

**TEXAS
VHF-FM
SOCIETY**

NEWS

FCC OKAYS BPL PROPOSAL

The ARRL Letter, Vol. 23, No. 07

The FCC has unanimously approved a Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) to deploy Broadband over Power Line (BPL). The NPRM is the next step in the BPL proceeding, which began last April with a Notice of Inquiry that attracted nearly 5200 comments--many from the amateur community. The FCC did not propose any changes in emission limits for unlicensed Part 15 devices, but said it would require BPL providers to apply "adaptive" interference mitigation techniques to their systems. An ARRL delegation that attended the February 12 FCC open meeting in Washington later expressed disappointment in the FCC action.

"The Commission clearly recognized that the existing Part 15 emission limits are inadequate to stop interference," Sumner said," but it's placing the burden of interference mitigation on the licensed user that's supposed to be protected," said ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ.

Sumner said that if the FCC really believed current Part 15 emission limits were sufficient, it would not have had to require that BPL providers institute interference mitigation systems. The FCC has not yet released the actual NPRM, and a presentation by the FCC's Office of Engineering and Technology (OET) revealed only its broad outlines. Sumner said the League would not take a formal position until it reviews the full NPRM.

Anh Wride of the OET staff spelled out the scope of the NPRM, which only addresses so-called "access BPL"--the type that would apply radio frequency energy to exterior overhead and underground low and medium-voltage power lines to distribute broadband and Internet service. She said the OET staff believes that interference concerns "can be adequately addressed." Wride said the FCC's BPL NPRM:

- * Applies existing Part 15 emission limits for unlicensed carrier-current systems to BPL systems. Part 15 rules now require that BPL systems eliminate any harmful interference that may occur "and must cease operation if they cannot," she noted.
- * Requires BPL systems to employ "adaptive interference-mitigation techniques, including the capabilities to shut down a specific device, to reduce power levels on a dynamic or remote-control basis and to include or exclude specific operating frequencies or bands."
- * Subjects BPL providers to notification requirements that would establish a public database that would include the location of BPL devices, modulation type and operating frequencies.
- * Proposes guidelines to provide for consistent and repeatable measurement of the RF emissions from BPL and other carrier-current systems.

Mirroring his colleagues' enthusiasm, FCC Chairman Michael Powell called BPL "tremendously exciting," although he conceded that BPL has "a long way to go." Powell also said the FCC's OET has worked very hard to try to "get their hands around" the issue of interference and that the FCC would continue its vigilance in that area.

FCC PROPOSES RULES FOR BPL SYSTEMS

The ARRL Letter, Vol. 23, No. 09

The FCC this week released its Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) on Broadband over Power Line (BPL) systems. The 38-page NPRM--in ET Dockets 03-104 and 04-37--proposes amendments to FCC Part 15 rules to define so-called "access BPL," make rules specific to BPL systems and provide measurement guidelines for BPL devices and systems. It would make no changes to Part 15 emission limits for unintentional radiators, however. ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, says that while Part 15's current limits on unintentional radiators on HF may be appropriate for short-duration, narrowband emissions, they are inappropriate for the sort of long-duration, broadband emissions BPL would employ. He compared short-duration, narrowband emissions at the Part 15 radiated emission limit to a helicopter flying overhead.

(Continued on page 3)

**2003-2004
Texas VHF-FM Society
Board of Directors**

President:

Eric Schmidt, KA5WMY
120 Rucks Dr.
Angleton, TX 77515
(979) 849-7703
President@txvhffm.org

Vice President:

Paul Baumgardner, K5BFJ
12936 Honey Locust Circle
Euleless, Texas 76040
(817) 868-7663
pbaumg1@aol.com

Secretary:

Melissa Rasmussen, KM5R
612 W. Hillcrest
Keene, Texas 76059
(817) 253-4848
km5r@arrl.net

Treasurer:

Louis Bancook, K5UUT
2201 Four Hills Court
Pflugerville, Texas 78660
(512) 990-7262
Treas@txvhffm.org

Editor of NEWS:

John Johnson, N5NH
6405 Widgeon Drive
Plano, Texas 75024
(972) 370-0765
NewsEditor@txvhffm.org

Coordination Chairman

Harold Reasoner, K5SXX
1222 Johnson Dr.
Fort Worth, Texas 76126-3615
(817) 249-1880
k5sxx@itexas.net

Directors at Large:

Chris Hudgins, N5IUF
P.O. Box 802894
Dallas, Texas 75380
(214) 207-7500
n5iuf@arrl.net

Louis Petit, WB5BMB
1213 15th Avenue N.
Texas City, Texas 77590
(409) 948-0349
louis.r.petit@swg02.usace.army.mil

Don Stevenson, N5XWD
1504 Tanglewood Drive
Allen, TX 75002
(214) 547-9076
donstevenson@email.com

Notes From Your President

Eric Schmidt KA5WMY, President

Welcome to the Spring 2004 issue of the *Texas VHF-FM Society News*. I hope you were able to attend the Winter meeting of the Texas VHF-FM Society that was held on January 17th. The event was a great success thanks to the WinterCom 2004 crew of Dave Davis, Fay Davis, Buddy Brown, John Johnson, Larry Pollock, Gerry Dalton, Terry Van Sickle Jr., and Paul Baumgardner. These folks put on a wonderful event including a swapfest, technical sessions, as well as hosting the Texas VHF-FM Society general meeting. The full host of technical presentations really brought attention to the vast array of talents within our own organization. The speakers and titles for the morning sessions included: APRS: The Care and Feeding to Do It Right / Pete Loveall AE5PL; Metropolitan Networking / Using 802.11 & 802.16 / Gerry Creager N5JXS; 1.2 to 25 GHz Antennas and How to Build Them / Kent Britain WA5VJB; ARRL - DHS Citizen Corps / Roy Rabey AD5KZ; and Things I Never Thought I'd See At Repeater Sites / Jim Reese WD5IYT. Thanks to all for taking time out of your schedule to share your technical knowledge with fellow hams!

At the general meeting a new set of six goals for the Society was presented and included emphasis areas in new membership expansion, servicing current members, and servicing repeater trustees. These goals and accompanying action plans will help bring focus to the activities of the Board of Directors as well as provide a method for input from our members as to the future direction of the Society. This way when you want to know what we are up to or where you might want to volunteer your time and talents, just take a look at our goals! If you missed the meeting, just look for the goals and action plans on our website soon. They are also listed in the Jan. 17 Board of Directors meeting minutes in this issue.

I would also like to remind everyone that the Board of Directors is considering sites for the Winter 2005 meeting. Is your club interested in hosting a Winter meeting or a general meeting at some other time of the year for the Society? If so, please see our meeting guidelines on our website and contact me directly for more information. The location for the Winter meeting is typically planned 8-12 months in advance and has oscillated between North and South Texas in the past. The decision for the 2005 Winter meeting will be made at the upcoming board meeting during Ham-Com weekend. Although we currently have an offer from the Arlington group for 2005, we will entertain other offers as well.

Finally, I would like to take a moment to thank our current general members, life members, and trustees for their continued support. Your attendance at our general meetings and board meeting shows that you truly care about the future of your organization. And last but not least, if there is a particular technical topic you would like to see in the newsletter, let us know! 73

From the Undisclosed Location

Paul Baumgardner K5BFJ, Vice President

The last several months have been very interesting. We have had several meetings of the society, three board meetings and a general meeting. All have been opportunities for friends to come together, exchange ideas and move the business of the Society ahead. In the process of moving the society forward, several proposals are before all of us for consideration.

