

VOI Tech Meeting Notes

March 19, 2018 Cobby's, 4843 Chinden, Garden City, ID

Final

Attendance:

Mike Cooper - W7OSG – Committee Director (TCD)

Doug Rich - W7DVR – VOI President

Don Lynn - ND7L

Gene Pentecost - W4IMT

Stephen Nipper – N4DJX

Lisa Nelson - KI7PWS

Andrew Spencer – KE7FIY

Simon Riddle – KC8WF

Steven Blanchard – KD7KKC

Agenda Items:

- 1) Shafer Butte repeater site: SF299 Communication Site Application has been submitted (2/26/18) to and accepted by the USFS per email on 3/6/18. The group discussed other options for VOI presence on Shafer, such as, space in a commercial site such as, Day Wireless Systems, White Cloud Communications and Electronic Enterprises. Antenna installation at some sites has to be done by a certified climber. Connex units might be fairly easy to come by. Western Idaho Cabinet shop on Victory Road will have some surplus ones coming up in a few months. The construction and security of such unit was discussed. According to Idaho Power our proposed conex site on Shafer is about 100 feet from their nearest connection. The Connection would need to be buried at least 30 inches deep.

Addendum: Our first contact with Electronic Enterprises were very encouraging

- 2) Bench Repeater: Relocating the cabinet to the top floor and getting a bigger cabinet were discussed. Both the VOI and Stephen have Cabinet racks etc. that could be used. The Antenna situation for possible linking to Shafer and for remote shut down on the roof needs to be discussed with MWI Animal Health Co. personnel. Mike and Simon will develop a proposal to submit to them.
- 3) Remote repeater shut down: This continues to be a work in progress. The proposed budget and radios connections to cut off the power were discussed.
- 4) New Controller Programming class: The class was attended by Doug Rich, Simon Ruddle, Andrew Spencer, Larry Bickham and Gary Payne. The class was conducted by Dennis Baker KA0OBC, from Gilbert, AZ. After a few minor repairs to the controller, some in depth program instruction was given by Dennis. The programming is complex and very detailed. Fortunately, several of the attendees picked up on how it all works. It will probably be necessary for the Tech Committee to have a programming subcommittee to be in charge of the details of keeping the controllers

properly programed. Policy issues need to be decided for the security level of access by VOI members and control operators.

Other Items:

Cinnabar Application to the BLM: The SF299 package is about complete a draft cover letter and the SF299 were sent to VOI President Doug Rich for review on March 19, 2018. As of March 22, 2018 they are undergoing some final editing and we hope to submit the information to BLM in the very near future.

Action Items from February Meeting

- 1) “Meet and Greet” with FAA officials this still needs to be done and it may just be left up to the TCD and VOI President Doug Rich to undertake this. This is still a work in progress as of 3/19/18
- 2) The TCD will make frequency coordination recommendations to the BOD and their next meeting as was mentioned under item number one above. The recommendations were made and accepted by the Board and are in the process of being sent to the area frequency coordinator.

Action Items:

- 1) Mike and Simon will submit an equipment relocation proposal for the Bench repeater site to MWI Animal Health personnel.