



Baldwin County Amateur Radio Club (N4MZ)
PO Box 491
Robertsdale, AL 36567

Minutes of the Regular Monthly Club Meeting held January 16, 2025. The meeting was called to order at 18:30 hours CDT by President Greg Powers, N4RAI. There were 39 members and 10 guests present. There was a quorum.

Open Meeting, recite pledge of allegiance.

Visitors:

Greg welcomed: Lee Caver, Brent Goodwin, Baldwin 911; Marilyn Phipps, KA4JKW; Tom Phipps, KA4CSG; Kyle Quin, KM4QKY;; Patrick Kenny, N4PCK; Luther Peebles; Robert Fitch, W4IV; Rex Greenwell, K0KP; Tony Olson, K0KLY

Secretary's report- Pattilynne Miller-Skeele KM4ZGB

Minutes from previous meetings are posted to the website. Correspondence from Jackson Amateur Radio Club about their Capital City Hamfest 2025 in Jackson MS. Jan31 (4pm-7pm) -Feb 1 (8am-3pm); Tables \$25. and Admission \$10/person. VE testing on Saturday at 8am.

Treasurer's Report- Tom Wallace, KN4DND

Tom reported club treasury activity and balances as of 12/31/2024. Reminded members that January is month to renew for 2025 membership and cost is \$15.



Report of VE Team- Joel Emmett- Ron Thomas, N4RT

Greg reported for Joel: VE testing took place on January 4th at the Daphne Library North Porch. Session was attended by 5 and yielded 1 Technician and 3 Generals. Next session in Daphne will be March 1st.

Ron reported the 4 VE sessions held during 2024 in Spanish Fort at Westminster Village yielded 13 new hams. The next VE testing at Westminster Village Clubhouse, Spanish Fort, will take place February 15th at 9:30 am.

Winlink Activity- John Acton, K7ACT and Ron Thomas, N4RT

John reported that 40 operators are participating in weekly Winlink check-in exercises. Remember that the software for Winlink is free. John posts a new question for Winlink Net members every Tuesday. It is also posted to the club website: N4MZ.com.

Ron reported on the AB4WV gateway that is on an 800 ft tower in Spanish Fort, and it has unique features: if internet is lost, it will save the messages and then send out on Vara HF to a gateway where internet is functioning.

OLD Business – Greg Powers, N4RAI

- The Christmas Party held in Foley was enjoyed by all.
- The 10-meter contest in December was not well attended; but those who did participate had an enjoyable time and made eleven DX contacts. 10-meters is still open so Technicians can still work DX stations.
- At the November meeting a motion was passed to investigate purchasing a Communication Service Monitor. The club maintains 5 VHF and 2 UHF repeaters, so we need test equipment. Ron found one at bargain price of \$1,000. Where new ones cost \$10-12K and used ones usually 2K.

Motion made by Richard Tellman, seconded by Ron Thomas: to allocate up to \$2000 in the 2025 budget for CSM equipment. Motion carried.



New Business – Greg Powers, N4RAI

- Winter Field Day January 25th and 26th. We will meet at Mack & Jerry's for brunch on Friday at 9am then go to Camp Silvercreek to install antennas and prepare the facility. The event runs from 10am Saturday to 4pm Sunday. Long range forecast calling for seasonable temperatures and a good chance of rain. Sign up for a time slot, all are welcome! N4FJP has updated software for this event so laptops will need to be updated ahead of the weekend.
- Budget for 2025 will be presented for vote at the February meeting.

Good of the Club: We have an opportunity for a Net Control Operator for the 2nd Monday @ 7pm each month.

Evening Program:

There was a video presentation on 10-meter repeaters from Richard Tellman.

GMRS Repeater: Jared working with a GMRS group to see if they have any interest in joining up to install a GMRS repeater. There is no test for GMRS license \$35. During disaster would be good to also have GMRS in our ham shack at EOC.

The meeting was adjourned at 19:45pm CDT
Submitted, Pattilynne Miller-Skeele, Secretary.