Let's talk about some of the change proposals and the impact of that change. Changes to the Standards of Coordination must be completely thought out before being presented to the membership. Changes that have the potential of invalidating the entire coordination database should not be implemented unless absolutely necessary. What defines necessary? Something that has a major impact to all trustees, and is essential for all systems that we coordinate. While stating the format must be in hours-minutes-seconds as opposed to decimal (which is already in the typical construction application—and is certainly easy to convert) is a good idea and changing the lat/lon requirement to require the NAD83 format is a good idea, I feel it is not necessary at this time.

One problem is that the proposal as it stands today does not have a phase in period. If the Society passes this proposal in August, then the coordination database would be invalid because we have no verification from the trustees what format the currently reported lat/lon is listed in. When the repeater

(Continued on page 3)

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input access control standard was implemented in August 1999, it only applied to new coordinations or to coordinations undergoing a technical change. In my opinion the same type of implementation would be necessary to get NAD83 into the records. In the cellular business, we also must do our filing in NAD83, but typically get coordinates in both NAD27 and NAD83. The difference is miniscule, at most a few hundred feet. In the coordination effort, when attempting to create a 70 mile radius of protection, an hours-minutes-seconds and NAD 83 proposal doesn't do anything for the trustees.

I suggest to the membership that we vote this proposal down as it is currently written. I would certainly encourage the membership to recommend a new proposal that includes a phase in period such as beginning now and being fully implemented in 2007. That gives everyone a chance to update future renewals and not have to do it during this upcoming renewal.

Let's talk about adding the entire band plan to the coordination standards. We typically coordinate FM repeaters—not sideband or digital modes. The entire band plan covers far more than FM repeater sub-bands. The FM repeater sub-bands are currently defined in the coordination standards. Let's stick with those.

I suggest that we vote this proposal down as it is currently written. I feel it would be a much greater benefit to our members to encourage those interested in this proposal to consider listing the specific channel pairs for each available repeater in the standards as opposed to the per band description as listed today. Let's not burden the Standards with text that does not apply to our mission.

I encourage everyone to participate in the process. This great Society will only become better with your efforts and service. Help all of us out by responding to the survey and attending general membership meetings.

BPL Systems (Continued from page 1)

"The noise is deafening, but is tolerable because it doesn't happen very often nor last very long," he observed. "To a radio user, having BPL in the neighborhood would be like having the helicopter hovering constantly overhead."

ARRL Lab Manager Ed Hare, W1RFI, offered an example most hams could relate to. "The limit for an unintentional emitter on HF is 30 uV/m at 30 meters from the source," he said. "If you take a dipole cut for 3.5 MHz and put it in a 30 uV/m field, you'll have a noise reading of S9 plus 16 dB at your transceiver."

The FCC proposal takes a broader view of interference. "There is significant disagreement among the commenting parties regarding the interference potential of Access BPL," the NPRM declares. Amateur operators and amateur organizations in general are opposed to Access BPL and advocate emission limits that are lower than the existing Part 15 limits."

Still, the NPRM concedes, Amateur Radio operations "are likely to present a difficult challenge in the deployment of Access BPL in cases where amateurs use high-gain outdoor antennas that are located near power lines." Noting that power line noise already presents a significant problem for hams, the FCC said, "we therefore would expect that, in practice, many amateurs already orient their antennas to minimize the reception of emissions from nearby electric power lines."

The NPRM goes on to point out that because BPL has the capability to stay clear of specific frequencies, BPL providers can simply "avoid the use of amateur frequencies when in close proximity to amateur outdoor antennas." The NPRM also briefly mentions the possibility of interference to BPL systems from Amateur Radio, an issue ARRL and others raised in their comments on last April's Notice of Inquiry on BPL.

Directors Discussions

Chris Hudgins N5IUF, Director

Welcome to the first installment of the "Directors Discussions", a quarterly article where you, the Society member, will receive important information from the people you elected as your representatives. I shall be encouraging all directors to utilize this forum in order to foster good communications and active dialogs with the membership. To start things off, here are a few issues deserving your attention that I would like the membership to be aware of.

At the Board of Directors meeting held on October 4, 2003 in Belton, Texas, the Board of Directors formally adopted a set of requirements for the Zone Frequency Coordinators to follow. Here are the mutually adopted requirements:

TEXAS VHF-FM SOCIETY REQUIREMENTS AND DUTIES OF A ZONE FREQUENCY COORDINATOR (ZFC)

1. ZFC must be in good standing with the Texas VHF-FM Society.
2. ZFC must be a properly licensed amateur radio operator.
3. ZFC shall handle all coordinations per the Texas VHF-FM Society Standards for Frequency Coordination and the Texas VHF FM Society By-Laws unless authorized in writing by the State Frequency Coordinator (SFC) or The Board of Directors of the Society (BOD).
4. ZFC shall perform all coordination efforts in an unbiased and fair manner to properly licensed amateur radio operators requesting coordinations.
5. ZFC shall settle disputes of coordination matters whenever possible.
6. ZFC shall report any disputes to the SFC.
7. ZFC shall be required to make the regularly scheduled Winter and Summer meetings of the Texas VHF-FM Society unless excused by the SFC or the Society President.
8. ZFC performance shall be reviewed by the SFC and the Society President once per year.
9. ZFC shall serve one-year appointments beginning at the Summer meeting as appointed by the SFC or until removed by the SFC.
10. ZFC shall handle routine correspondence in their assigned zones of trustee and potential trustees.
11. ZFC shall answer every piece of correspondence within 15 days of receipt. The answer may be in the form of a letter, postcard, Internet e-mail or telephone call.
12. ZFC shall forward a decision of action or reason of no action within 30 days or receipt of request on all inquiries that they receive.
13. ZFC are highly urged to have access to Internet e-mail.
14. ZFC shall give no coordination actions over the telephone.
15. ZFC shall review all waiting lists in their zones at least once per year.
16. ZFC shall maintain the zone coordination database accurately and as up to date as is reasonably possible.
17. ZFC shall be computer literate and have access to IBM compatible applications in the Windows or Windows emulation environment.
18. ZFC shall utilize the KCX Coordination database program only or a program approved by the SFC that will export DF files usable by the KCX program.
19. ZFC shall use standardized procedures when completing the fields of the database as outlined in the KCX Database operations memo.
20. ZFC shall be required to submit updates to the SFC of their DBF files (in KCX format) quarterly or more often as needed.
21. ZFC shall be required to have annual renewals for their Zone of Coordination mailed no later than 1 August or each year with a

deadline for return of the renewals to be 1 September of each year.

22. ZFC shall be required to submit their annual update to the SFC no later than 1 December of each calendar year.
23. ZFC or their designee shall make efforts to complete "on-the-air" checks of as many repeaters in their zone as possible once per year in order to ascertain their status.
24. ZFC shall perform other tasks as assigned to them by the SFC and the BOD.

I feel that it is important that the membership be informed of these requirements so that you know what to expect out of your Zone Coordinator. If you do not feel that you are receiving the proper level of support or responsiveness from your Zone Coordinator, feel free to inform the Board of Directors. It's our job to see that the system is operating properly and that the functions of the Society are fulfilled with due diligence in an equitable manner to all amateurs.

Proposals made at the general membership meeting in Arlington on January 17, 2004.

