



FLORIDA REPEATER COUNCIL, INC.

NEWSLETTER

Volume XIV Issue 1

<http://florida-repeaters.org>

July 2006

Minutes of February and Board Meeting

Florida Repeater Council, Inc.
Minutes of Business Meeting
February 11, 2006
Orlando, Florida

The open forum was opened at 3:57 PM by President Ray Kassis, N4LEM. President Ray welcomed all present at the open forum. He explained the meeting format. The following Directors and Staff were present:

Directors in attendance were:

District 1: Nilo Hernandez, W4HN
District 2: Mark Filla, KS4VT
District 3: Karen Power, KD4DJX
District 4: Mike Fletcher, NI4M
District 5: Ralph Betts, KC4SGG, Dan Babilla, KA00XH

District 6: Dave Armbrust, AE4MR
District 7: Ben Dickerson, K4EL, Scott West KG4VWD
District 8: Frank Butler, W4RH

Staff Members in attendance were:

President: Ray Kassis, N4LEM
Vice President: Ira Bickham, K8HRR
Secretary: Dana Rodakis, K4LK

Steve Wilkins KT4AZ reported that his interference problem was solved by securing new pair 147.12. It's a new coordination. He is not relinquishing 145.21. Steve will be submitting an application for new coordination. Received letter of relinquishment from Jim Maloney, K4AJM.

Paul Toth, NA4AR reported an interference problem to the 145.290 repeater in St. Petersburg. An uncoordinated repeater is transmitting on

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Treasurer's Report

Dana Rodakis, K4LK

Detailed Activity for 2005

<u>Income</u>	
Member Dues	1,682.91
Reimbursement	599.00
<u>Total</u>	<u>2,281.91</u>

<u>Expenses</u>	
Checking Service Charge	5.00
Corporation Registration	61.25
Internet Hosting Fee	347.10
Postage	642.07
Printing	1021.89
Supplies	107.67
Taxes	64.26
Telephone	369.20
<u>Total</u>	<u>2618.44</u>

Activity Since Last Newsletter

Balance 12/31/05:	\$7,945.47
Income:	\$1,265.74
Expenses:	\$1,073.63
Balance 06/30/06:	\$8,137.58

Board of Directors Meeting

The next Board of Directors meeting will be held at the Melbourne Hamfest on Saturday, October 14 from 3 to 5 PM. Visit www.pcars.org for hamfest info. The first part of the meeting will be an Open Forum where amateurs can present their problems or express opinions. This is followed by the annual business meeting.



*Communications is
the life blood of the
Florida Repeater
Council*

Staff Directory

PRESIDENT

Ray Kassis, N4LEM
1150 W King Street
Cocoa, FL 32922
E-Mail: president@florida-repeaters.org
(H) 321-783-0070 (H) FAX: 321-784-0070
(W) 321-632-1000 (W) FAX: 321-636-0000

VICE PRESIDENT

Ira R. Bickham Jr., K8HRR
260 Tiki Drive
Merritt Island FL, 32953
E-Mail: k8hrr@arrl.net
321-453-2309

SECRETARY

Marshall Paisner, N4BIF
560 E Mount Vernon Drive
Plantation, FL 33325-3600
954-873-2234 (mobile)
E-Mail: n4bif@bellsouth.net

**29/144/222/420/902/1240 MHz COORDINATOR/
DATABASE MANAGER/WEBMASTER/TREASURER**

Dana G. Rodakis, K4LK
6280 Fairfield Avenue South
St. Petersburg, FL 33707
(H) 727-381-3344
(FAX) 727-347-6275
E-Mail: coord@florida-repeaters.org
WebSite: <http://florida-repeaters.org>

6-METER COORDINATOR

Matthew Bush, KA9RIX
237 East Madeira Avenue
Madeira Beach, FL 33708
727-452-4200
E-Mail: 6meter@florida-repeaters.org

DISTRICT #1 DIRECTOR

Nilo A. Hernandez, W4HN
16032 SW 64 Terrace
Miami, FL 33193
305-383-8576
E-Mail: dir1@florida-repeaters.org
(Dade and Monroe Counties)

