



NARS Board Meeting Minutes May 15, 2026

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: Paul Owen, N5NXS	X	Admin. Secretary: Neal Naumann, N5EN
✓	Vice President: Kyle Vann, K5KNV	X	Social Media Liaison: Sam Labarbera, N6HB
✓	Treasurer: Tom Hoherd, KK5YU	X	Public Information Liaison: TBD
✓	Secretary: Brandon Rogers, K5BLR	X	Webmaster: Bill Buoy, N5BIA
✓	Director: Rich Jones, W5VEK	✓	Repeater Team Lead: Rich Jones, W5VEK
✓	Director: Jorge Gutierrez, WK5J	X	VEC Liaison: Brett Hebert lead, Assistant Synomen
		✓	Repeater Trustee: Paul Owen, N5NXS

Meeting Logistics

The monthly NARS Board Meeting was held on Friday, May 15 at 6:00pm in the Board Room at Harris County ESD 16 located at 18606 Stuebner Airline Rd, Spring Texas.

The General Meeting will be at the same location in the building's main Conference Room and start at 7:30PM.

Minutes

- I. Paul Owen, N5NXS, President called the meeting to order @ 6:02 PM
- II. President's Opening Statements
 - a. Official welcome – Recognition of visiting members.
 - b. Opening – “Public Information Officer” effective January 2024
 - i. See By-Laws for position description.
 - c. General Meeting Topics
 - i. May – James, W5PL, showing presentation on Meshtastic and Meshcore.
 - ii. June General Meeting – Field Day planning session
 - iii. July - Presentation by Crystal from Schiffbauer-Bowles UAV
 - iv. August General Meeting – Presentation by Ed Fong, WB6IQN, The Antenna Factory
 - v. Paul asked for help in covering topics for September – November.
- III. Public Comments
 - i. 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.
- IV. Secretary's Report

- a. Review of the minutes sent out by Paul Owen for the April 17, 2026 board meeting:
https://doc-repos.w5nc.net/meeting_minutes/2026/BoardMeeting_20260417.pdf
 - i. Jorge Gutierrez offered a motion to approve the April 2026 Board Meeting Minutes
 1. Tom Hoherd offered a second
 2. The board unanimously approved the Board Minutes.
- b. All minutes are posted so that all members can access them on the Club Document Repository at https://doc-repos.w5nc.net/meeting_minutes

V. Treasurer's Report

- a. Financial reports were presented to the board: https://doc-repos.w5nc.net/financial/2026/TreasurerReport_May2026.pdf
 - i. Jorge Gutierrez motioned to approve.
 1. Brandon Rogers offered a second.
 2. The treasurer report was unanimously approved by the board
 - ii. Approval of Treasurer Report indicates endorsement of recurring expenses (those listed in "Yearly Renewal Reminder" section). To add new expenses in this section, a specific Board approval is required.
- b. We have received a donation from a club member that has stipulated that the money be used for the New Elements from Mosley and the rest to be used for VE Team to acquire new laptops. The Board proposes that \$670 of the remaining cash from this \$2000 donation for use on VE laptops when need arises.
 - i. Jorge Gutierrez motioned to approve.
 1. Tom Hoherd offered a second.
 2. This use of funds was unanimously approved by the board. No further vote is required at the time of purchase due to these funds being approved today.
- c. Kyle Vann, K5KNV, has been appointed as the Vice President and is approved to replace Bob Ewers, K9HOU, on the bank signature card for Comerica Bank.
 - i. Note: The approval by the board of appointing Kyle Vann as the Vice President of the club can be found in the meeting minutes at https://doc-repos.w5nc.net/meeting_minutes/2025/SpecialBoardMeeting_20250520.pdf.

VI. Reports of Standing Committees

- a. Administrative Secretary Report
NARS Membership Statistics

Total Membership: 139

Membership Category	Number of Members	Percentage
ARRL	87	63%
Non-ARRL	52	37%
Groups	94	68%

Groups.io Membership Statistics

Total Membership: 138

Membership Category	Number of Members	Percentage
ARS Members	94	68%
Non-Members	44	32%

New Members since last meeting:

KC9MFQ Hedner Sanches

WD5ICM William Stroope

Off the roster:

K0GEO Jay Close

K1KIK Kevin Milazzo

K5TBN Thomas B (Ben)

KJ5GZR Mitchell Boughter

N5QMW Greg Ham

W5HRH Rudy Hildreth Hardy Jr.

