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

Minutes of the Regular Monthly Club Meeting held MAY 15, 2025. The meeting was called to order at 18:30 hours CDT by President Greg Powers, N4RAI. There were 39 members and 1 guest present. There was a quorum.

Meeting Opened with reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Welcome Members & Visitors - Greg Powers, N4RAI

Greg welcomed visitors: Mike Kouns.

<u>Secretary's Report</u> – Pattilynne Miller-Skeele, KM4ZGB

Pattilynne reported minutes posted on website and received no correspondence this month.

<u>Report of Treasurer</u> – **Tom Wallace, KN4DMD** reported treasury activity during month of April and balances as of 03/31/2025. Tom reported on the progress of securing an online way to pay for membership and not cost the club any money for the transaction. Tom will bring recommendation in June.

Report from VE Team Leaders - Joel Emmett, W2BJN & Ron Thomas, N4RT

Joel reported May testing yielded 2 Technicians. The next VE testing in the Daphne Library North Porch will be Saturday, July 12th at 9:00am..

Ron reported the VE testing session in April yielded 1 Amateur Extra. The next VE testing at will be held on June 21st at 9:00 am, at the Westminster Village Clubhouse in Spanish Fort.

Winlink Activity - John Acton, K7ACT, Greg Powers, N4RAI & Ron Thomas, N4RT

John reported that 18-23 operators are participating in Winlink weekly check-ins. The table-top exercise in preparation for 2025 hurricane season had 14 participants who did daily check-ins May 12th-15th with different questions each day. Greg reported the results of the exercise with a summary by AI analysis of data.

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 Thomas, N4RT set up a Winlink station at the club's POTA and demonstrated Winlink contacts on VHF & HF to all participants. .

Old Business - Greg Powers, N4RAI

Greg reported that all materials have arrived for the back-up power for the Weeks Bay Repeater except the PWR gate. It is being made my West Mountain and should be here by June.

Jared is still working on the GMRS project.

Coming Events - Greg Powers, N4RAI

May 17th is the Make A Wish Foundation Trail Blaze through Talladega National Forest which needs operators. Contact Ken Bell, K4EES to participate.

May 17th is Mobile Hamfest . Joe McIntosh, K4JOM, has reserved a table. If others have items they wish to sell contact him.

June 7th is Museum Weekend at USS Alabama. To operate contact Ken Bell, K4EES.

June 28th & 29th is Summer Field Day N4MZ will be activating at Camp Silver Creek in Silverhill. July 26th is Alabama QSO party and August 16 & 17th is Huntsville Hamfest.

Good of the Club - Greg Powers, N4RAI

Tom asked members to consider increase in membership dues to \$20.00/ year.

Greg reported on hearing the iPhone 15 or 16 can be used to connect to satellite when in area where no cell service is available. He achieved this test while in the Talladega National Forest on May 3rd.

Evening Program - Ron Thomas, N4RT and Bill Dionne, N4DM

"EH Antennas for Dummies": brought 2 EH antennas that were built by Ron & Bill then discussed the theory and effective results of each antenna using WSPR and low power digital signals. Transmits well but receiving signals is compromised. Contacts were greater than 1300 miles using FT8 software.

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