DISTRICT #1 VICE-DIRECTOR

Miguel Rodriguez, W4NR

DISTRICT #2 DIRECTOR

Mark Filla, KS4VT
20893 LaQuesta Court
Boca Raton, FL 33428-1234
(H) 561-479-0737
(W) 561-233-4417
E-Mail: dir2@florida-repeaters.org
(Broward, Martin, and Palm Beach Counties)

DISTRICT #3 DIRECTOR

Karen Power, KD4DJX
2949 Garden Terrace N.E.
Palm Bay, FL 32905
(H) 321-722-9849
(W) 321-727-2311 or 321-722-4444
E-Mail: dir3@florida-repeaters.org
(Brevard, Indian River, Okeechobee, and St. Lucie Counties)

DISTRICT #4 DIRECTOR

Mike Fletcher, NI4M
1434 Clarion Drive
Valrico, FL 33594-7149
813-621-2333
E-Mail: dir4@florida-repeaters.org
(DeSota, Hardee, Hernando, Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas, and Polk Counties)

DISTRICT #4 VICE-DIRECTOR

Tony Stone, W4TAS

DISTRICT #5 DIRECTOR

Ralph Betts, KC4SGG
1701 Lee Road #G31
Winter Park, FL 32789
321-282-0406
E-Mail: dir5@florida-repeaters.org
(Lake, Orange, Osceola, Seminole, Sumter, Volusia and Counties)

DISTRICT #5 VICE-DIRECTOR

Dan Babilla, KA0OXH

DISTRICT #6 DIRECTOR

David Armbrust, AE4MR
3024 Salem Avenue
Sarasota, FL 34232
(H) 941-378-1701
(W) 941-922-8857
E-Mail: dir6@florida-repeaters.org
(Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry, Highlands, Lee, and Sarasota Counties)

DISTRICT #7 DIRECTOR

Ben Dickerson, K4EL
1421 South Water Street
Starke, FL 32091
(H) 904-964-3476
(W) 904-964-5001
E-Mail: dir7@florida-repeaters.org
(Alachua, Baker, Bradford, Citrus, Clay, Columbia, Dixie, Duval, Flagler, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Lafayette, Levy, Marion, Nassau, Putnam, St. Johns, Suwannee, and Union Counties)

DISTRICT #7 VICE-DIRECTOR

Fredrick "Scott" West, KG4VWD

DISTRICT #8 DIRECTOR

Frank Butler, W4RH
323 Elliott Road SE
Fort Walton Beach, FL 32548
850-244-5425
E-Mail: dir8@florida-repeaters.org
(Bay, Calhoun, Escambia, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Jefferson, Leon, Liberty, Madison, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, Taylor, Wakulla, Walton, and Washington Counties)

FRC NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Marshall Paisner, N4BIF
FRC Secretary
560 E Mount Vernon Drive
Plantation, FL 33325-3600
954-873-2234 (mobile)

*Your Staff and
Directors are
willing to help
you. Please
avail yourself of
their services.*

NOTICE

Please send all certified mail to District 1 Director Nilo Hernandez. He will sign for the mail and forward it

2006 DATABASE CHANGES
(1/1/06 through 6/30/06)
(Listed in reverse chronological order)

For more detail on these changes see the "Database Changes" page on our website.

**NEW COORDINATIONS &
TRANSFERS**

146.850 Astor
147.165 Chuluota
442.750 Altamonte Springs
147.345 Ft. Pierce
444.800 Ft. Pierce
146.850 Seminole
442.625 Seminole
147.360 Miami
145.210 Orlando
444.225 Plant City
224.180 Plantation
224.680 Plantation
146.700 Englewood
442.150 Miami
145.250 Titusville
224.200 Leesburg
443.675 Davie
443.100 New Port Richey
147.045 Marianna
146.970 West Palm Beach
147.195 Bradenton
444.200 Jacksonville
442.450 Ft. Myers
147.225 Cape Coral
146.670 Big Pine Key
442.400 Big Pine Key
146.715 Plantation Key
443.450 Plantation Key
444.850 Marathon
443.675 Lutz
147.000 Safety Harbor
444.000 Tampa
927.550 Miami
927.650 Weston
147.090 Altamonte Springs
147.120 Orlando
224.960 Plantation
443.200 Plantation
145.350 Lehigh Acres
443.700 Hollywood
442.650 Winter Springs
146.745 Espanola
444.550 Lakeland
442.275 Melrose
224.880 Pembroke Pines
444.250 Boynton Beach
444.025 Port Richey
147.255 Orange Park

