



Cheyenne Mountain Repeater Group, Inc.

2023 Annual Meeting

MINUTES from Annual Meeting.

2023-10-28

CMRG OFFICE TERMS

Office	Name, Callsign	Term Ends
Chairman	Dave Novotny, WA6IFI	2024
Vice Chairman	Rich Painter, N0RAP	2026
Secretary	Phebe Swope, K1PCS	2024
Treasurer	Jim Johnson, W0GTA	2025
Director at Large	Doug Nielsen, N7LEM	2025
Director at Large	Rick Hendricks, KE0GB	2026
Technical Director	Kit Haskins, KA0WUC	Appointed
Membership	Rick Hendricks, KE0GB	Appointed
Webmaster	Doug Nielsen, N7LEM	Appointed

At 11:00 am MDT there were 15 participants

Phebe Swope - K1PCS
 Dave Nvotny - WA6IFI
 Greg Liverman - K0MGL
 Doug Nielsen - N7LEM
 Ben Faulring - AB2SG
 Dennis Major - N0ABC
 John Kyriazis - N6VEG
 Jon Cashett - KJ0CFW
 Rob Roller - N7LV
 Gil Rogers - K0GWR
 Ana Rogers - K0QME
 Rich Painter - N0RAP
 Roger Oakey - W3MIX
 Paul Coleman - AA0DY
 Jim Johnson - W0GTA

Call to Order:

11:00 am MDT: Opening and welcome by Dave Novotny.

Jim reported that the fund raising Amazon Smile is gone, but did get a pay out from them.

Minutes of Last Meeting:

Phebe did a quick overview of last year's minutes, Greg moved and all approved the 2022

minutes.

(11:13 Rich Painter having technical issues. He eventually overcame them.)

Treasurer's Report:

Jim provided a treasurer's report:

We have \$32K in liquid funds. All but one vendor is sending checks in on time. The bills are getting paid. He has things working successfully through the use of digital checks. But, many payments do come as paper checks and he goes once a week to the mail box to get them.

Committee Report: (Webmaster, Technical, Membership)

Doug reported he did a Library C demonstration showing the PPRAA go kit.

Doug was able to gain full control the cmrg.org domain name after a lot of effort.

The web site is now a GoDaddy C suite version giving Doug more control on the web site content. Phebe admonished members to help provide Doug with content for the web site.

Dave thanked Doug, and loves that Doug got control of the web site and domain name.

Elections:

Dave thanked present board members and that we have two seats that are up for re-election.

Received emails from both members and they are willing to continue in their seats.

(Slide presentation technical issue, suggested Dave stop share and restart it. That worked.)

Received questions about who has paid dues.

Gil Rogers showed cell phone payment confirmation from PayPal

Dues paid through the Pay Pal site and checks mailed in are picked up by Jim for processing.

He also maintains the Membership list.

11:35 Dave back into the meeting

Dave asking for nominations for Members at Large, do we have an email nomination or a self-nomination?

Doug Nielsen nominated himself. It was 2nded by Gil.

Roger moved to close the nominations, John seconded it.

Motion to accept 3 members by John, Greg seconded it.

Member at Large positions expire every 2 years.

Rich and Rick terms expire in 2026.

2023 in Review:

This year Dave is recovering from Back surgery.

Rick, KE0GB, went onto Cheyenne mountain Repeater Site to troubleshoot the 448.000 and 448.100 repeaters. They are now operational. The 6M antenna using only one bay of the 2 and it is functioning well.

Baculatite Mesa now connecting. Pueblo area now in the repeater coverage.

2023 Accomplishments.

Cheyenne Mountain

Baculite Mesa: Installed 448.550 repeater and link system. All vhf repeaters are now linked

Old Business:

We will continue to support PPRAA through Megafest donation.

The Amazon Smile fund raising program has been discontinued by Amazon
Thank you for your donations through Amazon smile.

New Business:

With a new 30 year lease, CMRG needs to be thinking of a plan looking forward

- Leadership
- Site Management
- Equipment update on Cheyenne Mtn

There are 2 repeaters down on Cheyenne mtn. We should upgrade to more modern equipment. Replace the 448.0 and 448.1 repeaters. Update D-Star/site management computers on Cheyenne Mtn, Methodist and Raton.

N6evg asking how much the repeaters might cost?

