



**Baldwin County Amateur Radio Club (N4MZ)**

**PO Box 491**

**Robertsdale, AL 36567**

**Minutes of the Regular Monthly Club Meeting was held APRIL 16, 2026. The meeting was called to order at 18:00 hours CDT by Vice President Richard Tellman, KQ4LTM. There were 36 members and EIGHT guests present. There was a quorum.**

**Meeting Opened with reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.**

**Welcome Members & Visitors - Richard Tellman, KQ4LTM**

**Secretary's Report – Pattilynne Miller, N5PLM**

Pattilynne reported minutes posted on website and no correspondence received.

**Report of Treasurer – Tom Wallace, KN4DND** reported treasury activity during the month of March and balances as of 03/31/2026.

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

Joel reported testing at Daphne library on 4/11 had 5 applicants who took 8 exams and yielded: 2 Technicians, 1 General and 1 Extra Class. As a requirement of ARRL, we used Exam Tools for the first time, with laptops, provided and tested by Ron in March at the Westminster Village session. Exam Tools enables tests to be automatically graded and it timestamps every test. Entire test session took only 50 minutes with average times for Technician testing 8 minutes, General 18 minutes and Extra 25minutes.

Ron reported the next testing at Westminster Village Bayside Clubhouse on May 16<sup>th</sup> @ 9:30am. Two people have already registered as they are enrolled in the WV Technician Course. Four spots are still open; people interested in upgrading should go to ExamTool.org and sign up. Instructions can be found on website [www.QSL.net/AB4WV](http://www.QSL.net/AB4WV) or [www.hamstudy.org](http://www.hamstudy.org).

**Winlink Activity - John Acton, K7ACT,**

John reported that the weekly check-ins on Winlink continue. We lost one but gained two.

**Repeater and Trustee Report - Chuck Pharis, WA4USA & Joel Emmett, W2BJN**

Tom Wallace, KN4DND reported the UHF Repeater was installed, but needs to be higher on the tower to improve functioning. The DMR repeater is doing great. Joel will need to check on the .685 repeater as reportedly not functioning well.

**ARES Report – John Acton, K7ACT & Greg Powers, N4RAI**

Still looking for new Emergency Coordinator. Ken will help with the transition once a new EC is identified. Contact Jared if you are interested. NEXT ARES meeting will be building yagi antennas for interested members. Let Jared know of your interest and cost is \$15.



## **Announcements – Richard Tellman, KQ4LTM**

A member, Paul Reid Jr, K4PKR is a Silent Key. His funeral will be Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup> at 11am Hughes Funeral Home in Daphne. Last year Paul gave us a training session by reviewing an actual disaster that he participated in as a government employee. Secretary will send a condolence card to his family on behalf of the Club.

DMR Repeater UPDATE: Dr Kris Koenemann, W4KRS, reported that Mobile has installed an additional repeater and connected it to the Gulf Coast Group to expand the reach

RDAR EVENT: Matthew Foutch, AE4JC, reported on the Radar Rally that he and Cory participated in Blakley Park. The event was started by ZS6BNE and runs in April and November. Goal is to Set up in field get 5 contacts then move to another area set up and get 5 contacts....repeat . If walking must move 0.6 miles each time, If bicycling move 3 kilos, and if by car move 5 kilos. Used a Buddy stick pro and did 20 meters. The team came in 2 or 3<sup>rd</sup> in the competition.

## **New Business: Richard Tellman, KQ4LTM**

Joel Emmett, W2BJN: A motion made by Joel to “Purchase six Chromebooks, cases and software needed to comply with the ARRL testing requirements at maximum expenditure of \$475.00. Seconded by Ron Thomas, N4RT and motion passed.

Operators needed to assist Coast Guard: Mike Palmer, KW4HB looking for operators that have VHF capability to monitor marine channel 16 and can transmit 20 miles offshore into the Gulf of Mexico. Every so often there is planned outage of the Rescue 21 System nationwide. Volunteer operators would receive a “blast out message” and asked to listen to marine channel 16 for a designated period of time. Any issues that surfaced could be relayed via radio or phone to Mike Palmer KW4HB as the coordinator of this program. If you are willing and able to monitor and report issues on Marine channel 16 during such times that the system is down (planned or crashed) let Mike know immediately.

## **Coming Events – Richard Tellman, KQ4LTM**

- May 2<sup>nd</sup> is the last weekend Cheaha State Park Event, and we will need volunteer operators. Let Jared or Greg know if you are interested.
- May 2<sup>nd</sup> Tailgater at the Foley United Methodist Church
- May 21<sup>st</sup> ARES will build a yagi antenna to use in the upcoming fox hunt. Cost will be \$15. Let Jared know if you want to join the 5:30 pm ARES meeting to build the yagi antenna.
- May 30<sup>th</sup> 9am to 12 noon Fairhope having a Hurricane Preparedness Expo and invited BCARC. Jared will be there with table others can come and help let Jared know of your interest.
- JUNE 6<sup>th</sup> to have Fox hunt to improve geolocating skills and use new yagi antennas
- June 27 & 28<sup>th</sup> Summer Field Day at Camp Silver Creek in Silverhill. Camp prep is on Friday.

## **Evening Program –Richard Tellman, KQ4LTM**

Richard class on How J-pole works using an Ask-Dav-#302 video: “An unusual J-pole Antenna”  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pp3PsWz\\_vll](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pp3PsWz_vll)

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The meeting adjourned at 19:15 pm CDT Submitted,  
Pattilynne Miller, N5PLM, Secretary.