



SERC MEETING MAY 1, 2023

SERC President, Scott KO4SQK called the May meeting to order at 1903 hours. There were 15 members in attendance and three guests.

Secretary's Report: The secretary's report was approved by a unanimous vote. The motion to approve was made by Fritz, N4DPF and seconded by Tim, KO4IHP.

Treasure's Report: Dennis KN4YNF is fitting nicely into his position as Treasurer and has made enhancements so we can accrue interest. We now have an Operating cash fund to handle normal operating expenses. A portion of our treasury has been placed in both a CD and a Money Market accounts. Both pay interest and over \$50.00 was accrued to our accounts through interest in the first month. Great job Dennis.

This was followed by a brief discussion of our 501 c3 status and Flanzer Trust by Scott KO4SQK.

Technical Report: Steve KS4YP reported on issues at the various repeater sites. The main issue continues to be computer failures for any number of unknown reasons, mostly attributed to aging laptops. See below.

Program Committee: Steve W4SNW announced that NXDN will be the program topic in June, and requested anyone interested in presenting a program contact him.

SRQ ARES: Chuck K1CHC, reported attending a meeting in North Port discussing problems experienced during hurricane Ian. Gary WB4AYD was cited for his excellent work in providing communications following failure of the North Port system. SERC has been invited to participate in the North Port Hurricane Expo on May 13th. Chuck would like several members to attend and represent SRQ ARES in a show and tell opportunity.

Old Business: Scott KO4SQK, was pleased to announce that the Red Cross has agreed to obtain an itemized repair estimate for the co-branded SERC / Red Cross trailer. It is being moved to the trailer facility for a quote to restore it to normal road operations. As long as the quote is less than \$2000, SERC has approved for maintenance and repair this project can move forward.

Scott, KO4SQK has also requested anyone interested in being the Web Master please step forward. SERC needs someone willing to maintain the current website up to date.

Some discussion followed regarding pending Field Day and opening up Redcomm to anyone interested in Ham Radio. Micky KM4BHF and Steve W4SNW are heading up the Field Day event and will need help.

[Document title]

New Business: Infrastructure issues regarding the repeater computers were discussed. The existing laptops appear to be reaching the end of their useful life. Tim KO4IHP has evaluated options and made a motion to replace the old computers with 4 new computers including monitors, keyboards etc. be purchased to replace the existing equipment. This was seconded by Steve W4SNW and approved by the membership for a sum not to exceed \$2400.

Tim KO4IHP also discussed using a windows blocker to prevent some of the downtime issues that may be a result of windows 10 upgrades.

Scott KO4SQK discussed the issue of the Comcast Repeater which needs a 100 watt AMP to allow running the repeater at only 10 watt rather than the 40 watts under current conditions. Steve KS4YP made the motion to purchase a Henry AMP and TR relay for a total not to exceed \$2000. This was seconded by Dennis KN4YNF and unanimously approved by the membership. Fritz NRDPF raised an issue regarding the max power allowed in the State of FL being limited to 100 Watts ERP. The approval is conditional based on investigation of this issue, as the exiting amp was rated at 100 watts.

Fritz NRDPF brought up the idea of purchasing two Technician Class license study books to be lent out to new people interested in obtaining their Tech License. He made a motion to approve the purchase of two tech books by SERC not to exceed \$50.00. This motion was seconded by Don KT3V and was unanimously approved by the membership.

Hearing no further new business Scott KO4SQK called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was put forth by Don KT3V seconded by Steve w4SNW and unanimously approved by our membership at 1950 hours.

Steve W4SNW led us through a tabletop drill as the program for the evening.