



Board of Director's Meeting Minutes

January 14, 2009

Meeting Location: Craig Holmes residence, 1682 N. Solano Ave., Ontario CA 91764

The meeting was called to order by President Craig Holmes at 6:30 PM.

The opening prayer was given by Craig Holmes

The following directors, constituting a quorum, were present at the meeting:

Craig, N. Holmes, President
Aaron M. Scullin, Vice President
Mark R. Hayden, Secretary
Nyles Peterson, Treasurer
James L. Dowdle, Membership Chair
Joe Parrino, Repeater Chair
Michael K. Sorensen, Board Member at Large
Jared R. Case, Board Member at Large

Board member James L. Burton, Board Member at Large was absent

Action Item No. 1: MSC (Peterson, Holmes)

The Minutes of the September 3, 2008 Board of Directors Meeting were unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report

Nyles Peterson gave a report on the status of SCIRA, Inc. finances. There is a balance of \$263.33 in the checking account at this time, and a store credit of \$17.53 at HRO. The total assets as of December 31, 2008 are \$280.86 See attached report.

Action Item No. 2: MSC (Hayden, Dowdle)

The Board unanimously approved the Treasurer's Report as submitted.

Nyles reported that he had talked with his CPA/ham friend who recommended that the SCIRA board send an e-mail to members to ask if they had any recommendations for a location to install the donated AN Wireless HD70 tower. The requirement would be a location that would meet or exceed the current repeater location in Running Springs. After some discussion the board asked Nyles to do this and send the letter to Jim for distribution to the membership. See Action Item #14 under "Tower Planning."

Reports of Officers

- a) **Report of the President**Craig Holmes, KF6ZAF
1. **Banning Repeater** – Installation date is January 17, 2009. Nyles and Jared volunteered to help with the installation. The repeater frequency is 449.360, negative offset with a PL of 88.5.
 2. **Recent 220 MHz repeater equipment acquisition.** Ed Ballentyne , father of Eugene Ballentyne of Running Springs, CA has recently donated his 220 MHz repeater equipment that originally was at the Ballentyne's Running Springs home. Two repeaters were donated. One of the repeaters is an Icom that needs repairs and a crystal. Coaxial cable and duplexers are included with this donation. Joe Parrino noted that he would like to install a second 220 repeater on Keller Peak as a members only repeater (private).
 3. **Fountain Valley Storehouse Repeater.** Two repeaters were recently donated to the Fountain Valley storehouse. Craig is working with Bob LaBarge on this project. The condition of the equipment is unknown, but it includes duplexers, and two cabinets. Possible equipment needs include two link radios and /or a controller, and three duplexers.
 4. **San Diego Repeater.** Some equipment from the Fountain Valley station will be used at the San Diego station. Other equipment needed is a 440 MHz link radio and two antennas. A solar system will be needed to power this station. One of the spare cabinets from Fountain Valley may be used.
 5. **SCIRA Meetings.** There was a discussion about holding regular scheduled monthly meetings of the SCIRA board. Mark Hayden remarked that the meeting location should be accessible to the public if at all possible. Craig said he would take this under advisement, and propose a meeting location later.

Action Item #3: (MSC Hayden, Case)

Monthly meetings of the SCIRA, Inc. Board will be held on the third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm at a location to be announced.

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE BOARD WILL BE FEBRUARY 18, 2009. LOCATION TBA.

6. **Voting Rules.** Current SCIRA Inc. By-Laws do not allow proxy or absentee voting or voting by electronic means at general membership meetings. The California Corporations Code stipulates that 25% of the membership must vote when a ten day prior notice has been sent to the members, and 33% of the membership if no ten day prior advanced notification has been given. The general member meeting on November 6, 2008 barely had a 33% quorum present to vote for the 2009 Board. This situation needs

to be corrected to avoid possible future meeting cancellations. Mark Hayden noted that the California Corporations Code prohibits changing the 25% or 33% specifications without a special court order, but that proxy voting or voting by electronic means (e-mail) is allowable. After some discussion the Board decided to allow electronic voting as it gives a verifiable record (e-mail) of the vote whereas verbal proxy voting does not (ie. having a friend vote for you). Mark Hayden also noted that any change to the By-Laws need to be voted upon by the membership, and may have to be reported to the Secretary of State.

