



# NARS Board Meeting Minutes November 15, 2024

Northwest Amateur Radio Society  
P.O. Box 11483  
Spring, TX 77391

## Board Attendance

✓ - In Attendance, X – Absent

Voting Board Members		Non-Voting Committee Members	
✓	President (Interim): Paul Kent, KI5FJS	✓	Admin. Secretary: Neal Naumann, N5EN
✓	Vice President: Paul Kent, KI5FJS	X	Social Media Liaison: Sam Labarbera, N6HB
✓	Treasurer: Tom Hoherd, KK5YU		Public Information Liaison: TBD
✓	Secretary: Brandon Rogers, K5BLR	✓	Webmaster: Bill Buoy, N5BIA
X	Director: Rich Jones, W5VEK	X	Repeater Team Lead: Rich Jones, V5VEK
	Director: TBD	✓	Net Lead: Mike Lizzio, WA2TOP
		X	ARRL/VEC Liaison: Sheree Horton, WM5N
		✓	Repeater Trustee: Paul Owen, N5NXS

## Meeting Logistics

Meeting was held at Harris County ESD 16 located at 18606 Stuebner Airline Rd, Spring Texas and started at 6:01pm on November 15, 2024.

## Minutes

- I. President's Opening Statement – Paul Kent, Interim President
  - a. Official Welcome – Recognition of visiting members
  - b. Opening – “Public Information Office” effective January 2024
    - i. See By-Laws for position description
  - c. November General Meeting Presentation – Election of New Board Members
  - d. December General Presentation – Show and Tell, new projects, on-going projects, anything of interest
- II. Public Comments
  - a. Individuals who are ***non-voting*** board members will be allocated three minutes to share material you would like the Board to consider or items you would like to present to the Board. ***Please make arrangement prior to the board meeting to be included in the agenda.***
- III. Secretary's Report – Brandon Rogers, K5BLR
  - a. The previous board meeting was held on September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Minutes were posted on the website and can be found here:  
[http://www.w5nc.club/doc\\_repos/meeting\\_minutes/2024/BoardMeeting\\_20241018.pdf](http://www.w5nc.club/doc_repos/meeting_minutes/2024/BoardMeeting_20241018.pdf)
    - i. Motion To Approve the Minutes – Tom Hoherd
    - ii. Second – Paul Kent
    - iii. Secretary Minutes approved by unanimous vote

- b. All minutes are posted so that all members can access them on the Club Document Repository at [http://www.w5nc.club/doc\\_repos/meeting\\_minutes/](http://www.w5nc.club/doc_repos/meeting_minutes/)

IV. Treasurer's Report, Tom Hoherd, KK5YU

- a. The following financial reports were presented to the board:  
[http://www.w5nc.club/doc\\_repos/financial/TreasurerReport\\_Oct2024.pdf](http://www.w5nc.club/doc_repos/financial/TreasurerReport_Oct2024.pdf)
- b. Request Bank Debit/Credit Card, received?
- c. ARRL Insurance
  - i. The forms need to be filled out and turned in.
  - ii. **ACTION: Rich Jones volunteers to get the insurance application for and start the draft to add the ARRL insurance for the club.**
- d. ESD16 Antenna Insurance, est: \$4,000 coverage, est.
- e. LBT Climber Expense Status, est: \$1500, pending completion.
  - i. Planned trip to LBT in November to complete the work. Working off a Purchase Order until the work is completed.
  - ii. Paul asked if they would be willing to donate the work and we would provide a receipt for donation to our non-profit organization
- f. Motion to Approve the Treasurer's Report by Brandon Rogers, K5BLR
  - i. Second by Paul Kent
  - ii. Motion to approve Treasurer's Report passed

V. Reports of Standing Committees

- a. Administrative Secretary Report – Neal Naumann, N5EN
  - i. Member Report

ARRL members = 104  
Non-members = 46  
Total membership = 150

69 % of NARS members are also ARRL members

- ii. Neal offered a suggestion to start "exit interviews" to understand the reason for members choosing *not* to renew their membership