FREQUENCY CHANGES

442.050 Venice

DE-COORDINATIONS

146.760 Holiday
147.150 Holiday
443.975 Holiday
444.425 Holiday
146.910 Spring Hill
442.950 Palm Beach Gardens

APPROVED RELOCATIONS

None

(Meeting Minutes continued from page 1)

144.700 MHz and receiving on 145.300 MHz and is linked to 444.300 MHz in Lakeland with a callsign of WP3BC. The coordinator received the email and forwarded it to the District 4 director. Riley Hollingsworth has been notified and has responded. Paul also reported that AH6AT is transmitting APRS on 144.830 MHz.

Ed Allen, WA4ISB reported interference on 145.130 due to uncoordinated co-channel repeater in Valrico. The callsign of the uncoordinated repeater is either KB4BS or KD4BS. Database manager will send Ed an email reporting who is coordinated for FCC enforcement action.

Orlando Rojas, WJ4N reported that there is a list of the UHF pairs on www.pbcares.org that were allocated for emergency portable use by the FRC and subsequently rescinded a year ago. Director Mark will contact the site webmaster and copy all other Directors.

John Deanne, KD4MGR reported his 146.850 was revoked. He has sent updates but never received an acknowledgement. Update was recently resubmitted. The database manager will re-instate the coordinations.

Director Mike explained the current status of a process to allocate low-power portable backyard repeaters.

Ray Crepeau, K1HG inquired about the UHF emergency pairs. Director Mike explained that we allocated some but later rescinded due to existing links. The issue will be worked in the future.

Director Mike reported that the upside-down repeater in Tampa is now right-side up.

President Ray Kassis explained that he attended the FADCA meeting, reiterated his message in the newsletter and addressed the FADCA board. He challenged FADCA and our board of directors to step up and manage our spectrum in the digital age. George Jones, W4AQR reported that in Texas 145.600, 145.610 and 145.670 have been allocated for D-Star. The channels are 6.25 kHz wide.

The open forum was closed at 4:37 PM by President Kassis.

The annual business meeting was called to order at 4:37 PM on February 11, 2006 by President Ray Kassis, N4LEM. The Secretary called attendance and determined that a quorum of qualified Directors were present:

Directors in attendance were:

- District 1: Nilo Hernandez, W4HN
- District 2: Mark Filla, KS4VT
- District 3: Karen Power, KD4DJX
- District 4: Mike Fletcher, NI4M

District 5: Ralph Betts, KC4SGG, Dan Babilla, KA00XH
 District 6: Dave Armbrust, AE4MR
 District 7: Ben Dickerson, K4EL, Scott West KG4VWD
 District 8:

Staff Members in attendance were:

President: Ray Kassis, N4LEM
 Vice President: Ira Bickham, K8HRR
 Secretary: Dana Rodakis, K4LK

RE-ELECTION OF PRESIDENT AND STAFF:

Vice President Ira Bickham took charge and opened nominations for President. Director Karen made a motion which was seconded by several other directors. Director Mike called for the nominations be closed. Ray Kassis was re-elected President.

The directors of districts 1, 3, 5 and 7 are due for re-election. Director Mark made motion, director Dave seconded. Motion passed. Directors of districts 1, 3, 5 and 7 were re-elected.

Director Mark reported that Marshall Paisner, N4BIF expressed interest in serving as Secretary. President Ray asked for a recommendation from the board. President Ray appointed Marshall as secretary with concurrence of the board.

President Ray re-appointed Ira Bickham as Vice President with approval of the Board. Director Ralph expressed interest in serving as Second Vice President. Director Nilo pointed out that the FRC By-laws may prevent it. Director Mike proposed that we consider a change to section 6.4(a) of the By-laws at the Melbourne meeting to allow the President to appoint a Second Vice President. Director Ben seconded. The Melbourne meeting is scheduled for October 14 and 15. Director Karen will secure a meeting room.

