

**Minutes, Bulkley Valley Amateur Radio Society
2017 Annual General Meeting, December 10th, 2017
Ranger Park Building, Smithers BC**

In Attendance:

Matt Williamson VE7MHW (President)
Doug Steventon VE7EPT (Secretary-Treas.)
Ric Martin VE7CUP (Director)
Peter Kupsch VE7HFY
Dale Laluk VE7PGB
Larry Hartwell VE7LMH
Chuck Braun VA7CRB

Gary Lobley VE7LCP (Director)
Brian Butler VA7BBG (Director)
Jesse Hiemstra VE7LRX
Bob Haslett VE7CE
Henry Hoesch
Gina LaHaye VE7LHA
Brian Ellis VE7KND

Introductory Remarks: Greetings, welcome to the 2017 AGM.

Adoption of Agenda: (m/s LaHaye/Butler) Adopted as presented.

Approval of Minutes of 2016 AGM: (m/s Haslett/LaHaye) Adopted as presented.

Consideration of Financial Statement and Budget (appended):

- Written report tabled (appended) and commented on by D. Steventon, Treasurer
- 2018 Gaming Grant (\$7500) received in November 2017.
- About \$1000 reimbursement pending from EMBC.
- Finances in good shape. Policy is to retain \$1000-\$2000 cushion for contingencies.
- Cash Donations mostly thanks to Matt Williamson for arranging *CN Railroaders in the Community* donation of \$1000 to support Society activities, and Trade Show proceeds (thanks to Gary VE7LCP for organizing) Of 1500, minus COP portion (~500).
- Most of the expenses were related to continued communications system upgrades: Tyhee repeater batteries and Terrace link, continuing the WiFi-type network among repeater sites and town, replacement PACTIOR modem, portable station.

**Adoption of Financial Statement and Budget as presented (m/s Williamson/Haslett),
Adopted as presented.**

Directors' Report: Written (appended).

- Highlights commented on by M. Williamson.
- Haslett asked. Discussion ensued, about station at new SAR Hall and how we interact with SAR.

Adoption of Directors Report as presented (m/s Ellis/Lobley), Adopted as presented.

Election of Officers:

- Review of positions and bylaw requirements (five Directors unless moved for more). No such motion thus five Directors to be elected.
- Call for nominations:

- The following nominations were accepted by acclamation:

President: Matt Williamson (VE7MHW)
Vice President: Gary Loblely (VE7LCP)
Secretary-Treasurer: Doug Steventon (VE7EPT)
Directors-at-Large: Ric Martin (VE7CUP), Brian Ellis (VE7KND)

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

Motion to revise Credit Union signing authority to the newly elected Board members: remove Lee and Butler, add Ellis. (m/s Loblely/Williamson) Adopted.

Motion that policy be adopted that Secretary-Treasurer will normally be one of the two expenditure signatories, unless unavailable, and will keep the Society cheque books and be informed of all transactions. (m/s Loblely/Williamson). Adopted.

New Business: The following topics were discussed:

- VE7CRB brought up getting involved in using drones.
- VE7LRX brought attention to the new Web streaming of repeater audio.
- VE7CE asked about implication of new Societies Act. Discussion ensued, not believed to significantly affect how BVARs functions.

Meeting adjourned at 14:01 (Moved by B. Butler)

Following business meeting RIC, VE7CUP, presented on his projects posted on the QRZ.com site. Chuck, VA7CRB, demoed and discussed his commercial grade drone.

Certified True Record of Meeting: _____

Bulkley Valley Amateur Radio Society							
Statement of Revenues and Expenses							
Fiscal Year Ending November 30, 2017							
					Regular	Gaming	Total
Revenues							
Membership Dues					332.31		332.31
Cash Donations					2500		2500
EMBC Re-imbusement					548.02		548.02
Interest					36.43	1	37.43
Gaming Grant ^(a)						7500	7500
In-Kind as Revenue					14793.73		14793.73
TOTAL					\$18,210.49	\$7,501.00	\$25,711.49
Expenses							
General Society Administration							
Admin (AGM,Society Act Fee, etc.)					70		70
Emergency Preparedness/Public Service							
Insurance						343.35	343.35
Repeater Hydro					186.24		186.24
Portable capability, test gear					395.93	1818.18	2214.11
Licencing Courses, training, EMBC call-outs					323.85	172.15	496
Voice/Data Repeater system					0	4477.38	4477.38
Communications Centre, remote HF					1416.55	1189.15	2605.7
In-Kind as expenditures					14793.73		14793.73
TOTAL					\$17,186.30	\$8,000.21	\$25,186.51
Revenue-Expenses^(a)							
					\$1,024.19	-\$499.21	\$524.98
^(a) NOTE: Apparent carry-over due to:							
2018 \$7500 Gaming Grant received just before end of 2017 fiscal, thus we show it as revenue in 2017.							
Approved By:					J.D. Steventon (Secretary-Treasurer)		

BVARS AGM December 10th, 2017 - Directors Report

- Unfortunately our Vice-President VA7MBL, and our very active member VE7LRX, moved away this year. We thank them for their involvement and hope they stay involved from afar. On the other-hand we have two new members: Henry from Southbank, and newly licenced Steve (VE7SJH) from Smithers. Welcome!
- The BVARS has now officially transitioned to the new BC Societies Act.

Technical Projects (Largely Funded by our Gaming Grant)

- 2018 Gaming Grant has been approved for 2018 (\$7500, requested \$8200). To be used in support of emergency preparedness capability. Directors will prioritize.
- 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 dependent). 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).
- Need more operators willing to participate in SAR and Emergency preparation. Considering putting on a Basic Licence course in new year, and some Emergency Operations workshops.
- "BVARS HamNet" wide-band network (WiFi) project is 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 not yet working. Linking to Hazelton and Terrace will be challenging!
- Continuing to refine portable deployable station. Now have a commercial certified vhf radio (needs programming). Having building blocks for a SAR repeater and controller to link with amateur gear.
- The new 146.72- (100hz PL) repeater at the Tyhee site near Telkwa working well. This is a Yaesu System Fusion C4FM digital/FM analogue that is currently configured to accept either mode on receive, FM only on transmit. It is normally on stand-alone, but can be linked into network (contact ve7ept for codes). Now have internet to the Tyhee site. Gaming grant will allow expanding to two-or three additional sites.
- HF WinLink email gateway (VE7RBH at Ranger Park) continues to see a lot of use, as does the APRS gateway and digipeaters. All need regular software/hardware maintenance.
- Remote HF at the Glentanna site not currently working. Needs a re-think for antenna system (picking up a lot of noise off solar controller). Continued to work on deployable station.
- Working 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.
- Serviced all the repeater sites. IRLP radio had to be replaced, and may need a new home (VE7LCP moving to new QTH).

Public Service Events

- Provided coms and logistical assistance to BV SAR on two searches, the most demanding was the October Francis Brown search. VE7CRB, VE7LCP, VE7EPT and VE7LHA collectively put in 156 hours over a week-long period. Also did a training session with SAR on how to set up the satellite internet.
- Provided radio coms for the Tri-It Triathlon and Tyhee Lake Triathlon.
- Participated in June Field Day.
- Participated in RAC Simulated Emergency Test. Special thanks to VE7CUP who acted as our HF voice station (very poor propagation conditions). The Ranger Park station was busy as a WinLink email gateway. Conducted a radio-only email exercise with some town officials.
 - Had a good fall Hamfest!