

**Minutes, Bulkley Valley Amateur Radio Society
2018 Annual General Meeting, December 2nd, 2018
Ranger Park Building, Smithers BC**

In Attendance:

Matt Williamson VE7MHW (President)
Doug Steventon VE7EPT (Secretary-
Treas.)
Ric Martin VE7CUP (Director)
Peter Kupsch VE7HFY
Gary Lobley VE7LCP (Director)

Steve Hachey VE7SJH
Mark Capewell VA7MNV
Jesse Hiemstra VE7LRX
Bob Haslett VE7CE
Brian Ellis VE7KND

Convened at 14:10

Introductory Remarks: Greetings, welcome to the 2018 AGM, house-keeping items.

Adoption of Agenda: (m/s Hiemstra/Capewell) Adopted as presented.

Approval of Minutes of 2017 AGM: (m/s Haslett/Kupsch) Adopted as presented.

Consideration of Financial Statement and Budget (appended):

- Written report tabled (appended) and commented on by D. Steventon, Treasurer
- 2019 Gaming Grant (\$8200) received in November 2018
- Grant money mostly Trade Show and Triathlon donations.
- Finances in good shape.
- Explanation of "in-kind" revenue: Includes travel for repeater system maintenance, public-service net airtime, etc.
- Most of the expenses were related to continued communications system upgrades: Purchase of System Fusion repeaters.
- Explanation of physical assets value.

Adoption of Financial Statement and Budget as presented: (m/s Capewell/Lobley), Adopted as presented.

Directors' Report: Written (appended).

- Highlights commented on by M. Williamson.
- Question asked about status of new SAR Hall. On-hold due to funding, we will help as we can when work continues, we have our own room.
- Discuss of need for a manual for portable station.
- Discussion of holding another Basic course, contacting High School for interest in a course (VE7LRX has connections with robotics teacher).
- Frequencies for Alaska earthquake operations.
- Discussion of honorary life-membership designation. Consensus to leave as special motions at AGM on case-by-case basis.

Motion to confer an Honorary Life Membership on Hank Vandermeulen, VE7TA: (m/s Haslett/Hiemstra), Adopted as presented.

Adoption of Directors Report as presented: (m/s Haslett/Martin), Adopted as presented.

Election of Officers:

Call for nominations:

The following nominations were accepted by acclamation:

- President: Matt Williamson (VE7MHW)
- Vice President: Gary Loble (VE7LCP)
- Secretary-Treasurer: Jesse Hiemstra (VE7LRX)
- Directors-at-Large: Ric Martin (VE7CUP), Mark Capewell (VA7MNV), Doug Steventon (VE7EPT), Brian Ellis (VE7KND)

Moved that all positions as nominated above be deemed elected: (m/s Haslett/Loble).
Adopted.

Motion to revise Credit Union signing authority to: Hiemstra, Williamson, Loble, and Steventon: (m/s Steventon/Williamson) Adopted.

New Business The following topics were discussed:

- Having more periodic general meetings focused on technical topics.
- Winter Field Day
- Look at ways to increase attendance/participation.
- All items referred to Directors for further consideration

Meeting adjourned at 14:15 (Moved by Williamson)

Following business meeting, Doug VE7EPT presented an overview of the capabilities of the Yaesu System Fusion and and WIRES-X internet linking infrastructure.

Certified True Record of Meeting: _____

BVARS 2017-2018 Budgets, Revenues-Expenditures, Balance Sheet

	2018 Budget	2018 Actual	2019 Budget
Revenue			
Membership Dues	450	472.84	450
Cash Donations	1500	1211.96	1500
EMBC, Town Reimbursement	1500	1848.55	1500
Interest (regular accounts)	40	38.89	40
Gaming Grant (incl. interest)	7500	7500.78	8200 <i>see Note 1</i>
In-Kind as Revenue	12000	11682	12000
TOTAL	\$22,990.00	\$22,755.02	\$23,690.00
Expenses			
General Society Administration			
Admin (AGM, Society Act Fee, etc.)	100	99.06	100
Emergency Preparedness/Public Service			
Insurance	350	332.35	350
Repeater Hydro	200	201.14	200
Portable capability, test gear, RDBN	1000	742.98	1000
Licensing Courses, training, EMBC call-outs	500	1222.85	1000
Voice/Data Repeater system	8000	6905.94	7000
Communications Centre, remote HF	1500	101.36	3000
In-Kind as expenditures	12000	11682	12000
TOTAL	\$23,650.00	\$21,287.68	\$24,650.00
Revenue-Expenses	-\$660.00	\$1,467.34	-\$960.00
Account Balances			
	Dec. 1, 2017	Dec. 1, 2018	
Regular Account	3332.45	4858.18	
Investment Savings	211.83	211.95	
Gaming Account	7572.11	8213.6 <i>see Note</i>	
Equity Shares	102.52	104.25	
TOTAL	\$11,218.91	\$13,387.98	
Physical Assets (building, radios, etc.)		\$49,298.98	<i>see Note 2</i>