- 1) Chuck Adams, N5UN, made a motion to amend the bylaws to require that anyone requesting or possessing confidential information, such as frequency coordination data, be required to sign a Non-Disclosure agreement. This motion is an excellent proposal. The requirement of an NDA is a standard procedure in today's business world with individuals having access to confidential information. It is a good idea for the Society to adopt this practice, both from a liability standpoint as well as a measure of Trust extended to the members and trustees.
- 2) Director Melissa Rasmussen, KM5R, made a proposal to require that on all new applications for coordination and coordination renewals, the system location coordinates must be provided in Degrees, Minutes, and Seconds and use the NAD 83 datum format. This proposal is simple. It is merely defining a standard where one does not currently exist in the Standards. This is a "housekeeping" item that will aid and refine the coordination process by ensuring that this standard is created, spelled out and followed consistently. By adopting this proposal, possible future coordination errors can hopefully be minimized by ensuring that everyone uses the same guidelines. It is my understanding that the NAD 83 Datum standard was chosen based on the fact that it is the most widely used today by the FCC and FAA for tower and building coordinates. Since the proposal only applies to new applications and future renewals, there is no effect to the existing data the Society currently has. No phase in period requirement is necessary and the new standard can easily be implemented upon approval.
- 3) Director Don Stevenson, N5XWD, made a proposal to officially incorporate the existing band plans into the Standards for Coordination. This is also another good idea from a housekeeping perspective. Since the Standards for Frequency Coordination currently refer to the Band Plans, it makes good sense to incorporate the recognized Band Plans formally into the Standards for Coordination so there will be no confusion as to what the current, recognized Band Plans actually are. Although not all aspects of the Band Plans apply directly to our coordination process today, the Band Plans should be published in their entirety within the Standards for Coordination to allow for review and possible future changes in the area of coordination and to eliminate possible confusion and errors.

There are some good proposals on the table and I'm sure that there will be more to come. Your involvement and **active participation** in the Society has never been more important. All Society members

should seriously consider attending the next general membership meeting in Austin on August 7th 2004 to consider these and other important matters concerning the future of the Society.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to serve you as a member of the Board of Directors.

Coordinator's Corner

Harold Reasoner K5SXK
Coordination Chairman

We occasionally get an inquiry like the one listed here and I thought it would be good to publish the answer to this question.

Good day Sir:

I have monitored a few repeater frequencies in "city xxxx" now for quite some time (months) and have found that they do not have traffic on them of any sort on any tone.

Accordingly, could you please advise the procedure to coordinate one of these "dead" pairs so that an active repeater could be installed and utilized by our amateur community.

Your assistance with this matter would be greatly appreciated.

*Many thanks,
XXXX*

Thanks for inquiring about the coordination process. I'll try to give you a brief explanation of the procedures.

You were not specific on what frequencies or bands you were interested in so I cannot comment on any particular repeater.

The coordination process is a first come first served process where frequencies are assigned when requests are received as long as there are frequencies available to assign. Our published standards have certain criteria for geographic spacing to minimize interference between adjacent systems on the same frequency. You have probably already seen the coordination standards on our web site at www.txvhffm.org. We do not have any requirements that the repeaters be on the air at any specific time or cover any minimum area. A lot of club repeaters are put on the air for their members only and only cover the area they need for their use. They may not be strong enough for you to hear at your location.

We send out renewals for the trustees to sign stating that their systems are operational. We have to depend on them being honest when they sign the forms and return them to us. We do not have any enforcement powers nor do we want any. This is a voluntary process we do to help the amateur community make the most use of the VHF and above bands with the least amount of interference. We do have procedures in place to decoordinate systems that are not on the air but proving that the repeater cannot be turned on and used by the group sponsoring the repeater is difficult. If we do get proof that a repeater does not exist for an extended period of time for a coordinated frequency, we can decoordinate it and reassign the frequency to another group or individual who wants to put a repeater on the air.

We do have some shared, non-protected pairs available for anyone to use. There are several repeaters on these pairs in the DFW area. They have no minimum spacing criteria but are required to decode and encode CTCSS or equivalent so that each user group can monitor without hearing all the other groups using the same frequencies. There are height and power restrictions to minimize interference and they must

be coordinated to ensure that common CTCSS tones are not used by more than one repeater.

I hope this has helped you understand the process. You referred to several "dead" frequencies. If you have some information about a specific repeater that is not on the air, we will contact the trustee and investigate the situation. Our goal is to help the amateur community with an organized program to minimize the interference for all users. Unfortunately, the spectrum space we have available is limited and the technology of the equipment we use will only allow a certain number of systems to operate without interference in this spectrum. We are trying to do the best we can with what we have available.

Thanks again for your interest. Let me know if I can answer any questions.

73, Harold, K5SXX

Zone 1 - 2m

Dave Davis, WB5WIA, Zone 1 2m Frequency Coordinator

I'm Dave, WB5WIA, and I've just recently accepted the draft to coordinate the two meter machines in Zone 1. Like anyone new to the job, I've jumped in and begun to reorganize the files and information to fit my work style. I'm a great user of email, and have already communicated with many of the repeater trustees using this method. I'm generating .pdf versions of the certificates, and then I'm allowing the trustees to download and print them, saving both mail time and postage. I have also been appointed to the new database committee, and our charge on this committee is to move this entire process into the modern, electronic age with on-line renewals. More on that as we get the system up.

Frequencies in most of Zone 1 are at saturation. A recent construction permit was assigned the only available frequency, and it was almost exactly 70 miles from not one but two co-channel machines. This new machine will require special care to keep working properly, and the trustee assured me that he would make the effort to have this machine operate with a minimum of interference.

To solve this problem, we have two things we can do. Having exactly 6 weeks on the job, I do not know if all the machines that are coordinated are actually on the air. Renewal procedures have been less than complete for the past two years, and so there are some machines that have not renewed since 2001. I will be working this spring to identify these machines, and then I will attempt to contact the trustee to determine the status of the machines. I don't plan to do anything drastic this renewal cycle, but I think that there may be decoordination of several machines in December 2004 due to non renewals. If you are a trustee, and think that you might not have gotten a renewal request for whatever reason, please let me know!

The other way to service the hams that wish to operate repeaters will be to expand the usage of split 10 khz channels. While opening up many new spots for repeaters, splits will only work if both the split channel repeater, and the two adjacent channel machines use 3 khz deviation instead of the current standard of 5khz. To compound this problem, not only do the repeaters have to move to narrowband, ALL of the mobiles will have to restrict their deviation to the new standard. This process will not be able to be implemented overnight.

Sometimes this job seems overwhelming, but I think that I can make it work. Comments or questions, email me at twometers@dave.uta.edu. If you have any rants, raves, or other non-useful communications, please email me at bit.bucket@nomail.here . /wia

Zone 1 - 440

*Larry Pollock, NB5X, Zone 1 440 Coordinator
nb5x@itexas.net*

Presently there are about 225 UHF repeater coordinations in the North Texas Zone 1 area. This area is bounded by Wichita Falls to the North, Lampasas to the South, Louisiana to the East and the Oklahoma border to the North.

Coordination renewal returns for the last 2 years have been fairly good with about a 75% return rate. Currently there are 20 UHF repeater trustees that have not returned a renewal in over 3 years and it is time to look at de-coordination options for these repeaters if the trustees do not contact the Society in a timely manner. Below is what has become known in coordinators language as "the bad boy" list. If you know these individuals or have contact with them, let them know that their repeater coordination is in jeopardy. They should contact me or the State Coordinator immediately to update their information. I will be making a final attempt to contact these trustees in the next 90 days and determine the status of their coordination. If some of these are actually de-coordinated reassignment of the frequencies can get our current waiting list moving and some new repeaters on the air in some areas where additional coordinations were not possible.