- b. Repeater Committee Report – Rich Jones, W5VEK
  - i. LBT repeater
    - 1. Climb and antenna replacement has been completed
    - 2. Repeater performance wasn't what we expected, VHF is very noisy
    - 3. Should we reconsider repeater philosophy, location, linking, etc?
  - ii. Survey Results
    - 1. Rich Jones, provided an analysis of the data, no clear direction, continue with two nets per week, 19:00 & 20:00 hrs respectfully. No changes.
  - iii. Exploring options for linking between ESD-16 and Galleria
- c. ARRL / VEC Liaison – Sheree Horton W5MN

i. VE Session Results:

[http://www.w5nc.club/doc\\_repos/meeting\\_minutes/2024/VE%20Session%20Reports/VE%20Session%20Report\\_20241019.pdf](http://www.w5nc.club/doc_repos/meeting_minutes/2024/VE%20Session%20Reports/VE%20Session%20Report_20241019.pdf)

[http://www.w5nc.club/doc\\_repos/meeting\\_minutes/2024/VE%20Session%20Reports/VE%20Session%20Report\\_20241028.pdf](http://www.w5nc.club/doc_repos/meeting_minutes/2024/VE%20Session%20Reports/VE%20Session%20Report_20241028.pdf)

d. Weekly Tuesday / Wednesday (DMR / Repeater / All mode) Net Report - Mike Lizzio, WA2TOP

Date	Time	Net Control Station	Name	Backup NC	# of Check-Ins
October 22, 2024	0700 PM	KF5IUM	Mike	KF5IUM	10
October 23, 2024	0800 PM	KF5IUM	Mike	KF5IUM	9
October 29, 2024	0700 PM	KI5VPF	Phil	KI5VPF	13
October 30, 2024	0800 PM	WA2TOP	Mike	KI5VPF	11
November 5, 2024	0700 PM	WA2TOP	Mike	WA2TOP	14
November 6, 2024	0800 PM	KI5VPF	Phil	WA2TOP	12
November 12, 2024	0700 PM	WJ9O	David	KF5IUM	12
November 13, 2024	0800 PM	WJ9O	David	KF5IUM	9

i. Total Tuesday evening Check ins for the Period: 49 Avg. 12.25

ii. Total Wednesday evening Check ins for the Period: 41 Avg. 10.25

e. Update on Social Sites – Sam, N6HB

i. No report received

ii. If anyone would like to “keep the chatter going” on social media by posting a note, please send Sam a note and he can re-post it for you (or you can post yourself)

f. Update on ARRL website – NARS information – Sam N6HB

i. Field Day information still shows the date of 2023. Probably should adjust that appropriately

VI. Old Business

a. Next steps in upgrading our NARS Mobile Trailer- Paul Kent, KI5FJS

i. **Currently on hold, pending repeater work and costs**

1. Several designs have been provided and misc. equipment has been donated. However, work is still on-hold

ii. Rich purchased and installed a new side door latch

b. Plans to sell off donated equipment – Paul Kent, KI5FJS

i. Pending completion of other activities

ii. Rich Jones previously suggested Station #7 as an option, but still researching the best option. Rich Jones will find out.

VII. New Business

a. Begin planning for Awards Banquet – Rob Nixon, KD5BXZ / Rich Jones, W5VEK

i. Rudy’s on 249 – Might be busy on Friday night

ii. Backyard Grill on Jones Road

1. Previously only been able to order off a limited menu
- iii. Swanny's Bar and Grill near 1960

b. Officer Elections in November

- i. Submit names via email to all Board Members – All board positions are open.
- ii. We need participation and nominations; please nominate individuals.
- iii. Current Nominees:
  1. President – Paul Owen, N5NXS
  2. Vice-President – Open
  3. Treasurer – Tom Hoherd, KK5YU
  4. Secretary – Brandon Rogers, K5BLR
  5. Director 1 – Rich Jones, W5VEK
  6. Director 2 – Jorge Gutierrez, WK5J

c. Ham of the Year

- i. Bob Ewers K9HOU, Vote and presentation at banquet in January

d. We may be able to get access to the radio room at ESD 16, which requires:

- i. Understanding of operational Procedure for ESD16 Radio Antenna usage, parameters
- ii. personal vetting
- iii. background checks by ESD
- iv. radio usage (General Class)
- v. limitations (coffee is off-limits)

VIII. Move to close and dismiss – Brandon Rogers

- a. Second by Tom Hoherd
- b. Motion to close meeting approved at 6:42PM.