Action Item #4: (MSC Holmes, Case)

Change SCIRA, Inc. By-Laws Article III, Section 6 from “Members must be present at a meeting to vote on any matter, neither absentee nor proxy voting is permitted” to “Members may vote in person or by electronic transmission (ie. e-mail) on any matter.”

b) Report of the Vice PresidentAaron Scullin, K6AMS

1. **SCIRA, Inc. – Blogger Blog, Additional Google Group, & Web site**

Aaron explained his ideas for a blog for the SCIRA board and a separate Googlegroups for the members which could be easily linked to the www.scira.net website. After much discussion the following motions were passed:

Action Item #5: (MSC Scullin, Dowdle)

The Board approves the use of the newly created Blog by Aaron Scullin for the SCIRA, Inc. Board and its public announcement.

Note: Blog administrator is Aaron Scullin and Board members are managers (moderators).

Action Item #6: (MSC Scullin, Sorensen)

The Board authorizes Aaron Scullin to create a Google Group for use by the general SCIRA, Inc. membership and its public announcement.

Note: Google Group administrator is Aaron Scullin and Board members are managers (moderators).

Action Item #7: (MSC Scullin, Hayden)

The Board authorizes Mike Sorensen to incorporate the Blog and the Google Group into the existing www.scira.net website.

Note: Webmaster is Michael Sorensen

Action Item #8: (MSC Scullin, Peterson)

The Board authorizes only currently elected board members to post on the blog. All others may post comments only after being screened by moderators.

2. **Youth Net.** Aaron reported that the Youth Net was alive and doing well.

3. **T-Shirts, Hats, Patches.** Aaron explained the need for these items to satisfy membership categories where these items are to be given. He told the Board about the company called Gempler's that he recommends for SCIRA. The Gempler's product catalog was reviewed by the Board. The following motions were made and passed:

Action Item #9: (MSC Hayden, Case)

The Board approves the quotation given by Gempler's to embroider garments and it is agreed to pay a one time set up fee of \$135.00. The Board authorizes the price quotations dated January 8, 2009 as the prices SCIRA, Inc. will pay for additional embroidery fees per item.

Action Item #10: (MSC Scullin, Parrino)

The Board authorizes the expenditure of funds for the initial logo set up and initial hat order, contingent upon funding availability.

4. **TASMA application.** Aaron reported that a 2 meter repeater pair application request has been submitted under the call sign W6CTR. The Board members reviewed the application.
5. **San Diego repeater site.** Aaron reported about the recently proposed La Jolla repeater location which will be atop an office building near the San Diego Temple. There was a discussion of the equipment needs for the station., and who would be the contact person to work with the building management officials. Craig stated that he would like to see this project start as soon as possible after the Fountain Valley project. The following motions were passed in regard to planning for the San Diego repeater project.

Action Item #11: (MSC Scullin, Case)

The Board authorizes Mark Hayden to prepare a radio propagation map for the proposed repeater location at 3655 Nobel drive, La Jolla, CA.

Action Item #12: (MSC Scullin, Hayden)

The Board authorizes Aaron Scullin to conduct ongoing negotiations with the property management officials of the proposed San Diego repeater location at 3655 Nobel Drive, La Jolla, CA and provide them with information about repeater equipment that SCIRA would install, including but not limited to the dimensions of a repeater cabinet and antenna.

Action Item #13: (MSC Scullin, Peterson)

The Board authorizes President Craig N. Holmes to contact the San Diego storehouse region officials to request that they begin donation efforts to purchase equipment for the repeater site to be located at 3655 Nobel Drive, La Jolla, CA.

