



Baldwin County Amateur Radio Club (N4MZ)

PO Box 491

Robertsdale, AL 36567

Minutes of the Regular Monthly Club Meeting was held AUGUST 20, 2026. The meeting was called to order at 1800 CDT by President Jared Budlong, KQ4UAQ. There were 20 members and four guests present (due to severe weather we had low attendance). There was a quorum.

Meeting Opened with reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Welcome Members & Visitors - Jared Budlong, KQ4UAQ

Secretary's Report – Pattilynne Miller, N5PLM

Pattilynne reported minutes posted on website and we received two QSO cards which were given to Joel.

Report of Treasurer – Tom Wallace, KN4DND reported treasury activity during the month OF JULY and balances as of 07/31/2026.

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

- Ron traveled to Huntsville for Hamfest
- Joel reported that the next session at Daphne Public Library was August 1st and yielded 2 Technicians and 2 General upgrades. The next testing session at Westminster Village Bayside Clubhouse on September 19th at 0930 CDT and October 3rd will be the next session at Daphne Public Library.
- As the testing is now all digital, people interested in testing or upgrading should go to ExamTool.org and sign up. Instructions are also available at www.QSL.net/AB4WV for Westminster Village or www.n4mz.com for Daphne Public Library.

Winlink Activity - John Acton, K7ACT

- John reported that the weekly check-ins on Winlink continue with approximately 75 people participating

ARES Report – Henry Battaglia, KQ4PJM & Natacha Torrez

- Natacha reported on the 2-day EOC practice training that was attended by 5 of our members.
- Natacha said Escambia County is hosting IC300 & IC400 in September held in Pensacola.
- Meeting was held with the Baldwin Cities Emergency Manager went well and now they understand what ARES does with EOC and can also help cities during disaster.

New Business – Jared Budlong, KQ4UAQ

- Jared reported that the club to have a POTA at Blakely State Park on October 17th
- Steve (KD0KNM) has a ICOM 7000 radio (for \$950) and other equipment for sale. Check Facebook marketplace for info (seller name is Dreamlet Lamberson)



Coming Events – Jared Budlong, KQ4UAQ

- Date to be set for fall POTA.
- August 22-23rd is the Huntsville Hamfest and some members will likely be going.
- September 26th in Gulf Shores is the MS-150/Tour de Beach Event. Only 1 day and will have 5 rest stops (Need volunteers).
- Christmas party will be on December 17th. In reviewing the menu for Wolf Bay and price increases, we decided to check out alternatives that might be available. Examine at next meeting so we all need to attend and vote.

Good of the Club – Jared Budlong, KQ4UAQ

- Jarod discussed a free opportunity for hams to contact other hams over the internet. Information at <https://hamsoverip.com> and to sign up for an account go to <https://premium.hamsoverip.com>.
- Reminder of the DMR talk-around following the ARES net on Thursdays at 2000 CDT, 31011 Color Code1 and Timeslot 2
- New Club Calendar is now available through our website thanks to Emery Wooten, KC5LIO
- 685 Repeater is set in automatic mode to accept digital and analog signals. In this case the CTCSS is your friend to get you into the analog signal. Digital activity on this repeater is increasing.

Evening Program –Richard Tellman, KQ4LTM

Richard discussed how to locate QRM in your home. You can use a radio on AM station listening for interference or purchase a special device that he demonstrated. Turn off all breakers at the Electric panel and then bring each one, 1 room at a time, listening for more than 30 seconds for interference, before you turn on the next breaker. With today's many electronic devices in the home it could be difficult to locate so be patient and do not hurry. Once located use chokes to solve the issue or turn off the device/unplug the device when you want to use your amateur radio. LED lights are notorious for causing interference with radio waves. If you clear your house/apartment, then you may need to discuss with your neighbor and clear their dwelling.

The meeting adjourned at 19:30 pm CDT Submitted,
Pattilynne Miller, N5PLM, Secretary.