

**Two Meter Area Spectrum Management Association  
1439 W. Chapman, PMB 90  
Orange, CA 92868**

**TASMA General Meeting Minutes**

**These Minutes Are Not Approved**

**Saturday, April 4, 2009**

**@**

**Walnut Library  
21155 La Puente Rd.  
Walnut, CA 91789**

**Attendees:**

**Members:**

Bob Dengler, NO6B	Steve Grasha, WA6ARC,	Dennis Hughes, KC6RYZ
Howard Brown, KG6GI	Lonnie Bland, N6RBR	Paul Metzger, K6EH
Suzan LaDuke, K6CDK	Jacoby Wilson, KF6UPN	Dan Corth, AD6HK
David Elder, KA6TBF	Frank Shannon, KR6AL	Brian Roode, NJ6N
Scott Farthing, KI6IXQ	Leon Brown, KC6JAR	Miguel A. Ramirez, NH2R
Jose Almada, KB6KOV	Arturo Pineda, WW6Y	

**Visitors:**

**Noah Massengale**

**Jim Guerrero**

1. Meeting called to order at 10:30AM by Bob Dengler, NO6B.
2. The members present introduced themselves and guests. A sign-in sheet was passed around to record the attendees and guests.
3. The Agenda was distributed via email along with a URL referencing some NARCC updates.
  - a. Discussion regarding NARCC direction

NARCC has proposed a band plan change to 12.5 KHz spacing according to their Board Meeting Minutes, their survey had the

support of their membership group. This direction was motivated by increased demand for Coordination in Northern California, same as seen in Southern California. Additionally, the Northern California area has the PAVE PAWS impacting the 440 Band utilization and some of the 70CM Repeater groups view the 2 Meter spectrum as an alternative given their situation.

The purpose of bringing the NAARC materials to this meeting is to highlight that there is an issue everywhere meeting the demand for coordinated frequency pairs. Bob has done the math regarding opening the 145MHz Band utilizing a 15 MHz span and found that this change would result in a gain of 7 frequency pairs available. From a technical perspective, discussion ensued regarding what would be required to implement such a change, as the Repeater Owners would need to modify their installations - purchase new crystals, install new hardware devices. Example, the GE Master II's can be modified by adding a Com-Spec device to the Master II. The Owner would need to have some test equipment to tune and implement this change correctly. There are Narrow Band filters for other devices as well. The alternative is that some potential Repeater Owners, simply do not get to operate.

#### Straw Vote

Bob Dengler took a straw vote asking how many people present would support moving the 145 MHz Output Repeater Sub-band from 20 KHz to 15 KHz spacing. These are the results:

Against - zero

For - 11

Bob will take this topic to the Board and the Tech Committee to draw up a proposal to change the spacing to 15 KHz based on this favorable straw vote outcome.

#### D-STAR

TASMA is experiencing a high level of demand for new coordination also. D-STAR has also had an impact in the coordination efforts.

Discussion ensued regarding the FCC position and perspective of D-STAR operations. Leon Brown, KC6JAR, was concerned that the FCC would not approve of his D-STAR operation. Bob Dengler, NO6B, explained that the D-STAR sites are being coordinated as Remote Base/Auxiliary Stations, not Repeaters. This complies with the Part 97 FCC regulations. Howard Brown, KG6GI, is TASMA's resident expert on D-STAR.

Note: Thank you Howard for all of your past hard work and continued efforts to support this group.

It is up to the Trustee to determine what kind of station he has. For an Auxiliary station, all users should be Control Operators. While in some opinions this may not be realistic, the Amateur community should not create a problem (by approaching the FCC) where a problem or issue does not exist.

Some informal discussion has occurred within the TASMA Technical Committee regarding how to address an issue if it came up. The bottom line is if the FCC had an issue with our current coordination direction, then TASMA would have to consider a more drastic change. However, the FCC has been notified of the TASMA coordination plan and TASMA has received no negative response from the FCC.

Bob further explained that in his experience, the FCC does not really want to get involved with the Coordination of Amateur Radio Frequency allocation, and they tend to get involved only if approached and a specific direction is requested from a member of the Amateur community.