6. **Tower Planning.** Aaron led a discussion on the advantages and disadvantages of SCIRA, Inc. ownership of the donated AN Wireless HD 70 tower as compared with transferring it to private ownership with SCIRA, Inc retaining a lease on the use of the tower. He also spoke about his sons taking on a tower construction and fund raising as part of their

Eagle Scout projects. The following motions in regard to the AN Wireless HD70 tower were brought before the board:

Action Item #14a: (MSC Scullin, Dowdle)

To authorize Nyles Peterson to invite members to submit an application for installation of the AN Wireless HD70 tower at a location that meets or exceeds the location specifications as proposed by Aaron Scullin and to authorize Jim Dowdle to send the invitations via e-mail to SCIRA members, Deadline for submission of applications will be February 28, 2009.

Action Item #14b: (MSC Scullin, Case)

Provided no other suitable application for the installation of the AN Wireless HD70 tower is received at the SCIRA, Inc. office, 514 Crown St. Glendora CA 91740 by February 28, 2009, the Board authorizes the construction of the tower on the Property of Aaron M. Scullin. Upon completion of the project the Board will transfer of ownership of the Association's AN Wireless HD70 tower and all accessory equipment to Aaron M. Scullin. In return Aaron M. Scullin will grant a 99 year lease to SCIRA, Inc. as the primary user of the tower for purposes of installing and maintaining antennas and other equipment required to operate an amateur radio repeater station (s), and/or remote receiving weather monitoring equipment. Aaron M. Scullin additionally assumes the responsibility to maintain insurance for the tower and to pay any applicable property taxes once installed. Should SCIRA, Inc. wish to relocate the tower at its own expense, Aaron M. Scullin or his beneficiaries will return ownership of the tower to SCIRA, Inc. Should Aaron M. Scullin or beneficiaries sell or dispose of the property, the 99 year lease will become null and void. At that point in time SCIRA, Inc. shall be given the opportunity to reassume ownership of the tower if desired and have it removed at its own expense.

Action Item #15: (MSC Scullin, Case)

Provided no other suitable application for the installation of the AN Wireless HD70 tower is received at the SCIRA, Inc. office, 514 Crown St. Glendora CA 91740 by February 28, 2009, the Board will hereby authorize Aaron M. Scullin to obtain necessary variances and permits required for the installation of the AN Wireless HD70 tower in his name, and on his property in Running Springs, CA.

Action Item #16: (MSC Scullin, Case)

The Board approves and supports the Eagle Scout project application of Blake Scullin to construct the tower foundation on a property in Running Springs, CA. Final location for the tower will be determined after applications received and reviewed by Board on February 28, 2009.

Action Item #17: (MSC Scullin, Dowdle)

The Board authorizes SCIRA, Inc. Inc. with the assistance of Eagle Scout candidate Blake Scullin to begin a fundraising campaign in 2009 specifically intended to raise approximately \$8,000 to \$10,000 for the construction and installation of the AN Wireless HD70 tower in Running Springs, CA. The date to reach this goal is July 11, 2009.

c. Report of the Secretary.....Mark Hayden, N7YLA

I. Survivability of SCIRA, Inc. in 2009 and beyond. Mark Hayden led a discussion of the need for SCIRA, Inc. to undertake major fundraising in 2009. Current and planned expenses will exceed the intake of funds through membership dues alone. Mark read sections of two articles, “*10 Tips for Fundraising in a Poor Economy*”, by Capital Venture and “*Non-Profit Success Requires Ongoing Marketing*”, by Wendy Maynard of Kinesis. These articles point out the fact that SCIRA, Inc. must direct its efforts in 2009 toward better communication and stronger relationships with individual donors, so they will want to become more actively involved in helping SCIRA be successful. There are many ideas for raising funds, and they all require great commitment, enthusiasm and action by the Board and entire membership.