Note 1: 2019 Gaming Grant received in November 2018 thus included in account balance, but shown as FY 2019 revenue.

Note 2: Equipment depreciation at 20% annually

Prepared by D. Steventon, Secretary-Treasurer

BVARS AGM December 2nd, 2018 - Directors Report

Public Service Events

- Provided coms and logistical assistance to BV SAR on the renewed Francis Brown search in the spring.
- Provided radio coms for the Tyhee Lake Triathlon.
- The forest fire situation was a major curve ball. Several of our members or their families, including our president, were affected. For a while the fibre optic line near A Topley and Fraser Lake was threatened and we were almost mobilized to provide essential links among communities. We established a voice/aprs station at the Regional District office in Burns Lake. We assisted the Prince George Club in revamping Boer Mtn site in anticipation of fire requirements (batteries, antenna., digipeater over three trips). Also re-established the Verdun site that lost power due to the fires.
- Participated in RAC Simulated Emergency Test and ShakeOut. VHF net initiated from Terrace through to Fort St. John, including the Prince George and Terrace EMBC stations. Winlink email gateway was well used.
- Had a good fall Hamfest, although commitments and fire aftermath kept local attendance down.

Technical

- As you will see in financial report, the 2019 Gaming Grant has been approved for \$8200. To be used in support of emergency preparedness capability. Directors will prioritize in New Year.
- BV SAR is building new hall at the airport. A room has been set-aside for our use. Not sure when it will be available for occupancy (funding has been on hold). Will store our portable equipment and set-up station/office there, hopefully this coming year. Part of deal for our use is assisting SAR and local authorities in their communications system (portable repeater, sat internet etc).
- BVARS Repeater system is now all converted to Yaesu System Fusion /FM/Digital. Seeley, Glentanna and Harry Davis all installed, and Tyhee upgraded from a DR-1X to Dr-2X. We will be discussing Fusion in our technical session after this business meeting.
- The repeater link to Terrace was successfully completed (in cooperation with Terrace club) and is operational! Turned out to be more of a challenge than we thought. Now we see how it holds up over the winter. If needed we can double up the yagi antenna at Tyhee end, but so far not needed. May look at adding digital voice and data capability this coming year.
- An intensive Basic licencing course was completed over two weekends in February/March. 16 students from Terrace through Burns lake, and about 8 got licences. Will consider putting on another course, perhaps a different format, in the new year if there is interest.
- "BVARS HamNet" wide-band network (WiFi) project is stalled a bit, but continuing. This is to establish a wireless data network among our repeater sites connectable from the internet and from member stations. It will allow Voice-over-IP linking of our repeaters, repeater adjustment and control, back-up high-speed data links for emergency agencies. We now have a link established from Ranger Park to Glentanna repeater site, and on to Tyhee site. Attempted 3.6ghz link to Houston, but did not work. Linking to Hazelton and Terrace will be even more challenging!
- Continuing to refine portable deployable station. Working with SAR on improving interoperability, and add data links.
- HF WinLink email gateway (VE7RBH at Ranger Park) continues to see a lot of use and is now a Hybrid gateway (forwards by HF if internet disabled, can be used for radio-only messaging). APRS gateway and digipeaters all operational and need regular software/hardware maintenance.
- Remote HF at the Glentanna site working as a Winlink station accessible through wifi. Needs more work to be an effective remote voice station.
- Related to fires, worked on updating station at Regional District office in Burns Lake.
- Reminder that Club has some test gear such as RigExpert AA-1000 antenna analyzer for repeater work etc., but also available for loan to paid-up BVARS members.