



NORTH OKALOOSA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

2260 South Ferdon Blvd Ste 193
Crestview, Florida 32536

www.w4aaz.org

info@w4aaz.org

Minutes for Business Meeting held 10 September 2026

OPENING AND ATTENDANCE

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by the Vice President John N8JDD.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Vice President.

Prayer was offered by Bob, KN4UDT.

Introductions were made around the room and for Zoom participants.

Attendance:

Full members: 12 in person, 11 online. Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer in attendance. (Quorum met by both 25% and 15% criteria. See Appendix 1.)

Associate Members: 1 in person

Guests: none

OFFICERS' REPORTS

Vice President's Opening Remarks – John N8JDD

N0KBS Silent Key: The Vice President noted with sorrow the passing of NOARC member Bud Stewart, N0KBS, father of our President "DJ" Stewart, KI4ZER. DJ is still in St. Louis attending to matters of the estate.

The Vice President also conveyed a belated "Happy Birthday" message to Michelle, KQ4WKC.

Secretary's Report – Mike W4BZM

The Minutes for August 2026 have been posted on the NOARC website.

Correspondence: NOARC received correspondence this month via e-mail regarding the club's use of the WAAZ tower. This will be discussed in the Station Committee Report.

The Quorum was met for this (September) meeting by both the "25% including one officer" criteria (14) and the "15% including three officers" criteria (9).

Treasurer's Report – Derek KQ4LSX

The full Treasurer's Report and Bank Statement was not available online but was provided verbally as:

Balances as of 31 August 2026:

Savings account:	\$4,155.92
Checking account:	\$2,430.06
Petty Cash fund	<u>\$ 100.00</u>
Total	\$6,685.98

Monthly expenditure for August: \$600 to Eglin MWR for table rental.

Anticipated expenditure for September: Hamfest prizes.

NOARC currently has 55 Full Members and 4 Associate Members.

Acceptance of Officers' Reports

Motion to accept Officers' Reports was made by Bob, KN4UDT and seconded by Dave, WB4EWS. Motion passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Education and Advancement Committee – Bob KN4UDT

The 2026 Education and Advancement Committee Report for the September meeting is on the NOARC website.

Technical Nights:

- The August Tech Night was "Why Resonance is Not Always the SWR Sweet Spot" by Bob KN4UDT
- The September Tech Night will be "Preparation for Hamfest" by DJ, KI4ZER

NOARC will provide license testing at Hamfest.

Craig, W4CRY, announced that Bill McRae, one of the NCS operators for the GCVTN, will be in a nursing home for some time and that a new NCS volunteer is needed.

Station Committee – (position vacant, John N8JDD reporting)

- An e-mail was received from Christopher Henderson stating that Whitaker Communications will allow the NOARC repeater equipment to remain in place on the WAAZ tower.
- The club currently has many pieces of excess or donated equipment stored in Annex G, which are to be offered for sale at the Hamfest. We will need assistance in moving this equipment to the Crestview Community Center on Friday 09 October,

Activities Committee – John N8JDD

Past Events:

- NOARC has continued to provide parking for LOBC food distributions.

Future Events:

- 03 October: Great Pumpkin Run in Niceville, sponsored by the Ground Up Project in support of the Emerald Coast Autism Center. Sufficient NOARC members have volunteered to fill the necessary communication slots, but additional members are always welcome in the event of cancellations or for training.
- 09/10 October: NOARC Hamfest, to be discussed later
- 17 October: Possible participation in Jamboree On The Air (JOTA) / Scout Family Camp at Camp Euchee near Mossy Head?
- 24 October: 5K “Run For Unity” in Crestview
- 11 November: Comm support for Crestview Veterans Day Parade?
- 05 December: Comm support for Crestview Christmas Parade?
- 12 December: All-Clubs Christmas Party in Niceville
- 19 December: “Talk to the Santa’s Elves” at LOBC

Administrative Committee – (Rob KM4SPJ absent, DJ KI4ZER reporting)

The current insurance policy for equipment expires 07 October. Payment is already approved as part of 2026 Annual Budget and is in progress. (Treasurer will pay via club credit card.)

Webmaster – Robert KM4VKY

“Looking fine”

Hamfest Committee – “DJ”, KI4ZER (via Zoom)

We are 30 days away from the Hamfest. Prizes will be ordered by the Treasurer. Forty-one tables have been sold so far. (Last year NOARC sold 120 tables.) Table count to date is:

- 60 from Eglin MWR
- 20 from American Legion
- 25 available from Community Center
- 10 from PARC / NOARC

Holiday Party Committee – John N8JDD

The 2026 Holiday Party will be held at Basil and Baxter’s in Niceville on 12 December at 1700 CST. It will include presentation of the Ham of the Year award, which will be voted upon at the November business meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Talk To Santa’s Elves – John, N8JDD

Will be held 19 December at LOBC.

NEW BUSINESS

Nominations for Office – John, N8JDD

Per the current Bylaws,

- “The President will appoint a nominating committee prior to the annual meeting.”
- “The officers shall be elected at the November annual meeting to serve 1-year terms, beginning in January.”

The Vice President asked for volunteers for the Nominating Committee. Nominations will be accepted at the next business meeting (08 October) and elections will be held at the annual business meeting (12 November). All offices will be up for election.

