

Gold Coast Amateur Radio Association (GCARA)

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Date: July 26, 2026

Time: 4:03 PM – 5:03 PM

Attendance

Present:

- Ben, N7BBE – President
- Ricky, KD4HGR – Vice President and Repeater Trustee
- Dirk, N4AN – Treasurer
- Tom, K9TJS – Public Information Officer (PIO)
- Jeff, K4BH – Director
- Carol, KJ4UAWB – Assistant to the PIO

Excused:

- Ricki, KJ4FSJ – Secretary

Dirk, N4AN, served as Acting Secretary for this meeting in addition to his duties as Treasurer.

Call to Order

President Ben called the meeting to order at 4:03 PM. A quorum was present, and the meeting proceeded with the published agenda.

Approval of Previous Minutes

The minutes of the previous Board of Directors meeting were reviewed and approved as presented.

DMR Repeater Replacement

The Board approved the purchase of a Motorola MotoTRBO SLR 5700 DMR Repeater at a cost of \$2,950. The motion was made by Ricky and approved by the Board. The repeater has since been ordered and will be funded from the Association's regular operating budget. Ricky reported that the current repeater site at Boca Raton Regional Hospital will no longer be available because the older section of the hospital is scheduled for demolition. He is actively working to identify a suitable new location.

Quarterly Member Meetings

The Board voted to reinstate quarterly member social meetings. The first quarterly member meeting is scheduled for Sunday, August 23, 2026, at 5:30 PM at Wings Plus, Coral Springs.

Field Day 2026

The Board reviewed the highly successful 2026 ARRL Field Day event. Dan, AI4WW, reported that the official Field Day entry has been submitted to the ARRL with a final score of 3,621 points. The Board also reviewed the successful deployment of the club's trailer during Field Day. The trailer, made available to the Association by Dirk, proved to be an excellent asset for display, storage, and support. Kenny KE4NC commented that, with minor modifications, the trailer could accommodate an operating station for future Field Day events.

Dirk presented the Field Day statistics and financial summary, including attendance, membership growth, food service, donations, operating results, and event finances. The Field Day Statistics and Treasurer's Financial Report are attached to these minutes and incorporated by reference.

Treasurer's Report

Dirk presented the Association's current financial status. The Treasurer's Report and supporting financial statements are attached and incorporated by reference. Dirk also announced a \$200 donation designated to support HamHelpers. The Board agreed that the funds will be forwarded through Kenny in support of the HamHelpers program.

Upcoming Meeting Speakers

Dirk reported that speakers have been confirmed for all regular monthly membership meetings through October 2026. The Board expressed its appreciation for the continued effort to provide members with a diverse and informative meeting program.

Amateur Extra Class License Course

Jeff announced that he will conduct an online Amateur Extra Class licensing course beginning Friday, September 18, 2026. The course will be held every Friday from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM for eight weeks. Members interested in participating should contact Jeff, K4BH, at K4BH@arrrl.net.

Promotion of Activities from Other Amateur Radio Clubs

Tom raised the question of promoting activities sponsored by other amateur radio clubs on the GCARA website. The Board agreed that selected events may be posted, limited to a brief announcement and/or a link to the sponsoring club's website. Carol noted that event information should be supplied by the respective clubs. The policy applies equally to BRARA, DCARC, the Palmetto Amateur Radio Club, and the Parrot Amateur Radio Club.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:03 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Dirk , N4AN

Treasurer Gold Coast Amateur Radio Association