Currently in Zone 1 there is a waiting list of 14 requests for construction permits. Most of these applications are for repeater sites to be located within our 70 mile protection / spacing limits inside Dallas and Tarrant counties. We are working these requests as quickly as possible as frequencies become available or are determined open for assignment.

LOCATION	CALL
ALLEN	N5WXU
AZLE	N5CA
AZLE	N5RES
CANTON	K5PD
CANTON	N5LLH
DAINGERFIELD	N5ETE
DALLAS	KM5NT
DALLAS	N5NNB
DENTON	WA5LIE
FORT WORTH	KB5ZMY
GARY	AA5HF
GUN BARRELL CITY	KK5KM
MARLIN	KB5UTT
PARIS	KB5YBP
QUINLAN	KB5VKC
RHOMÉ	KJ5VR
RICHLAND HILLS	WB5SGN
TYLER	W5CKO



UPCOMING EVENTS

Irving ARC Hamfest	Mar 13
Brenham Swapmeet	Mar 20
Midland ARC Convention	Mar 20-21
Parker County ARC	Mar 27
Key City ARC	May 1-2
Belton Ham Expo	May 22
Arlington Ham-Com	Jun 18-19
Tidelands ARS	Jul 10
Austin Summerfest	Aug 6-7

WICHITA FALLS KC5RUC
 WICHITA FALLS N5MBW

Shorter spacing, ERP and HAAT restrictions for what has become known as "backyard" repeaters coordinated in the 441.XXX part of our band plan allowed us years ago to expand the possible number of repeater coordinations within the Zone. About 3 years ago 4 frequencies on the bottom end of 441 MHz were opened up: 441.300, 325, 350, 375 as SNP (shared non-protected pairs). These filled up very quickly and in most cases we have kept the spacing limit on these to 30 miles except when the co-channel trustee accepts less.

All things considered, the Zone is in fairly good shape but work is presently in progress to clean up suspected paper repeaters and update trustee information.

A big thanks goes to all that keep your coordination information up to date. 73

Zone 1 - 29, 50, 222, 900, 1240, 2400 and ATV
Paul Baumgardner, K5BFJ, Zone 1 Coordinator

Coordination activities have been relatively light over the last three months. Renewals went out and most trustees got them back in. A special thank you to all that returned them by the deadline. A few that haven't been heard from in a few years will be contacted over the next several months so that de-coordination efforts won't begin. Also, very few applications have gone out.

Changes or new coordinations in the last three months are:

W8KPJ 224.16 in Irving relocated to 224.74 in Burleson.

Missing 2003 Repeater Renewals from Zone 1

OUTPUT	CALL	LOCATION
29.62	N1EW	Tyler
52.74	N5MRG	McKinney
52.85	N5XPD	Tyler
53.01	N5TAG	Saltillo
53.03	N5ROY	Murphy
53.05	KC5PEM	Mineral Wells
53.05	KD5TEX	Farmersville
53.07	W5HFK	Farmersville
53.25	N1EW	Tyler
53.35	WA5YST	Dallas
53.59	WB5FYV	Glen Rose
53.61	N5TVN	Plano
53.63	WA5EHA	Dallas
223.90	KA5HND	Weatherford
224.22	WB5SGN	Plano
224.28	N5LLH	Southlake
224.34	WD5GIC	Granbury
224.52	AB5PL	Hurst
224.54	K5DJH	Weston
224.62	N5LLH	Arlington
224.62	N5LLH	Canton
421.25	W5ZDN	Waco ATV
2441.25	AB5IG	Dallas ATV
919.10	K5MOT	Fort Worth
1291.00	N5CJD	Richland Hills

If you have any information on any of the above listed systems, please contact me via phone or e-mail at pbaumgl@aol.com.

Zone 2
Eric Schmidt, KA5WMY, Zone 2 Frequency Coordinator

Repeater activity in Zone 2 has been fairly steady over the past few months. It seems that everyone had time to work on their repeater projects during the December holidays. The following repeaters have been newly coordinated in Zone 2 since the Winter 2003 issue of the NEWS.

Newly Coordinated Repeater in Zone 2

LOCATION	OUTPUT	INPUT	CALL	NOTES
Orange	147.060	147.660	AA5P	O103.5
Conroe	443.225	448.225	KC0EJX	O1203.5
Nacogdoches	145.410	144.810	KD5TD	O100.0
New Waverly	442.275	447.275	NA5SA	C
New Waverly	147.340	147.940	NA5SA	C
Pearland	443.050	448.050	K5PLD	O167.9
Pearland	145.210	144.610	K5PLD	O167.9
Wharton	145.270	144.670	K5MDS	OAE136.5
Wharton	444.125	449.125	K5MDS	OAE136.5

I also want to thank all of the trustees who have returned their 2003 coordination renewals over the past six months. Renewals were mailed out in September 2003 and I am still receiving returns as of January 2004. Each trustee that provided a valid email address with their coordination renewal has been sent an email from me with a confirmation of their renewal. Currently I have received approximately 82% of the renewals from Zone 2. Those repeaters for which I have not received a renewal for 2003 are listed below. If you are the trustee of the repeater please email KA5WMY@ARRL.NET as soon as possible to update your renewal. Please remember that annual renewal return is one of the requirements to maintain repeater coordination and address updates are critical

Missing 2003 Repeater Renewals from Zone 2

LOCATION	CALL	OUTPUT
ANGLETON	WA5JYK	442.950
BEAUMONT	K5PE	147.200
CLUTE	WC3J	444.575
CONROE	W5DCW	442.525
DAYTON	N5TNS	442.425
DICKINSON	WR5GC	145.410
DICKINSON	WR5GC	443.400
GALVESTON	N5KIT	443.125
GRANGERLAND	N5QBX	444.075
GRANGERLAND	KC5DAQ	444.700
HEMPSTEAD	AC5GR	223.780
HOUSTON	WA5DOS	145.330
HOUSTON	KF5ZL	146.840
HOUSTON	WB5YVQ	224.060
HOUSTON	KA5AKG	224.120
HOUSTON	W5PZP	421.250
HOUSTON	KD5CEV	443.150
HOUSTON	KC5SGV	443.350
HOUSTON	KF5ZL	443.375
KATY	KI5RX	444.775
LOUISE	WA5JYK	444.325
MANVEL	K5DGS	441.875
NACOGDOCHES	KB5UGA	441.750
PASADENA	WB5ZMY	443.450
PEARLAND	KA5OJJ	223.820
PORT ARTHUR	KK5LK	223.950
PORT ARTHUR	KK5LK	224.880
PORT ARTHUR	KK5LK	444.800
SPRING	KC5DAQ	441.525
TOMBALL	KG5OZ	223.920
WEBSTER	N5JJY	442.875

Finally, if you are planning any changes to your coordination please contact me before the changes are made so that I can ensure there are no conflicts with neighboring system. My contact information is printed inside the front cover of this newsletter. 73, Eric

Zone 4

Louis Bancook, K5UUT, Zone 4 Frequency Coordinator

The Repeater Coordination Renewal period started in September 2003 and has already ended, so it is a little late to update the data for the ARRL Repeater directory for this springs printing, however you can still beat the deadline for the Texas VHF-FM Society Repeater Directory that should be out before this year's Summerfest. Thanks to all those trustees who have returned their 2003 coordination renewals over the past six months.

Following is a list of new repeater coordination's issued since October, 2003 for Zone 4.