NOARC Reorganization Proposal – Rob, KM4SPJ

Rob, KMSPJ presented a proposal to reorganize NOARC’s operating model. He provided a handout which is included as Appendix 2. The proposal was provided as a

suggestion for consideration and no discussion was held.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMENTS

Interesting Website – Mike W4BZM

Articles on ham radio history are available at HamRadioWayback.com. They focus on “Bet you didn’t know this part of ham history”. Enrollment at the site is free and will provide you with a new article every week via e-mail. The site also offers audio versions of the articles that can be enjoyed during long drives.

Ham Radio Article in Bay Life Newsletter

Vern, KR4ESD, highlighted an informative interview with DJ, KI4ZER, that was recently published in the Bay Life newsletter which is distributed in south Okaloosa County. The article is available at <https://bay.lifemediagrps.com/ham-radio-connects-generations-builds-community/>

Mentoring Minute

Members were asked “What cool thing did you do with ham radio this month?” The following subjects were offered:

- Bill WS4Y: A new website for Parks On The Air is available at next.pota.app.
- Joe KN4UDS: Had QSO with the South Pole !
- Mike W4BZM: Current working a digital net in Eastern Mississippi
- John N8JDD: Got some new antennas at Huntsville Hamfest
- Don KR4YXX: Had 800 QSOs in the last month and a half by working early mornings on 40 and 20 meters.
- DJ KI4ZER: Make estate resolution easier on your beneficiaries. Compile a list of your ham radio equipment and its current value and make the location of that list known to your family.

The business meeting was adjourned at 2000 CDT.

Respectfully submitted,
Mike W4BZM
NOARC Secretary

APPENDIX 1: ATTENDANCE

Members in Person	
Vern McGraw, KR4ESD	Rob Rosenberger, K4HST
Bill Turney, WS4Y	Tyler Stewart, KQ4ACS
Mike Behr, W4BZM	Don Busbee, KR4YXX
Bob Hurley, KN4UDT	Bill Williams, KQ4ATC
John Duren, N8JDD	Howard Zemser, KR4LYW
Bob Raffety, N1KRE	Joseph Feliccia, KN4UDS
Craig Young, W4CRY	Michele Feliccia, KQ4WKC
Tim Terrell, KN4WOO	Steve Hays, KJ4RWD
Derek Hoffnung, KQ4LSX	"DJ" Stewart, KI4ZER
Robert Dallons, KM4VKY	Phil Mackrael, KF4RAF
Jon Baughman, KI4UMT	Rich Girardin, N4DPM
David Hayden, WB4EWS	
	Associate Members attending
	Juanita Young
	Associate Members online
	None
	Guests in attendance
	None
	Guests online
	None

Total voting membership: 55 / Associate members: 4

Quorum requirement (at least one of the following):

- 14 full members (25% of full membership, including one officer) – This criterion was met
- 9 full members (15% of membership, including three officers) – This criterion was also met.

APPENDIX 2: NOARC REORGANIZATION PROPOSAL BY KM4SPJ

NOARC REORGANIZATION PROPOSAL

Dear NOARC Members,

Our club continues to face the reality of an aging membership: roughly 50 paid members with about a dozen active. Due to our member's ages and declining health the club has become all business and our members are voting with their feet. It is simply the signs of the times.

Florida law and our 501(c)(3) status require a minimum of three directors —one person may hold multiple officer roles unless our documents (bylaws) prohibit it. We can restructure around a fully compliant board that also handles all routine governance, finances, planning, and compliance.

Proposed Operating Model

- **Eliminate the business meeting.** No formal business at monthly meetings. Our elected BOD manages the corporation's ordinary affairs amongst themselves through short *board sessions by Zoom, phone, or written consent*. The BOD continues to coordinate with our Committee Chairs. Our required membership votes (election of directors) occur only when necessary and can be offered with remote or written-ballot options.
- **Business presentations move to posted informational updates (treasurer reports, upcoming plans, etc.).** Post them! Fact: *Our elected board already has our blessing to do whatever it needs to do on our behalf.* (Think of the current issue of the 3-6 machine). Post monthly minutes and keep written/email lines open. The 501c3 is not the limiting factor. Our bylaws are the limiting factor. Change them.

- **Provide one monthly meeting** (*with food option*), focused on enjoyment of amateur radio (tech nite presentations, workshops, discussion, and social time).
- **Provide one club-endorsed operational event per month** (*with food option*):
POTA, JOTA, Demos, parades, community-assistance, equipment workshops for enjoyable radio ops that sustain interest.
- **Meetings will be moderated by the Event Coordinator(s) using a 'master of ceremonies' model.** The BOD may sit at a table on the side and may guide brief informational discussions.
- The event coordinator solicits and directs opportunities for events. E.g., Hamfest Coordinator, Field Day(s) Coordinator, Community Liaison/Parade Coordinator, POTA Coordinator; as needed. Coordinators and Liaison's coordinate with the BOD.
- Hamfest: Ham for the Holidays Model. Sponsor the regional Hamfest of panhandle clubs. Let them bring their own tables. Leadership TBD.

Motion: To form a volunteer study committee to make recommendations to the current board and the general membership.

These changes keep our Florida nonprofit corporation and 501(c)(3) status intact, *dramatically* lowers the volunteer burden, and guarantees NOARC will be around for many years to come.