Each Board member filled out a self evaluation survey entitled the “*SCIRA Inc., Profile Score Card for Potential Successful Fundraising in 2009.*” See attachment. The results were then tallied to reflect the evaluation of the Board as a whole. **Out of a maximum possible combined score of 384 points for the eight surveys the Board scored 148.5 points. This calculates as a 38.5% rating.** Clearly this very low score indicates that SCIRA, Inc. is in a very desperate situation in regard to the condition of the Corporation in fundraising planning. The result is a “**shot across the bow**” that warns of **needed changes in financial planning operations of the Corporation.** The following motion was passed in regard to fundraising:

Action Item #18: (MSC Peterson, Hayden)

The President will appoint an ad hoc planning committee composed of SCIRA members other than the Board to 1) evaluate the “SCIRA Inc. Profile Score Card for Potential Successful Fundraising in 2009” and 2) report back to the Board with a recommendation based on the results of the survey to either continue the status quo or to empower the committee to take action to implement the steps necessary to elevate SCIRA Inc into a high profile successful fundraising organization with a definite time line.

2. Request for repeater use. Tom Morgon, KB6JVE, Arcadia Stake Communications Specialist and operator of the Foothill MARA Net has requested use of the Mt. Wilson repeater (449.360 MHz) for his weekly Sunday morning Church Net at 0745 hrs. The Net is a weekly roll call of hams in his Stake and is on the air for approximately fifteen minutes each Sunday morning. All hams are invited to check in. Tom has been using the repeater at Johnstone Peak (446.400 MHz) for many years for this purpose but needed repairs and lack of funding problems have resulted in that repeater being non-functional frequently in 2008. Tom would use the Mt. Wilson repeater as his secondary or backup repeater. Mark said that this use is consistent with the SCIRA mission and should be encouraged. Craig disagreed saying that Stake use of the SCIRA repeaters can not be authorized because of the potential for Stakes to use the repeaters during emergencies when only the ERC Network is to be allowed. He remarked that he has already turned down about twelve other Stakes, and by allowing this request a dangerous precedence would be started. Mark noted that not allowing other Church hams to utilize SCIRA repeaters would be counter productive to membership recruitment efforts. Surely some operating regulations could be made to allow non-emergency use of the repeaters by Church groups.

Action Item #19: (MSF Hayden, Case. 3 yes, 5 no)

To authorize the Repeater Chair, Joe Parrino to allow Tom Morgon, KB6JVE, to conduct the 0745 Sunday morning Foothill MARA Net on the Mt. Wilson repeater.

Nyles Peterson then asked the Board if they would be willing to make a compromise with the requestor for the Sunday morning net to allow such usage if he would change the name of the "MARA Foothill Net" to SCIRA Net and would be willing to join SCIRA, Inc.

Action Item #19a: (MSC Sorensen, Dowdle)

The Board authorizes Tom Morgon, KB6JVE to host a "SCIRA Net" on the Mt. Wilson Repeater, 449.360 MHz, - , 167.9 each Sunday morning at 0745 for all SCIRA members to participate in provided that 1) he becomes a member of SCIRA 2) only current members of SCIRA be called for and listed on roll sheet 3) visitors are welcome to sign after regular roll call.

The Board then discussed the possibility of a weekly SCIRA training net for SCIRA members. Along with the net would be a broadcast of **Amateur Radio Newslines**, a free service to the amateur radio community. **Amateur Radio Newslines**TM produces a weekly newscast of interest to radio amateurs worldwide. The bulletins conform to all sections and codes as outlined under the United States FCC Part 97 Amateur Radio Service rules regarding the legal means of amateur radio operators issuing "QST's" or "Bulletins of Interest to All Amateurs."

Action Item #19b: (MSC Hayden, Case)

The Board authorizes the institution of a weekly *SCIRA Training Net* primarily for members. General public check-ins will be allowed after the regular member roll call. The day and time of the net will be announced to members. In addition to the regular check-ins and announcements, this net will include a weekly broadcast of the Amateur Radio Newslines.