LOCATION	OUTPUT	INPUT	CALL	NOTES
Austin	442.500	447.500	W5LNX	O162.2SWL
Georgetown	441.575	446.575	NA6M	OEA100.0
Junction	443.650	448.650	KE5PL	c
Lampasas	145.330	144.730	KC5YVU	088.5
Round Rock	443.100	448.100	N5ECG	O110.9
Seguin	441.725	446.725	K5RGD	O156.7

Currently I have received approximately 81% of the renewals from Zone 4. Those repeaters for which I have not received a renewal for 2003 are listed below. If you are the trustee of one of these repeaters please email K5UUT@ARRL.NET as soon as possible to update your renewal. Please remember that annual renewal return is one of the requirements to maintain repeater coordination and address updates are critical

Missing 2003 Repeater Renewals from Zone 4

LOCATION	CALL	TX
ADKINS	KK5LA	444.775
AUSTIN	K5ZSI	146.960
AUSTIN	W5HS	147.180
AUSTIN	W5HS	223.940
AUSTIN	W5VDS	421.250
AUSTIN	W5VDS	421.250
AUSTIN	W5VDS	421.250
AUSTIN	N5SMN	440.200
AUSTIN	N5YQ	441.750
AUSTIN	K5DOG	444.075
AUSTIN	KA5GMG	444.950
BASTROP	W5QXH	443.750
BLUFFTON	W5KFT	444.800
BURNET	KC5TNZ	145.390
CEDAR PARK	KC5WLF	53.190
CEDAR PARK	KC5WLF	145.370
CEDAR PARK	WA4CJC	444.650
CONVERSE	KC5TCC	444.850
COUPLAND	KC5YJP	442.250
EAGLE PASS	AA5DU	145.210
EAGLE PASS	AA5DU	146.640
ELGIN	N5MZQ	145.270
GEORGETOWN	W5HS	147.080
GEORGETOWN	W5HS	224.080
GONZALES	KC5JNT	145.150
GONZALES	KC5JNT	443.150
HALLETISVILLE	KC5RXW	444.750
LIBERTY HILL	KA5GMG	147.380
LIBERTY HILL	W5WPG	444.250
LLANO	WA5NQL	146.800
LULING	W5CTX	145.230
LYTTON SPRINGS	WX5D	224.880
MOULTON	KC5RXW	444.475
PAIGE	KG5RZ	919.800
PIPE CREEK	N5XNR	147.220
REDROCK	KC5FZP	444.625
ROUND ROCK	KK5XU	442.000
SAN ANTONIO	W5QCB	145.170
SAN ANTONIO	AB5NZ	145.350

SAN ANTONIO	N5VAQ	145.370
SAN ANTONIO	KG5QW	146.780
SAN ANTONIO	KA5OHJ	224.680
SAN ANTONIO	KC5JJK	442.150
SAN ANTONIO	N5YBG	442.450
SAN ANTONIO	K5TEX	443.725
SEGUIN	W5CTX	145.490
SEGUIN	K15XF	442.175
SEGUIN	W5CTX	442.225
SMITHVILLE	N5JWP	145.350
WIMBERLEY	W5CTX	147.100
WIMBERLY	W5CTX	442.550
YOAKUM	WA5VIO	147.040

Finally, the bands in Zone 4 are in decent shape, all the bands have some breathing room except for 2 meters. The two-meter band is getting tight for new coordinations, we are basically running out of real estate to place new repeaters in congested areas such as Austin and San Antonio. It is all based on location, location, and location. We may be running out of room here, but we sometimes find space away from these areas. If you are planning any changes to your coordination please contact me before the changes are made so that I can ensure there are no conflicts with neighboring system. My contact information is printed inside the front cover of this newsletter.

73, Louis Bancook

Zone 5

Bill Lawless, W5WRL, Zone 5 Frequency Coordinator

Greetings from West Texas. I am settled in to the new job and already working a few repeater request. You are all welcome to join us for the Midland Amateur Radio Club Swap fest, March 20th and 21st. Eric will be there to give an Introduction to the Texas VHF FM Society presentation.

Give a look at the list below. If your repeater appears in this list it's because I have not received you renewal form. If you need to communicate with me my address, e-mail and phone numbers are posted on the Texas VHF FM Society website.

Renewals not returned:

CALL	LOCATION	FREQUENCY	TRUSTEE
WB5BRY	ABERNATHY	146.760	MOSHER
WB5BRY	ABERNATHY	444.000	MOSHER
KB5GAR	ABILENE	444.750	KELLAR
KD5EFB	ABILENE	444.500	TOLAR
WX5TX	ABILENE	444.175	BOGART
WX5TX	ABILENE	445.250	BOGART
WB5RXA	ALPINE	145.580	CLOUSE
W5AMA	AMARILLO	147.320	FLOYD
N5NOM	ANDREWS	146.480	REYNOLDS
N5NOM	ANDREWS	443.825	REYNOLDS
W5CD	ASPERMONT	146.620	KEY
N5BTJ	BIG SPRING	443.350	HINES
WB5ZDK	BORGER	444.600	RICHARDS
WB5BRY	CROSSBYTON	147.160	MOSHER
KC5PIM	DUMAS	147.140	JAMESON
KD5FUN	EDEN	147.390	HOELSCHER
K5ELP	EL PASO	146.880	LOVE
K5ELP	EL PASO	444.200	LOVE
K5ELP	EL PASO	146.700	LOVE
K5ELP	EL PASO	147.200	LOVE
K5ELP	EL PASO	147.280	LOVE
K5ELP	EL PASO	442.825	LOVE
KC5WDQ	EL PASO	147.160	JUNGE
N5GHQ	EL PASO	448.750	DEROULETTE
N5ZFF	EL PASO	441.700	MCQUILLEN
WB5BRY	FLOYDADA	146.840	MOSHER
W5CD	FLUVANNA	146.980	KEY

W5CD	FLUVANNA	444.325	KEY
W5CDM	FT. DAVIS	147.360	POLLARD
W5CD	GAIL	147.240	KEY
N5WRW	GLASS MT	443.650	BROWN
N5BNX	LAMESA	145.150	DAVIS
KB5AJA	LEVELLAND	444.300	CARPENTER
KB5STL	LEVELLAND	441.500	MAYNARD
KC5TAF	LEVELLAND	443.150	CANON
N5SOU	LEVELLAND	442.000	COOK
N5SOU	LEVELLAND	147.120	COOK
WB5BRY	LITTLEFIELD	146.640	MOSHER
KA5ETX	LUBBOCK	444.900	BROWN
KB5STK	LUBBOCK	145.190	STARKEY, III
KD5JLC	LUBBOCK	145.270	KITTEN
KD5JLC	LUBBOCK	442.050	KITTEN
N5RAN	LUBBOCK	444.700	BOGGESS
N5UQF	LUBBOCK	442.350	THETFORD
N5UQF	LUBBOCK	444.875	THETFORD
W5CD	LUBBOCK	147.220	KEY
W5CP	LUBBOCK	442.800	ZIELINSKI
WB5BRY	LUBBOCK	146.940	MOSHER
WB5BRY	LUBBOCK	147.000	MOSHER
WB5BRY	LUBBOCK	444.500	MOSHER
WB5BRY	LUBBOCK	53.270	MOSHER
WB5BRY	LUBBOCK	444.000	MOSHER
WB5R	LUBBOCK	224.820	GRANT
WB5R	LUBBOCK	440.100	GRANT
KE5WM	MIDLAND	444.400	YELEY
KE5WN	MIDLAND	145.290	YELEY
N5LTT	MIDLAND	434.000	LIGON
W5MDS	MIDLAND	441.925	SMITH
KA5L	ODESSA	146.660	OWEN
W5CDM	ODESSA	145.410	POLLARD
WA5IBE	ODESSA	146.880	POTTS
WA5VYK	ODESSA	444.150	DETIVEAUX
WB5RCD	ODESSA	223.940	DILL
WB5BRY	O'DONNELL	146.860	MOSHER
W5STP	OZONA	147.120	MASON
KB5OSF	PAMPA	145.450	CAMERON
K5IS	PERRYTON	146.640	DOERRIE
K5IS	PERRYTON	146.820	DOERRIE
W5VW	PLAINVIEW	146.720	BOTHWELL
KB5STK	POST	145.110	STARKEY, III
WB5BRY	POST	147.060	MOSHER
K5IFW	ROSCOE	146.680	COTTON
N5RBW	SAN ANGELO	147.100	WILCOX
N5ENS	SEYMOUR	147.100	DALTON
N5TQR	SPEARMAN	147.000	DUNCAN
KD5SHB	SUNDOWN	444.725	MCMILLIAN
WB5BRY	SUNDOWN	146.780	OSHER
N5QAC	TOYAH	444.950	PETTY

