



Gold Coast Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING

May 24, 2026

The regular Board Meeting of the Gold Coast Amateur Radio Association, Inc., was called to order by President Ben Echavarria, N7BBE, at 4:05 pm on Zoom.

Present were Ben Echavarria, N7BBE, President; Ricki Witte, KJ4FSJ, Secretary; Dirk Basting, N4AN, Treasurer; Ricky Eaton, KD4HGR, Repeater Trustee; Tom Savoca, K9TJS, Public Information Officer; and Jeff Stahl, K4BH, Director at Large. Carol Sjursen, KJ4AWB, made her Zoom account available for the meeting but did not participate.

Old business: Board members had been informed by email that Dirk Basting was donating a new trailer. The interior is 12' x 6' and the trailer holds about 2,000 lbs. Kenny Hollenbeck, KE4NC, has agreed to keep the trailer at his house, and it is already there and beginning to be filled with club coolers and other items. Shelves will be added. The generator and empty gas cans will be stored in the trailer. Dirk will ascertain whether the club's insurance will cover the trailer. The emails exchanged between Dirk and other board members included a picture of the trailer with suggested decoration.

For the upcoming general meeting, the speaker will be Shirley Ritchie, N4JKI, will be the speaker and will talk about the history of the club and her husband Chuck who founded the club. Dirk has prepared the agenda and will donate some items to auction. For the July meeting, Dirk can talk about digital modes Yaesu C4FM/Fusion and WiresX.

The former club Zoom account is expiring and there was a discussion of whether to recreate a paid account (the free one only allows for 40 minute meetings). The consensus was that it is not worth \$15 a month and, for board meetings, there are free services for small groups.

Tom Savoca requested that someone from the board attend a meeting at the Margate City Hall on June 17th at 7:00 pm to accept a proclamation honoring ham radio. Other clubs will be notified and encouraged to attend wearing their respective club shirts.

Field Day: Some officials have been invited to Field Day. Parkland officials will be invited by Tom, who will coordinate with Jeff Stahl, who resides in Parkland. Dirk will take care of the food; he suggests pizza delivered for the evening meal and only cooking at lunch time. Ricki will provide chili. There is a sign in sheet for helping on Field Day, and Tom helped board members access it on Google through their gmail accounts.

General Membership Meeting: Dirk had drafted a proposed agenda for the upcoming membership meeting at Broward Health North, which was approved.

Jeff Stahl asked Tom Savoca if a club account could be created on Google for the testing process, which Tom agreed can be done.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:56 p.m.

Ricki Witte, KJ4FSJ
Secretary