Report of the Membership Chair..... Jim Dowdle, KG6TQT

2. **ERC Earthquake Drills.** Jim remarked that holding regular ERC earthquake drills such as the recent Great ShakeOut exercise is essential to preparedness. There was some discussion of the time of year and frequency that these drills should be conducted. The following motion was made:

Action Item #20: (MSC Sorensen, Case)

The Board authorizes Multi-regional ERC drills conducted once each year in the month of April on the SCIRA, Inc. repeater network.

2. **Membership dues fundraising.** Fundraising activities of SCIRA, Inc. need to work in collaboration with the Membership Chair. Jim requested that the new Member Directors at Large take on specific duties in a dues fundraising committee.

Action Item #21: (MSC Peterson, Sorensen)

The Board authorizes a special fundraising committee be formed to work with the Membership Chair to seek out new members including hams and non-hams who support the SCIRA, Inc. mission. The new Member at Large Directors will serve on this committee.

Action item #22: It is proposed to make the Banning repeater the first priority with an “on-air” date no later than February 7, 2009.

Action item #22 Withdrawn, N/A

3. **Recognition of Bob Fuller.** SCIRA has not recognized Bob Fuller, owner of the Banning repeater site for his support of the SCIRA mission.

Action item #23: (MSC Hayden, Sorensen)

The Board directs the Secretary to compose a Board Resolution of Appreciation to Bob Fuller for his support of the Banning repeater.

In anticipation of its passage, the secretary had the Resolution for the Board to sign.

Report of the Repeater Chair..... Joe Parrino, N7WZK

a) Chatsworth Peak:

Replaced the cooling fan for the second time. Jan 4, 2009. About 50 days ago, Changed the Transmitter from a non-working Kenwood to a New Alinco DR-135.

<http://www.alinco.com/Products/DR-135/>. Financial aid received from the users of that repeater.

Repeater is transmitting with its maximum coordinated 25 watts.

I am working on getting Echo Link reconnected to the system

b) Running Springs Main Repeater:

Replaced the Transmitter on 144.895 and retuned one of the transmit cans. I have checked all filters, cables, etc. Readjusted audio for better sound and program right time and changed a few perimeters in the controller. Repeater now Id's with "N6WZK" and "W6CTR" (CW ID) alternating every 10 Min. Hang time is shorter for more efficiency. Main Repeater is Transmitting with 21 watts. Received a lot of assistance from Aaron Scullin (K6AMS).

c) Running Springs Backup Repeater:

Checked and retuned the transmit antenna for a better match. Repeater is transmitting with 11 watts of power. Every thing's working great. Received assistance from Aaron Scullin (K6AMS)

d) Helped Craig retune the 440 three element TX Yagi antenna and tune the Banning Repeater duplexer at his house. Helped reset the repeater audio level on the new controller with Jared. Repeater is Transmitting 10 watts and is completely powered by Solar and batteries.

Everything is ready to install on the Banning hilltop thanks to Craig.

- e) Mt. Wilson. Replaced the Main Transmitter with the temporary 440 from S.C.I.R.A. More work to be done after the Digital transition in February. This repeater needs a new link radio and a new location within the building it is now in.
- f) The Spectrum Management Association 222 MHz Coordination Board has terminated the frequency coordination of the N6WZK Palos Verdes repeater. There will be an appeal made as soon as possible.

Reports of the Directors

Report of Board Member at LargeMike Sorensen, KI6HWQ

No report

Report of Board Member at LargeJim Burton, KG6VBM

No report (absent)

Report of Board Member at Large..... Jared Case, KD6YPD

No report

Closing Comments.....Craig Holmes, KF6ZAF

Craig thanked the Board for accomplishing so much at this meeting.

Adjournment

Since there was no further business to come before the meeting, on motion duly made and seconded (Scullin, Dowdle), the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 PM.

Closing prayer.....Jim Dowdle, KG6TQT

Next meeting of the SCIRA, Inc. Board will be February 18, 2009 at a location to be announced by President Holmes.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark R. Hayden, Secretary, SCIRA, Inc.

Dated January 22, 2009