#### TASMA Board

Steve Grasha, WA6ARC, asked if more people should be added to the TASMA Board to ensure all of the work gets done as required. He has noted that, as a past Board member, there are some things that have fallen through the cracks in the current quarter. He suggested that maybe there are not enough resources on the current Board to get everything accomplished. Bob Dengler, NO6B, indicated that in his opinion no additional Board members are needed. The membership community may volunteer or be recruited to help when resource

availability is identified as an issue. Board workload should not increase. If the Board workload increases, it asks for volunteers

The Board members are the decision makers and the Board structure is in the bylaws so the bylaws would needed to be changed for an increase if needed. Steve Grasha submitted a motion to increase the Tasma Board by 3 members on the December 2009 ballot if, at that time, Tasma is still moving to expand into the 440 Spectrum Coordination arena.

Discussion: Steve is not convinced that unless the Board is expanded at this time, there will not be an experienced Board in place when the possible 440 coordination effort is to be implemented. He is concerned that the current Board will not be able to manage an additional database, coordination efforts, and potential 440 Technical Committee.

The motion failed for the lack of a second.

#### Motion to Change Voting Privileges

Leon Brown, KC6JAR, moved to Change the Tasma Bylaws so only Repeater Trustees may vote on Tasma Business. The motion was seconded by Steve Grasha, WA6ARC.

Discussion:

Would be trustees be allowed to vote by proxy? Would they be allowed to vote if they are present in person only? Do Trustees count or only Repeater Owners?

Bob Dengler:

This organization has a long history of involving Users and not just a limited group, giving us a transparency which is unique.

Bob suggested that the answer is to get more members of a homogenous nature if there is a concern that one group could enlist a number of their members to join Tasma and assume control of the organization.

Further Discussion:

There is currently a 45 day waiting period before a member has voting rights. That period could be increased if the members feel this is too short.

The members present felt that if only the Repeater Owners or Trustees were allowed to vote on Tasma business, then there would necessarily be fewer members of the organization. Additionally it was voiced that Tasma would organizationally be very similar to SCRBBBA and that is not desired.

Both parties withdrew the motion to change the Bylaws.

4. The minutes of the December 6, 2008 General Meeting were not immediately available, however after discussion it was revealed that a draft of the meeting was sent to the Tasma Board members in December by Steve Early, AD6VI, the 2008 Tasma Secretary. The minutes were reviewed by the members present. A couple of typos were corrected. Steve Grasha, WA6ARC moved to approved the minutes. The motion was seconded by Scott Farthing, KI6IXQ and passed by unanimous vote.
5. The Tasma Treasurer provided the closing 2008 and year-to-date 2009 Treasurer reports to the Tasma Board via email as he was unable to attend this meeting. The reports were presented by Bob Dengler.
6. The 2009 mail log was provided for the members to review. Howard Brown, KG6GI noted that there was an error in the line numbering. In addition to membership applications and renewals, there have been five Requests for Coordination received. Three of these have been received since the last Technical Committee Meeting so will be reviewed at the next Technical Committee Review meeting.
7. Committee Reports:
  - a. 440 Coordination Working Group report
    - i. Scott Farthing, KI6IXQ was present to represent the 440 Coordination Working Group.
      1. Several items have been sent to the Tasma Board and 440 Working Group email groups from Jeff

(Shorty) Stouffer, Chairperson of the 440 Working Group with very little response/input.

- a. Mission Statement
- b. Suggest meeting in person or via Skype as a group.

Bob Dengler indicated that the approach for the 440 Working Group should be that no response is to be interpreted as agreement and approval to move forward in a given direction. The suggestion is that however the group elects to meet (in person, via Yahoo group, or Skype); they should submit recommendations for continued development such as:

Recommend to Coordinate the 440 Spectrum

Recommend to form a 440 Technical Committee

The TASMA approach to 440 spectrum coordination would be to co-exist with the current SCRBBBA group and work around their existing published coordinated frequencies.

Six additional members present at this meeting expressed an interest in joining and working with the 440 Working Group. These names were added to the 440 Working Group email list by Howard after the meeting.

- b. Technical Committee report
  - i. Bob Dengler, NO6B, reported that correspondence is now current. He sent out 14 letters last weekend to various recipients, primarily pertaining to coordination issues. Bob also provided a Technical Committee Overview which is attached to these minutes.
- c. TASMA Database
  - i. Bob Dengler has assumed the task of database maintenance from Howard Brown.
  - ii. Bob provided some copies of the Open Repeater CTCSS Frequency Regions and Southern California FM Band plans. Bob noted that the actual database may be viewed on the TASMA web site. Please note that the colors on the list are not representative of a County grouping, but

are representative of the Open Repeater CTCSS  
Frequency Region grouping.

6. The meeting was adjourned at 1:30PM.

Respectfully submitted

By Suzan LaDuke, K6CDK, Secretary