Renewals

N5VLA Marie Rogoff

N5GPS Martin Rogoff

KB9KY Tom Davis

WB5PCO Jeff Holderfield

AA5JW James Wheeler

KJ5OSU Adam Grant

K0AST Kristen Emler

KJ5BDP Joel Wilson

KJ5AHG Geoffrey Hall

Amy Hall

- b. Repeater Committee report – Rich Jones, W5VEK (Repeater Team lead)
 - i. Gregson Tower Location Repeater - Cables for repeater are temporary LMR400 cables and need to be replaced with more permanent cables.
 - 1. Rich Jones requested \$150 on replacement cables.
 - a. Paul Owen noted that the club may already have a spool of LMR400 and we may not need to spend the money now.
 - 2. We are grateful for the cooperation of the ESD for the space on the tower and the support to the club.
 - ii. The current repeater status can now be viewed on the club website at:
<https://nars.w5nc.net/index.php/club-info/repeaters/repeater-status-update>
- c. NARS VE Team Report - Brett & Synomen Hebert
 - i. Number attending test session = 5
 - ii. Licenses earned = 2 Technician, 2 General, 1 Extra
 - iii. The next VE Session will be on May 23 with 4 signed up so far.

d. Net Control Manager – Mike Lizzio, WA2TOP

Weekly Tuesday/Wednesday (DMR / Repeater / All mode) Net Report:

#	Day of Week	Date	Local Time	NC	Name	# of Check-in	Total for Month
29	Tuesday	April 14, 2026	19:00	WJ9O	David	8	
30	Wednesday	April 15, 2026	20:00	KN5DS	Dale	16	
31	Tuesday	April 21, 2026	19:00	KF5IUM	Mike	14	
32	Wednesday	April 22, 2026	20:00	KN5DS	Dale	18	
33	Tuesday	April 28, 2026	19:00	KF5IUM	Michael	18	
34	Wednesday	April 29, 2026	20:00	KF5IUM	Michael	20	
35	Tuesday	May 5, 2026	19:00	WJ9O	David	16	
36	Wednesday	May 6, 2026	20:00	WJ9O	David	14	

e. Social Media Coordinator – Sam, K5FM

- i. Paul will ask Kyle to pass on club activities that he sees coming up on groups.io or the Newsletter and his activities with LASO to Sam.

f. Webmaster Team - Bill Buoy, N5BIA

- i. Updated the website under Repeater Status Update to state 146.66 is on the air. Paul has asked for a few other items under Repeaters to be fixed.
- ii. Paul was asked if the club could use AI (Claude) to evaluate the website to find broken links and make suggestions on what could be better. Would Bill be willing to work with someone to help implement the changes? Bill not in attendance but Paul will ask.
 1. Non-AI tools like “broken link crawlers” (<https://broken-link-finder.com> or <https://www.deadlinktool.com/>) can also be used.
- iii. Paul requesting Bill to add information about ARRL Field Day coming up on June 27th & 28th. I'll ask one of the coordinators to provide text for the announcement.

VII. Old Business

- a. Insurance for Assets –Rich, W5VEK has asked that we wait for full board attendance.
 - i. Tom and Rich have met and discussed the insurance information.
- b. The 2 new driven elements for club beam antenna have arrived. A date to assemble the elements will depend on when the tower can be available to us for installation.
 - i. When tower is available, Rich Jones will coordinate the effort.
- c. The budget for FD will be approximately \$600. Paul needs to get a name for a volunteer to collect names and make the order for shirts and hats.
 - i. Shirts are \$30
 - ii. Hats are \$25
 - iii. Field day organizers (6 individuals) have requested to be able to have club-purchased ARRL hats for Field Day. This would require \$150 from the Field Day budget.
 1. Rich Jones made a motion to purchase 6 hats.
 2. Jorge Gutierrez provided a second to the motion.
 3. The board approved the purchase out of the \$600 budget for field day.

VIII. New Business

- a. The club received an email from the ESD Chief describing incidents of unauthorized people accessing the secure area. So far, it hasn't been observed that this has occurred under the stewardship of NARS, but we need to be vigilant.
 - i. We need to make sure that there is someone always here to ensure that the doors are properly secured before we leave for the evening.
 - ii. We also should not be wandering the halls and "exploring" when here for NARS meetings.

IX. MOVE TO CLOSE & DISMISS

- a. The Board meeting was closed at 6:56PM.
- b. Motion to Close meeting – Jorge Gutierrez
 - i. Tom Hoherd provided a second.
 - ii. Unanimous approval to close the meeting