Dave, \$1000 to \$2000 a copy. Looking at a Motorola MTS2000 or a Kenwood TKR850's have been good for us. Dave likes the MTS2000 and would be about \$2000 and the Kenwood maybe only \$1000.

Greg asked about what does MARC (Mountain Amateur Radio Club) have?

John asked if it would be better to have more commonality between the systems?

Dave pointed out that the Kenwood TKR's are really solid but hard to get.

Dennis said the board of PPFM society will donate the rest of the funds. They are dissolving their organization. They will be donating \$1000 to CMRG.

[more technical difficulties and Dave's audio echoing. I muted everyone]

Dennis asked for postal mailing address to send the PPFM check to.

Jim suggested the PayPal digital donation form might be easier.

Greg saying go to log in and registration, there is a toggle to renew the membership and make donations.

Site Tour:

Dave showed pictures of the Cheyenne Mtn site. He was thankful that the Cheyenne Propagation Company has been so supportive of the amateur radio repeaters on their towers. The tower hosts CMRG, CO repeater assoc (CRA), and CO connections. With their equipment housed in the building. [The PowerPoint Presentation had photos of the repeater sites.] Dave used the mouse pointer to show antennas on top of the tower and the lower arm of antenna.

Pictures of the building and the CMRG equipment in the room. There is a commercial 10 KW generator and a UPS that keeps equipment running while generator starts up.

On the right side is the DStar rack, 1200 MB duplexers and a cabinet with 2 more dstar equipment in it. The 4th and 5th cabinets are CRA and Co connections.

Cheyenne Propagation Company asks CMRG to keep an eye on the room and the participants equipment.

Fremont Site:

This site has a VHF -145.295, two UHF - 449.650 and 446.975 D-Star

As well as two 900 MHz – 927.9625 and 927.8625.

[Photo of the site] This site is the money maker. Forest Service lease allows tower and two buildings. Equipment is housed in the building and space rented to 3 FM radio stations.

The bulk of CMRG's income is from this site. We do share generator power with RMPBS. Power cable is buried in a trench. When we see RMPBS has gone to generator power, CMRG will also

switch to generator power. [Dave showed photos of the repeater in the rack and the other equipment in the building]

Methodist Site:

[Photos of the tower and equipment in the building.]

The tower is owned by another Ham who provides commercial services.

Badger Mountain Site:

This site holds a VHF, 147.360, a UHF, 449.700, and an APRS digipeater. The building and tower are owned by RMPBS. CMRG has a good antenna location on the tower. One equipment rack. CMRG strives to have a professional and clean configuration of systems. This is especially important in these crowded buildings.

Raton Pass Site:

This site holds a VHF, 145.430, two UHF, 449.600 and 446.775, a 900 system at 927.8750 and also an APRS station.

The repeater is actually 200 yards into New Mexico. The FM broadcaster hosts our site here. An old generator building that in the last year has been refurbished. CMRG has two cabinets in the building. Using Allstar to link to this repeater to the 147.345 repeater on Cheyenne Mountain. And these link to the repeaters to the west. Cheyenne Mtn to Salida link was a problem, but the Baculite Mesa site now provides that link.

Baculite Mesa Site:

The small shed now has a new roof. It houses the 448.550 VHF repeater. The small antennas provide the linking back to Cheyenne Mtn. Inside of the shed is a very simple configuration. And the antennas are grounded.

K0GWR (Gil) says that Badger is working very well for him. He never knew it to be on Badger.

The Repeater Book claims it is in a whole different grid square.

The 449.700 is linked into a UHF on 449.65 on Methodist, but is not operational at this time. The repeater had to get repaired, but now needs to be re-installed.

In the repeater book it does not show the 449 was linked to it.

Gil suggested we need to send update to repeater book.

Roger asking if he can have access into the Web site.

Doug says the warning is about you need to be a member of the CMRG to have internal access to the web site.

Greg said the web site is not in alignment with what Dave has just told them. Repeater on Deer Peak has been gone for quite a while.

Dave said we do need input about these things.

Greg offered that he has people out in that part of the world to come help with the Badger mtn site.

Dave asked if he could help with site in Salida. Greg said yes they can ask for help if know when the site work is going to be done.

Greg said yes he can ask the MARC membership to help.

Meeting Adjourned:

Roger moved to close meeting, John seconded.