President Ray appointed Dana Rodakis, K4LK as Coordinator, Treasurer, Database Manager and Webmaster with the approval of the Board of Directors and Matt Bush, KA9RIX as 6-meter coordinator.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Reading of minutes was dispensed with. 617 newsletters were mailed, 26 came back.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Balance 9/3/05:	\$7,759.23
Income:	\$658.51
Expenses:	\$1,145.49
Balance 2/8/06:	\$7,272.25

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A detailed financial activity report for 2005 will be published in the July 2006 newsletter. Our available balance has been slowly declining over time due to the FAX phone bill, the internet hosting and the increasing costs of printing and mailing 2 newsletters per year. The possibility of not sending hardcopy newsletters or increasing the donation amount was discussed. President Ray queried the audience as to preference of receiving hardcopy newsletter versus a download from the Council web site. The vote favored soft copy. The July 2006 will be published and the issue will be considered at the Melbourne meeting.

COORDINATOR:

In 2005, there were 105 new coordinations and transfers, no frequency changes, 16 de-coordinations (not including the big list of 4/13/05) and 1 approved re-location.

DATABASE MANAGER:

The database was submitted to the ARRL on January 10, 2006. The report included 957 repeaters.

WEBMASTER:

We've been getting hit with transfer overage charges lately. We have a limit of 2 GB per month and need to open a new web hosting account with sufficient limits and suffer the usual transition problems like the form-to-mail scripts used in the on-line application submissions.

REPORTS OF DIRECTORS:

District 1: no problems

District 2: no problems

District 3: KD4DJW 442.400 will be getting a new trustee, Vice director will be moving to Georgia

District 4: 444.600 is now right-side up; Valrico 145.13 is back on causing interference to Venice; interference to NI4CE 145.29 in St. Petersburg

District 5: Steve Wilkins is on 147.120; N4SA relinquished 147.090 at Melbourne is pending Dick Fess, SARG, repeater has been active about a month; District 5 directors are performing a complete audit to determine repeater status.

William Caldwell, KD4JYD appointed by Ralph as a second vice-director. Email is kd4jyd@orlandouhf.com, phone book 407 808 5454

District 6: Valrico is interfering with Venice

District 7: 146.910 is active in Gainesville remove from list; 145.47 in High Springs is suspected as being down. Another amateur has requested the pair.

District 8: no report

OLD BUSINESS:

The Coordinator will submit a notice of proposed coordination (NOPC) or de-coordination (NOPD) to all Directors for approval before it is issued to the applicant. At least five Directors must approve, including the affected district. The NOPC or NOPD will be sent to FRC staff only, not the applicant. This approval procedure was subsequently changed so that only the affected and neighboring districts need to vote, it must be anonymous and be a minimum of 3 Directors. If there is any dissent then the request will go to the entire Board of Directors for discussion.

The Treasurer will publish a detailed report of financial activity in the July newsletter for the previous calendar year.

The Board of Directors voted to uphold the Paisner 145.270 coordination.

The following change was made to the on-line application process: verbiage was added to on-line applications: applicant should hear something from their director within 15 days and a subsequent email from the Database Manager or Coordinator.

An additional change was made to the on-line application process: Demand a street address or ASRN (antenna structure registration number) on long form updates and applications for new coordinations.

If a Director updates a repeater on behalf of the trustee, then he/she must return a copy of the update to the trustee with the new expiration date.

NEW BUSINESS:

Who do we accept updates from? Considerable discussion followed. The Board of Directors will discuss via email and define the procedure by the Melbourne meeting.

Change coordination policy to reserve 146.940 MHz for emergency use and no new fixed coordinations be issued. Considerable discussion followed about how these portable repeaters can be used under what circumstances existing 146.940 repeaters maintain coordination.

Director Mike presented a proposal to form a coordinating sub-committee with representatives from Florida ARRL sections (north, west and south). The coordinator would perform the initial research and pass the information on to the committee, who will then secure the required approvals and return it to the coordinator for issue. Directors Mark, Mike and Dave were appointed to serve as coordinating sub-committee – Director Mike is chairman.