Summer Meeting 2004 Election Nomination Committee

By Eric Schmidt, KA5WMY

Although the Society's summer meeting on August 7th is still five months away, it is never too early to begin seeking nominations. In order to facilitate the election process, our by-laws call for the President to form a nomination committee. To that end, the following members have graciously volunteered and have been appointed to serve on the Texas VHF-FM Society Election Nomination Committee in preparation for the upcoming Summer meeting on August 7, 2004.

Edward Cox	K3SWJ	512-288-4135	K3SWJ@ARRL.NET
Bill Lawless	W5WRL	432-520-4734	WLAWLESS@W5WRL.COM
Michael Lay	N5PTN		N5PTN@N5PTN.NET
Lori Schmidt	KM5MQ	512-255-6753	KM5MQ@ARRL.NET

The Election Committee is responsible for ensuring that there are at least the minimum number of candidates to fill the positions on the ballot (4 for the upcoming election). They are also responsible for running the election at the Summer meeting and for certifying the results. If any member is interested in running for a position, please contact the committee listed above. Additional candidates may also be proposed by any member at the Summer meeting.

The BOD is also trying something a little new this year. In order to help our members become better acquainted with those running for a director position, the Election Committee and Newsletter Editor are soliciting 200 word or less biographies for printing in the Summer newsletter. If the committee receives too many to print in the Newsletter, they will be posted on the Society website instead. The deadline for submission of the biographies will be sometime before the submission deadline for the Summer newsletter in mid-June. Please contact the Election Committee as we get closer to June. While the biography is not required, it is a great place to let everyone know who you are and what you would like to contribute to the Society. We will still be accepting nominations from the floor at the Summer meeting.

Thank you Edward, Bill, Michael, and Lori for your help!

Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting January 17, 2004

The Board of Directors meeting of the Texas VHF-FM Society was called to order on January 17th at 10:41am. One absent board member: Louis Hancock K5UUT. A motion was made by Dir Schmidt to accept the minutes from the Belton board meeting as stated in the newsletter. The motion was 2nd by Dir Baumgardner.

Financial Report:

Dir Hancock was not present, but Dir Schmidt said he'd send info about finances spent to date to the board of directors email reflector.

Dir Schmidt stated the most money spent was for repeater directories which had, to date, gone to all members and all trustees. He said from now it'd be only trustees who were members, not all trustees.

Directors' reports:

Dir Schmidt stated the audit would be Feb 7th and he'd been working on the guidelines for it. He had also been working on a set of goals for the society.

Dir Baumgardner stated his activity has been database related - getting information corrected.

Dir Reasoner has been working on zone coordinating issues - getting new zone coordinators for Zone 1 and Zone 5. He has also been working on merging database for ARRL which is due at the end of January for first draft.



Dir Hudgins said he has been working on the audit and the survey.

Dir Stevenson had been working on the audit and the survey.

Dir Rasmussen had been working on the audit as well as the survey. Also been working on the membership database as well as working with various trustees on getting their problems fixed.

Dir Petit stated he didn't have anything new to report.

Dir Johnson hadn't been working on anything since the last newsletter.

Old Business:

Dir Hudgins passed around the completed version of the survey to be sent out to all the members and trustees in the state with the spring newsletter.

Dir Baumgardner requested question 1 be re-worded to "what is your membership status?" then list the types of memberships listed in the Bylaws.

Dir Baumgardner also suggested changing phrase 3c. He suggested that it should state "if you've submitted corrections or updates within the last cycle, were they submitted properly?"

He added question 2 should have options of "once", "twice", "three or more" so as to tabulate the count easier.

Question 4 relates to 3a, b and c---apply to all trustees and applicants.

Dir Petit said question 4 should specify zones AND bands.

Dir Schmidt says question 5 should use the de-coordination system from the Bylaws and then ask trustees if they're happy with the current system.

Discussion about inserting a line after question 2 to ask "if you are trustee/applicant, go to next question, if not skip to question 5" (which would then be question 4 if 4 gets joined with 3)

Dir Petit says we're not able to do voting by mail due to the charter. He said we'd have to change everything - charter, bylaws and constitution.

Dir Schmidt did a non-binding straw poll asking if the question should stay in the survey. 6 directors voted for the question remaining in the survey.

Dir Baumgardner stated the last paragraph of the cover sheet is too negative. He suggested changing it to "the results will be pooled and you will not be identified in the final report."

Dir Reasoner asked who signed the survey. Dir Schmidt stated he wouldn't sign his name and title to it unless he can make changes to it. Straw vote says both Dir Schmidt and Dir Hudgins sign it. It was decided that they'd work together to change it to Dir Schmidt's liking.

Dir Baumgardner suggested appointing a committee to tabulate the votes. Dir Schmidt suggests it should not be tabulated in North Texas since that's where most of the problems are. A question from the room - Gerry Dalton asked who would open the envelopes.

Dir Baumgardner made a motion asking Dir Schmidt to identify a group of responsible parties to tabulate the survey and produce a tabulated report. Dir Petit seconded the motion. The motion passed with 5 directors for and 2 against.

Dir Reasoner asked if the board could see the survey before it gets published in the newsletter. Dir Schmidt said yes. Dir Reasoner asked if it would be before the next board meeting. Dir Schmidt said yes.

Dir Petit said he likes the idea of stripping the envelopes separate from the surveys and produce a summary, then let the survey committee double-check the tabulations for both surveys and envelopes.

Dir Johnson asked the date for returning the survey to get it tabulated in time for the meeting. Dir Schmidt suggested June 1st - which gives the committee between July and Aug to get the report ready.

Society Goals:

Dir Schmidt gave a power point presentation regarding the goals for the society:

First goal: The Society will increase total membership by 10% during FY 2003-2004. Put booth at 4 or more hamfests throughout the year other than summer or winter meetings. Present an information membership recruitment presentation to at least 4 ham clubs through year. Mail welcome post cards to newly licensed hams in Texas. Setup a new member section on the Society website. Try to add membership info to the newsletter every time.

Second goal: The Society will retain at least 95% of the current membership during FY 2003-2004. Membership renewal post cards will be mailed to all society general members who have not renewed for FY 2003-2004. Four editions of newsletter will be published and mailed. Add a secure online membership database to be designed, created and implemented including a plan for long term support and archiving of the data. Ensure at least one technical article written by a member or director is published in each issue of the *NEWS*.

