



## Gold Coast Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

### MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING

June 21, 2026

The regular Board Meeting of the Gold Coast Amateur Radio Association, Inc., was called to order by President Ben Echavarria, N7BBE, at 4:15 pm on Zoom.

**Present** were Ben Echavarria, N7BBE, President; Ricky Eaton, KD4HGR, Vice President and Repeater Trustee; Ricki Witte, KJ4FSJ, Secretary; Tom Savoca, K9TJS, Public Information Officer; and Jeff Stahl, K4BH, Director at Large. Carol Sjursen, KJ4AWB, and Kenny Hollenbeck, KE4NC, had been invited because of their roles in Field Day. Carol was present; Kenny joined the Zoom meeting briefly by phone. Dirk Basting, N4AN, Treasurer, was traveling and unable to attend.

**Field Day.** The entire meeting was devoted to Field Day planning. Carol Sjursen shared onscreen a spreadsheet with a detailed list of responsibilities and opportunities based on the ARRL Rules for Field Day. The spreadsheet was filled in as those present discussed and decided who would be responsible for the various chores.

As usual, the Gold Coast station will be classed as 3-A, three stations operating simultaneously: single sideband, digital, and CW. Jeff Stahl will be in charge of the sideband station and will bring most of the radios, antennas, and other related equipment stored in his garage. Bill Mercer, KE8TPU, will assist with transporting equipment, including cinder blocks. Most of the club's equipment is now in the trailer, which Kenny will bring (although a cooler must be picked up in advance and filled with ice to hold the food Friday night). Ricky Eaton will be in charge of the digital station, and Dan Vasilca, AI4WW, will man the CW station. Dan will also submit the report of contacts to ARRL. There will also be a go-to station, which will require supervision by a member with sufficient knowledge. Banners for both Gold Coast and ARES/RACES will require some tall people to hang them.

Jeff, Ben, Tom, Carol, Ricki, and possibly Ricky plan to stay overnight and will racoon-proof the food. The City of Margate had presented a proclamation honoring amateur radio, which will be on display. Kenny will bring solar panels and batteries for solar operation. A satellite contact will be attempted. For the educational activity that earns points, Jeff will give a hands-on class on building Anderson Power Poles. The computers to be used for logging will use N1MM, and have already been synced. Public officials (from Margate) have been invited, as have people in the Broward County Emergency Management team (the “served agency”).

Family members of Dirk Basting, Jean Marie and Kara, have volunteered to handle the food shopping and preparation. Hot dogs, hamburgers, chili, and salads will be served on Saturday. Jeff will pick up coffee and donuts Sunday morning.

Some final arrangements will be tweaked at the general membership meeting on Tuesday, June 23rd. Ben has an unavoidable conflict and cannot be at Tuesday’s meeting. The Board Meeting was adjourned at 5:18 pm.

Ricki Witte, KJ4FSJ  
Secretary