



P.O. Box 21042, Sarasota, FL 34276 • [www.n4ser.org](http://www.n4ser.org)

**Meeting Minutes – May 4, 2015**  
**2001 Cantu Court, Sarasota, FL 34232**

- I. Call To Order**
  - a. The meeting was called to order by Bill Franklin, K4FLV @ 7:00 PM
- II. Roll Call of Members Present**
  - a. Guests
    - i. Bob Morgan, KJ4SV
  - b. Members – See Attached sign-in sheet
- III. Reading of Previous Meeting Minutes**
  - a. Meeting minutes as read by the Secretary were approved
  - b. Ron Balaze, KE8B, motioned to accept the minutes, Stan Robinson, W8SMR, seconded the motion, and was passed unanimously by the membership.
- IV. Announcements**
  - a. Den Spiess, W2DEN, announced that there will be a VE testing session scheduled for Saturday, 5/16, at the Red Cross.
  - b. Bob Davisson, KA4BOB, announced the Sarasota EOC repeater, WC4EM, is now operational and on-air. The EOC will be conducting frequency coverage and signal strength tests Wednesday, 5/6.
- V. Officer's Report**
  - a. Secretary
    - i. Received the following:
      1. Family Renewals = 2
      2. Individual Renewals = 7
      3. New Individual Members = 1
    - ii. Working with insurance company to renew SERC's insurance policy.
      1. Will need detailed inventory of radio equipment and other assets
  - b. Treasurer
    - i. As of April's meeting, Dick Hullfish, KI4EFJ, Treasurer, reported the bank balance.
    - ii. Bill Franklin, K4FLV, reported that there were no outstanding bills to be paid as far as he knew.
- VI. Committee Reports**
  - a. **Technical**
    - i. 146.73 Repeater (Comcast Tower on Fruitville Road, West of I-75, Sarasota)
      1. No issues
    - ii. 145.13 / 444.700 Repeater (Vertical Bridge Tower on US-41, Venice)
      1. No issues
    - iii. 147.39 Repeater (Crown Tower on Fruitville Road, East of I-75, Sarasota)
      1. No issues
    - iv. WinLink 2000
      1. No issues



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- v. IRLP (145.13 Repeater)
  - 1. Waiting for the tower owner's 3<sup>rd</sup> party to assign ports in their internet router at the tower site in order to pass SERC's IRLP traffic.
- vi. EchoLink is still down
  - 1. Bill Martin's radio doesn't have enough gain to push enough audio back to the radio to go over the Internet.
  - 2. Bill Martin, K4JBV will need to build a pre-amplifier.
- b. Red Cross
  - i. Den Spiess, W2DEN, advised that so far it is only him, Net Spiess, N2RDX , and Doug Reynolds, KI4RHU, who are participating.
  - ii. Den Spiess, W2DEN, advised that there is a new Red Cross coordinator, "Gary"
  - iii. Den Spiess, W2DEN, advised that we need to test our frequency ranges and strength
  - iv. Red Cross always looking for new members.

## VII. Old Business

- a. Eddie Palmer, K4JP, needs contact info for Chris @ Clear Channel.
- b. Nicky Taylor, KM4BHF, advised that her brother is a Kenwood rep and is offering a Motorola DMR radio to SERC as a donation.
  - i. Bill Martin to contact Nicky's brother to learn about the radio and make
- c. Ed Allen, WA4ISB, is chief engineer for Cox Radio. Clear Channel has sold all of their towers nationwide to Vertical Bridge which may adversely affect our Laurel repeater. Bill Martin, K4JBV, has agreement for tower space but not the shelter we currently occupy.
- d. Rich Hillyer, K9RWH, advised there are adverse proceedings that may affect the Shannon Road site.
- e. Den, Florida QSO Party 2014, SERC was the top operator in its class

## VIII. New Business

- a. Bob Davisson, KA4BOB, gave a report on the new Sarasota EOC
  - i. Sarasota EOC repeater call sign = WC4EM
  - ii. Sarasota EOC repeater is now operational and on-air
  - iii. Sarasota EOC repeater frequency and strength testing will be held on Wednesday, 5/6, starting at 1000.
- b. Den Spiess, W2DEN, suggested that ACS attend a future SERC meeting to present information regarding the new Sarasota EOC and ACS
- c. Bill Franklin, reiterated, again, that the Tour de Cure went very well.
  - i. Brent suggested that we get a project team for evaluating GPRS on the vehicles for next year's Tour de Cure.
  - ii. Priority vs. routine traffic management
  - iii. Some discussion to use two different repeaters for different aspects of communications, however, this idea has been eliminated.
  - iv. Aluminum body vehicles don't allow the use of external mag mount antennas. Den Spiess, W2DEN, had a concept demonstration for how we can accommodate external high-gain antennas when deployed on an aluminum vehicle body.



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- v. Use of crossbanding vehicle installations and portable HT units at the far distant rest stops, specifically, Rest Stops #4 & #5.
- d. Den discussed the need for (3) additional extra VE testers for testing in May. Scheduled for 5/16.
- e. Den Spiess, W2DEN, announced the CERT Basic Training course will be offered by Sarasota County and held at the Fire Academy at 501 N. Beneva Road starting at the end of the month. There is CERT Refresher course being offered on 5/23.
- f. Doug Reynolds, KI4RHU, Cub Scout Day Camp needing someone to provide a HAM presentation on June 19<sup>th</sup>. Only needs to be 30 min to an hour long.
- g. Den Spiess, W2DEN, reported that SERC worked 46 of 50 states during the 2015 Florida QSO Party. Five people attended.
- h. Bill Franklin, K4FLV, announced that Hans Napfel, WB2ZZB, is retiring from preparing showing presentations. Hans will let his fellow SERC Officers and Directors know if he intends to resign his position as Director.

#### **IX. Adjournment**

- a. Doug Reynolds, KI4RHU, motioned to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Annette Spiess, N2RDX, and the meeting was subsequently adjourned.