Third goal: The zone coordinators will contact the trustees of any known uncoordinated repeaters and coordinate them where possible. The Society will make an active effort to advertise in the news, at general meetings, and on the website to obtain information on uncoordinated repeaters in Texas. The information will be forwarded to the appropriate zone coordinator for appropriate action.

Fourth goal: The zone coordinators will contact trustees for which they have not received a response from in recent years and update their coordination information.

Fifth goal: The Society will update the 900MHz and 1.2 gig band plans.

Sixth goal: The Society will draft specifications and propose to the general membership a secure online repeater renewal system.

Dir Schmidt made the motion to adopt these goals for the 2003-2004 year. Dir Baumgardner seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Membership and coordination online database:

Dir Baumgardner stated they're working on getting the database online. They're finding someone to do coding and getting the database setup for various coordination types, not just FM. Dir Baumgardner named the individuals on the database committee: Harold Reasoner K5SXX, Paul Baumgardner K5BFJ, Eric Schmidt KA5WMY, Gerry Dalton W5MAY, Terry Van Sickle, Jr. N5RSE, Gerry Creager N5JXS, and Dave Davis WB5WIA.

Dir Reasoner added there will soon be a link on the Society website to an electronic newsletter.

Discussion of Audit

The audit will be at UTA on Feb 7 2004. Dir Baumgardner asked what is being looked for. The 2m band and 440 band in Zone 1 were the two bands to be looked into.

Discussion ensued regarding the 3 new board members not having access to the database.

New Business:

Site of winter meeting in 2005. Arlington WinterCom is interested in hosting the meeting.

Schedule for spring and summer 2004 newsletters. John Johnson says Feb 13 deadline for submissions for spring newsletter to be mailed in March.

Dir Reasoner read a proposal from Robert Wheaton WX5X to fix wording in coordination standards.

VII. Revocation of Coordination

CURRENT WORDING

5. The coordination of any system known to be operating in technical violation of F.C.C. Rules, Part 97 Subpart C, Technical Standards, within 90 days after a notification of violation is mailed to the trustee's address of record by the Zone Frequency Coordinator may be grounds for revocation.

PROPOSED SUBSTITUTE WORDING

5. Failure to implement effective corrective action within 90 days after notifi-

cation of apparent violation of F.C.C. Rules, Part 97, Subpart C, Technical Standards, is mailed to the trustee's address of record by the Zone Frequency Coordinator, may be grounds for revocation.
Dir Baumgardner made a motion to bring it up to general meeting and adopt it. Dir Johnson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Dir Schmidt showed the rest of the board the draft of apology letter to Terry Van Sickle Jr. for comments made at the Belton board meeting. No motion made. Dir Schmidt just showed the letter and stated he was going to send it.

Dir Hudgins introduced a proposal to prohibit issuing 12.5 kHz channels and other nonstandard channels. Discussion followed with Dir Reasoner and Dir Petit saying they didn't want to go back to 25 kHz. Straw poll was taken and the majority of the board members disagreed with the proposal.

Dir Petit made a motion that the state coordinator tell the zone coordinators to work extra hard to make sure there were no problems in their zones. Dir Baumgardner seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Dir Hudgins introduced a proposal to require publishing and maintaining all zone waiting lists online. Louis Petit says we need to create a reasonable time frame to get it online. Also it was discussed that there's only 1 person maintaining the website. Discussion followed that people could be found to help update if it was needed. Dir Johnson said he was trying to keep newsletter short but could add waiting list to the newsletter. Dir Stevenson offered to draw up a change to the standards of coordination to add more information on waiting lists.

Meeting adjourned at 12:45pm.

Minutes of General Meeting January 17, 2004

1:40 pm meeting called to order by Director Schmidt.

Director Rasmussen made a motion to amend the minutes of the summer meeting to add that Chris Hudgins was made chairman of the survey committee. Doug KDSOUG seconded the motion.

Director Schmidt made a motion to accept minutes as amended. Jim N5DDC seconded the amended minutes.

No financial information as Director Bancook was absent.

Director Schmidt showed the goals he had made for the Society to the membership for the upcoming year.

Director Baumgardner reported on getting the database online, including membership and financial information as well as coordination.

Director Rasmussen stated she had been working on the survey as well as the future audit.

Director Hudgins stated he was working on the survey and getting ready to send it out, also working on the audit.

Director Stevenson stated he's been working on the survey committee working on the survey; also that he had been in contact with several individuals with concerns in Zone 1.

Director Petit stated he hasn't done much work since he didn't have the secretary's job anymore.

Director Reasoner stated his activity had concerned the coordination update - merging all the databases from all the zone coordinators. It's due to the ARRL by the end of the month... He gave a count of 1325 repeaters in the state of Texas.

Director Reasoner also stated we do have 2 new zone coordinators - Dave Davis is new Zone 1 2m coordinator. Also Bill Lawless is new Zone 5 coordinator for west Texas.

Director Johnson stated February 13th is newsletter deadline.

No Old Business items

New Business Items

Director Schmidt called for a straw poll seeing who was in favor of coming to Arlington for the winter 2005 meeting. The majority of the membership was in favor of Arlington.
The summer meeting is first Saturday in August (Aug 6th and 7th) in Austin.

Chuck Adams N5UN made a motion of change/addition be made to the By-laws, stating that an NDA should be drawn up to be used by anyone having access to the frequency coordination database, subject to review by appropriate legal council as defined by the board of directors. It would then be presented for a vote at the summer meeting. The following underlined text, if passed, would be added to the current Bylaws:

Article Eleven

Treatment of privileged information

11.1

The Texas VHF-FM Society, Inc., during the course of furnishing its regular Frequency Coordination services, is entrusted with certain privileged information. This information contains for example, but is not necessarily limited to, such personal information as a repeater trustee's mailing address, home and/or work telephone numbers, email addresses, etc. as furnished by the repeater trustee requesting frequency coordination services. In addition, certain technical information concerning the coordinated or proposed repeater's location, latitude/longitude coordinates, and other information not normally disclosed to the general public must be submitted as a prerequisite to obtaining frequency coordination services.

11.2

Persons, acting as authorized agents of the Texas VHF-FM Society, Inc. will be required to sign the NON-DISCLOSURE AGREEMENT (NDA) as a condition of having access to the information as described in 11.1

11.3

Authorized agents of the Texas VHF-FM Society, Inc. are defined as the members of the Board of Directors, Frequency Coordinators, consultants, appointees or any other person having access on a "need to know" basis to the information as described in 11.1

11.4

The Board of Directors, by virtue of their election by the membership of the Texas VHF-FM Society, Inc. has the authority to determine who will be the authorized agents of the Society for the purpose of having access to such privileged information. The Secretary will at all times maintain an up to date list of authorized agents and copies of all executed NDA's.

11.5

The NDA will be prepared by appropriate legal counsel, and periodically reviewed by such legal counsel to maintain its effectiveness. The NDA will describe the responsibilities of the authorized agents of the Society as to the proprietary nature of the information in their care and knowledge, and the authorized agents will be required to execute the NDA prior to gaining access to such information. The NDA will hold the authorized agents personally responsible to not disclose such proprietary information outside the official needs of the Society to conduct its Frequency Coordination and associated services. The NDA will be binding on the authorized agents both during their authorized term of service to the Society and indefinitely into the future.

Gerry Creager seconded the motion.

Rich Osman argued that not all the directors need to see the information. Jim Reese says they should have access to it.

Director Schmidt called the question and Rich Osman seconded the call. Motion passed.

Rich Osman made a motion that a lawyer be consulted to provide recommendation regarding the information and review how to word the restriction of information to anyone who has access to it. Gerry Creager seconded it.

