operating instructions have been written and are out for review.
- Interference continues on 146.655 MHz at the EOC. It appears to be from the feedline to a dish antenna installed on the tower behind the fire station. Don Steinbach is working the issue with the Board of Fire Commissioners. Yin Shih suggested further investigation to make sure we know the source of the interference before exerting more pressure.
- The lack of emergency power for the K6SA 2-meter repeater is still an open item. It was agreed by all that having no repeater at the onset of an emergency was highly undesirable. Don Steinbach agreed to prepare a candidate design solution for battery backup and have it reviewed by Rob Vance.

New Business:

- The November 27 Saratoga "open house" was discussed. Don Steinbach plans to be there with Saratoga CERT and proposed using the opportunity to promote SARA and ham radio. It was agreed that we should have SARA business cards, the ARRL "When all else fails" brochure, and a SARA promotional handout available at the event. Don will order business cards and the ARRL brochure, and contact Christina Sand about preparing a SARA promotional handout. As an aside, it was agreed that our interests as a club were Field Day, public service, contesting, emergency communication, and home brewing. It was also agreed that the business card should include the message "when all else fails – serving Saratoga" in some form.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:48 PM.