Director Mike proposed the President appoint a sub-committee to study the future direction of the Council. That sub-committee would study and propose at the Melbourne

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meeting and voted upon at Orlando: (1) adding directors from FADCA, weak-signal and emergency management, (2) expanding our role to include spectrum management above 30 MHz within the guidelines of FCC part 97, (3) decide on the future of the hardcopy newsletter, and (4) changes to the web site and email. President Ray appointed Director Dan, Mark and Mike to the Technical sub-committee. President Ray appointed Director Dave, Nilo and Ralph to the Policy sub-committee.

Director Mike suggested we schedule open forums at the Tampa and Miami hamfests. Approved.

The choice of UHF pair for emergency portable repeater use was tabled until Melbourne. Will be discussed via email. Database manager will search the database for the least-used UHF pair.

Database manager needs to create new fields and move the sponsor name, address, phone, callsign, and email address.

List of expired repeaters for decoordination was reviewed by the Directors. Database Manager authorized to decoordinate anything on the list 90 days from today (unless updated).

The meeting was adjourned at 6:10 PM by President Ray Kassis.

Respectfully submitted
Dana G. Rodakis, K4LK, Secretary

Short-Form Repeater Coordination Renewal

(This renewal can also be submitted online at www.florida-repeaters.org. Long-form repeater or trustee updates must be submitted online or via hardcopy.)

Trustee: _____ Callsign: _____
 Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____
 Phone _____ E-Mail: _____
 Repeater callsign: _____ Repeater City: _____
 Repeater output frequencies: _____

I CERTIFY that there have been NO TECHNICAL CHANGES to the repeater(s) listed above and that the repeaters listed are FULLY OPERATIONAL and IN SERVICE as of this date.

Signature: _____ Call: _____ Date: _____

We are updating our database with link or control frequencies in use. This information is held confidential. As of 09/11/2004, new coordinations may be issued on any frequency pairs between 440 to 441.975 MHz output (445 to 446.975 MHz input) unless reported to be in-use for links or control.

Link or Control Frequency (MHz)	Use (link or ctrl)	Polarization (Horiz or vert)	Antenna Direction	In use? (Yes or No)
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Mail this form to: Dana G. Rodakis, K4LK, 6280 Fairfield Ave. So., St. Petersburg, FL 33707-2323.

Membership Dues Submission

We must make it clear that it is NOT necessary to pay dues to receive the services of this ARRL-recognized agency for Florida repeater coordination. Members help cover the costs of administering the services of repeater coordination.

Yes! I want to be a MEMBER of the Florida Repeater Council. Attached, please find my remittance of \$10.00 for dues for a year beginning _____. I understand that this remittance qualifies the "Repeater Trustee" to be a member of the Florida Repeater Council, Inc. for the duration indicated.

Please make checks payable to: Florida Repeater Council and mail to: Dana G. Rodakis, K4LK, 6280 Fairfield Ave. So., St. Petersburg, FL 33707-2323.

Signature: _____ Call: _____ Date: _____

FLORIDA REPEATER COUNCIL, INC.
Office of the Secretary/Treasurer
Dana G. Rodakis
6280 Fairfield Ave. So.
St. Petersburg, FL 33707-2323

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

FROM THE DATABASE MANAGER

We are attempting to update our database with link or control frequencies in use. These frequencies may be supplied by submitting a SHORT or LONG FORM update. This information is held confidential. As of 09/11/2004, new coordinations may be issued on any frequency pairs between 440 to 441.975 MHz output (445 to 446.975 MHz input) unless reported to be in-use for links or control.

The Council web site contains a wealth of information, including the latest repeater listings, Council By-Laws, coordination policy, minutes of the Board of Directors meetings, and links to other coordinating agencies and pages of interests to the amateur radio operators. For the most up-to-date repeater listings visit the following URL: <http://florida-repeaters.org/dblist.htm>

Repeater status reports and applications for new or changed coordinations can be submitted on-line by visiting the following URL: <http://florida-repeaters.org/frcappl.htm>
