



## MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING April 13, 2025

The Board Meeting of the Gold Coast Amateur Radio Association, Inc., was called to order by President Melanie Fernandez, KJ4VCT, at 3:15 p.m. on Zoom. It had been moved to one week sooner than usual to avoid conflicting with Easter Sunday.

Present were Melanie Fernandez, KJ4VCT, President; Ben Echavarria, N7BBE, Vice President; Ricki Witte, KJ4FSJ, Secretary; Treasurer; Ricky Eaton, KD4HGR, Repeater Trustee; Tom Savoca, K9TJS, Public Information Officer; and Joe McGee, NX4T, Director at Large. Absent were Dirk Basting, N4AN (excused), and Jeff Stahl, K4BH.

A Treasurer's Report, which had been emailed to Board members, shows an ending balance of \$7,820.56. (Copy attached)

Social dinners at GG's of New York are scheduled for April 27, May 25, July 20, September 21, and October 26, 2025.

Ricky Eaton said that two Ring brand motion activated cameras will be installed at John Knox Village, one in the repeater room focusing on the door and one focusing on the antennas. They will identify unauthorized persons entering the repeater room or doing anything to the antennas, which has been a recent problem. The inventory of equipment is still a work in progress. It was agreed that equipment not needed by the club can be auctioned off at Field Day. The plan is to coordinate this with Kenny Hollenbeck, who usually brings old equipment to auction for Ham Helpers.

Ricki Witte had circulated some proposed minor amendments to the Bylaws by email. The Board agreed with each of the proposed changes after a brief discussion, and they will be voted upon by the general membership. (Copy attached)

Although some reservations had been expressed in recent emails from Board members, it was agreed to continue the previous decision to give individuals who take

tests before our meetings one year of free membership in the club to in order to attract new members. The free membership term allows use of the HF station, but not voting or serving on the Board. Membership cards were also agreed upon. Ben Echavarria will have them printed, and the cards will have space to add the member's name and expiration date before being laminated.

Melanie said it is impossible to simultaneously preside at general membership meetings and manage the Zoom platform. And the other two members of the Zoom team, Dirk Basting and Joe McGee, also have other roles during the meetings. Therefore, it is essential to have a dedicated person to handle the Zoom technology. In addition, Melanie, who has a lengthy commute, has been buying the coffee and donuts and cannot continue. The next President's Message will appeal to the membership for help with Zoom and with hospitality, both at meetings and at Field Day.

For Field Day, Joe McGee and Ricky Eaton, along with David Pomerantz, will begin making detailed plans and will provide a report to the Board with specifics. Joe will provide Tom Savoca some bullet points this week for publicity. The club will be in 3A category again. Information for display and flyers with information for the public will be requested from ARRL through Section Manager Barry Porter.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:51 pm.

Ricki Witte, KJ4FSJ  
Secretary Pro Tem

# Treasurer's Report March 2025

Previous balance as of 02/28/2025 +\$2,811.13

Debits -\$566.17

Deposits, +\$368.83

New balance as of 03/31/2025 = +\$2,613.79

**+CD 5,206.77 Total = +\$7,820.56**

- **Major Expenses : Picnic \$351, Park \$240**
- **Major Income : Picnic \$200, Membership Dues \$110**
- **Members: Single 54 (59) ,New 2,Family 6, Lifetime 27, Late Payees: 26(20)**

Section 6.1 Board Members — The Board of Directors for the GCARA shall consist of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Repeater Trustee, ~~a Director~~ two Directors at Large, and a Public Information Officer. The term of office for all Officers and Board Members shall be one calendar year.

*This is necessary to conform to current practice.*

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Section 6.2 President — The President shall preside at all meetings of the association and conduct the same according to the rules adopted herein. The President shall appoint a person to act as Parliamentarian to decide all questions of order in the conduct of meetings, and shall appoint committees, and perform all other customary duties pertaining to the office of President.

*This makes it clear that it is the President, not the Parliamentarian, who appoints committees, etc.*

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Section 6.8 Director at Large — The Directors at Large shall work on such projects as shall be delegated by the Board of Directors. It is intended that ~~this~~ these positions be used to develop new leadership in the association.

*This just changes singular to plural.*

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Section 6.10 Election of Officers and ~~the Board of~~ Directors — Officers and Directors shall serve a term of one calendar year beginning in January. An election of eligible members of the association will be held at the November regular club meeting. Each candidate for office who wishes to be considered for election shall formally agree to be placed in nomination for such office. Additionally, the prerequisite for any candidate shall be that the candidate is a member in good standing of the club for at least one year. Nominees must be licensed Amateur radio operators.

*Officers and Directors are elected individually. Once elected, they comprise the Board of Directors.*