Discussion followed as to what the limits to the information could be. Motion passed.

Director Stevenson moved to add Appendix C to the standards for frequency coordination as shown in the text below, in order to officially incorporate the existing band plans into the standards for frequency coordination. This amendment shall clarify the exact band plans as they currently exist. This is to be voted upon in the summer 2004 general meeting and upon approval goes into effect immediately. J. Howard AA5R seconded it.

[Editors note: The band plans were excluded from this copy of the minutes to save space in the newsletter. The band plans are available for review at www.txvhffm.org and in the Society Repeater Directory.

Motion is tabled until the summer meeting.

Director Rasmussen made a motion to add a paragraph in Section III of the standards for Frequency Coordination stating that "The location coordinates supplied on all new applications and renewals must be provided in Degrees, Minutes, and Seconds, and must use the NAD83 datum format". Gerry Creager asked if it could be either WGS84 or NAD83 since they're very close to each others, and most GPS units come default with WGS84 setting. Dir Rasmussen agreed to modify the motion and Gerry Craiger seconded it. Motion is tabled till summer meeting.

Billy McDonald requested the membership mailing database. Jim McCarter N5DDC made a motion to give Billy McDonald or anyone else requesting the membership mailing database. Jay Urish W5GM seconded the motion.

Gerry Dalton proposed an amendment to the motion to make it available in the form of mailing labels only for a nominal cost. Doug Freeman KC5ION seconded the amendment. Amendment passes 23 for and 20 against.

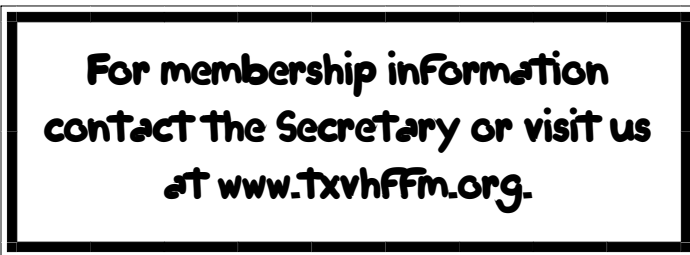
Woody Harper KD5TAP moved to amend the current motion to say Billy, or anyone asking, would be furnished with a black and white paper list of names, callsigns and addresses only at no cost. Gerry Dalton called the question on the amendment – Director Baumgardner seconded it. Motion passed.

Director Petit called the question on the original motion. It stated to give Billy McDonald or anyone else the membership mailing database as amended first and second times. Gerry Creager seconded it. Motion failed 25 to 24.

Gerry Creager made a motion to give names, addresses and callsigns on a 1-time use to Billy McDonald in paper format at no charge. Ken Noblitt N5UA called the question. Chuck Adams N5UN seconded it. Motion passed.

Director Stevenson made a motion that anyone running for office gets the membership mailing list (names, addresses and callsigns) once for their campaigning purposes only. Jim Clark W5ML seconded it. Ken Noblitt N5UA called the question. J Howard AA5R seconded it. Motion passed.

Jim Reese made a motion to adjourn. Gerry Creager seconded it. Motion passed to adjourn.



Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting February 7, 2004

Meeting opened at 1:41 pm on Saturday, February 8, 2004 at the University of Texas at Arlington. BOD members present included President (Director) Schmidt, Vice President (Director) Baumgardner, Treasurer (Director) Hancock, Editor (Director) Johnson, and Statewide Frequency Coordinator (Director) Reasoner. Also in attendance were Zone 1 Frequency Coordinators Davis and Pollock. A quorum was declared. Vice President Baumgardner was appointed to take minutes of meeting.

Editor Johnson asked about move of Belton Hamfest to May 22 and its affect on a proposed BOD meeting. General discussion on BOD meeting on May 22

or at Ham-Com in June. General consensus was BOD meeting during the Saturday of Ham-Com weekend. Coordinator Reasoner discussed Ham-Com, flea market table and possible forum session. Discussion on need for repeater forum versus BOD meeting as was conducted in 2003. General consensus was on repeater/renewal forum at Ham-Com with BOD at separate time and location. Coordinator Reasoner to request forum session from Ham-Com organizers. President Schmidt requested that update on new repeater renewal system be presented at Ham-Com forum. President Schmidt concurred on need for flea market table and will request. General discussion on BOD meeting time and location during Ham-Com weekend. President Schmidt determined that BOD would be held at the University of Texas at Arlington at 6:00 pm on Saturday evening, June 19, 2004.

Vice President Baumgardner made the following motion: The Secretary will validate membership status of all those in attendance prior to a general membership or special meeting for the purposes of voting. This will be in the form of token provided to the member valid for each specific meeting. Seconded by Editor Johnson. Discussion followed. Question called by Vice President Baumgardner, seconded by Treasurer Hancock. Vote was 4-0 in favor of calling the question. Vote was 4-0 in favor of the motion.

Vice President Baumgardner made the following motion: Establishment of a permanent committee, as defined in Society by-laws, for the Society database which will include membership and coordination records. Seconded by Coordinator Reasoner. Discussion followed. Question called by Vice President Baumgardner, seconded by Editor Johnson. Vote was 4-0 in favor of calling the question. Vote was 4-0 in favor of the motion. President Schmidt reminded all present that Vice President Baumgardner was appointed Chairman of this committee earlier in the year and would continue as the Chairman of the permanent committee.

Vice President Baumgardner made the following motion: Move that we place the following members on the permanent society database committee: Dave Davis, Gerry Dalton, Terry Van Sickle Jr., Gerry Creager and Kurt Frieberger. And that we include the following officers as ex-officio members of the committee: Treasurer, Secretary and Statewide Frequency Coordinator. Vice President Baumgardner added that all named members had been contacted and have volunteered to serve. Seconded by Editor Johnson. Vote was 4-0 to approve the members.

Editor Johnson made the following motion: move the BOD oppose the proposal made by Melissa Rasmussen to the membership for modification of the Standards of Frequency Coordination to require the coordinates of repeaters to be in the NAD83 format. Seconded by Vice President Baumgardner. The discussion included that the proposal did not include the WGS84 format, that there was no phase in period for the proposal that would invalidate all coordinations if passed and that there was no value to the coordination process since the distances were less than 500' between the different datums. The motion was tabled for consideration at the next BOD meeting.

Coordinator Reasoner made the following motion: move that the BOD oppose the proposal made by Don Stevenson to the membership for the modification of the Standards of Frequency Coordination to include the entire published band plans. Seconded by Editor Johnson. The discussion included that the entire band plan is not eligible for coordination, is unnecessary and burdensome for the Standards, and that the repeater sub-band is detailed in the Standards. There was also a suggestion that each repeater pair could be added to the existing standards as a revision. The motion was tabled for consideration at the next BOD meeting.

Vice President Baumgardner made the following motion: move that we release all Zone 1 144-148 MHz and 440-450 MHz repeater data to all directors with the explicit understanding that all the data is to be held confidential. Seconded by President Schmidt. Discussion followed the motion to include comments by Vice President Baumgardner that said it was unfortunate that all Directors could not be present for this meeting and to cover any issues or address any problems that they may have become aware. Vote was 3-1 to approve the motion. President Schmidt advised he would transmit the data via e-mail to all directors that were not present at the BOD meeting.

The BOD was moved into an Executive Session at 3:15 pm for the purpose of conducting the audit of Zone 1 144-148 MHz and 440-450 MHz repeater coordinations.

The executive session ended at 4:37 pm. The meeting was adjourned.