



EOSS Meeting Minutes
Tuesday February 13, 2018
Longmont, CO

Call to Order: Marty WA0GEH called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM. There were 11 present with 5 attending via Zoom Meeting. Marty WA0GEH began the meeting by introducing three new members. They are John Blakely KE0ORB, Nancy Koos, and Ben Baker KB0UBZ. Ben has volunteered to help out as webmaster after a little arm twisting.

Previous Meeting Minutes: Meeting minutes for January 2017 were reviewed and accepted as corrected.

Treasurer's reports: We will forego this month treasurer's report based on last month's report. Nick N0LP did add that an audit has been completed on EOSS accounts.

Tech Committee: Mark K0OD, Doug N0IX, and Steve K0SCC have been working on refreshing our fleet of flight equipment. We have been working on a replacement for the single use hot wire cutter and the mechanical quick release used on the traditional flight string. Mark's first design used XBee to communicate with the quick release hardware to command release of the balloon. We are now working on a second generation quick release that will use Bluetooth communications and be easier to attach to the flight string. This second generation will be physically smaller, lighter, and use less power. Steve demonstrated the yet to be assembled release mechanism. Steve K0SCC asked that trackers take lots of detailed pictures of the release showing any balloon shards, any fouling of the chute, etc. at the recovery site to assist in troubleshooting. Steve K0SCC has located a supplier out of Chicago that can supply our flight line. He has received a 6,000' spool for the non-exempt line and is waiting on a 12,000' spool for the exempt flight line. Jim K0CORPS requested that the tech committee create a spreadsheet detailing each of the beacons, their capabilities, and where it should be flown in the flight string. Steve requested to procure two 12 foot Rocket Men Chutes which was approved.

Launch Team: Marty WA0GEH passed on that Larry has enough balloons to get us through March

Ground Station: Jeff N2XGL has a conflict for the upcoming flight. Nick N0LP had planned on transitioning to tracking but will switch back to manning the ground station for the next flight.

Track and Recovery: Marty is excited to welcome John KE0ORB and Nancy as a new tracking team and Ben KB0UBZ also as a tracker. Marty WA0GEH is working with three of the C-Base students that will become a tracking team. These students are still working to obtain their technicians license. The C-Base students will be using radio equipment supplied by CU. Steve K0SCC asked that their radios have the transmit capability disabled until they obtain their license. Marty WA0GEH is working on a procedural document on track and recovery to assist Randy's efforts to document EOSS processes.

FAA: Russ KB0TVJ said he will get comments from Michelle at the FAA about an item for Jim K0CORPS. Russ also responded to Michelle with information on balloon repair that she requested. Russ reminded the group that a Hiball must be submitted one week prior to flight. Russ will send the FAA waiver to Tom

KE7KCK to be posted on the web site. Marty WA0GEH offered on behalf of the group we would like to thank Russ for his service as Vice President over the past several years and we are glad you offered to continue.

Membership Committee: Randy has been working on cleaning up the EOSS membership list. He has sent out emails compiled from several source to see who would respond. Randy is also looking at how other clubs manage their membership to see if they would work for EOSS. Randy would like to get the meeting minutes a little quicker so that an agenda can be put together at least five days ahead of the next meeting.

Upcoming Flights: Jim KCORPS said that there are no significant changes from what has been posted to the web site. Tom KE7KCK has been contacted by the intern coordinator for Ball Aerospace with a scheduling conflict between their rocket launch and the EOSS flight. They requested to reschedule the EOSS flight to the July 21st if possible. Tom KE7KCK added that a couple CU students would like to fly some radios that would transmit on the April 7th flight. Steve KOSCC needs more information to make sure that these meet FCC requirements. John KCOL will be available to answer student's questions about frequency use and licensing.

GPSL: Nick NOLP informed the group that our host for GPSL has arranged 3 tours of the local Winery's on Thursday. Nick NOLP is asking for volunteers to be designated drivers for the tours. Tom Ke7KCK and Dave KDOSEM volunteered. Nick NOLP says that the trip will be 800 plus miles each way and he is working on travel arrangements that will include a stop on the way up and on the return trip. Current plan is to fly a 1200 gm or 1500 gm balloon and possibly a pico-balloon that Jim KCORPS has on order.

Fun Flight: Mark KCOD will put out a payload plan for EOSS-267 on February 24th. This will be 1200 gm balloon to test a new wireless release. We plan to use Tom's GoPro camera below the release to capture video of the operation. Mark KCOD would like to experiment with back calculating a target area on the ground and release the balloon at the right moment to hit the target area.

C-Base Students: John KCOL is still working with the C-base Students on a ten week training course to obtain their Technician License. Three of these students will be coming out for the next flight. They will have radios to listen to the operations during tracking. Jim KCORPS and Tom KE7KCK are working with three C-Base students who are working on payload plans for the upcoming CU flight on April 7th. Steve KOSCC is excited to see the C-Base students beacon team engaged in researching the FAR-101 rules.

Web Site: Marty WA0GEH and Ben KB0UBZ will begin work on the web site to clean thing up.

Meeting adjourned at 09:00 PM
Minutes prepared by David Lanning, Secretary.