



## EOSS Meeting Minutes

Tuesday July 14, 2020

Online via Zoom

**Call to Order:** Tom KE7KCK called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. There were eighteen attending via Zoom.

**Previous Meeting Minutes:** Meeting minutes for June 2020 are available on the EOSS web site for review. Tom KE7KCK asked if anyone had comments or corrections. June's minutes is accepted as written.

**Treasurer's reports:** Rob NØRPF reviewed checking and savings accounts. Rob is sending out mileage reimbursements that had been misplaced for flights earlier this year. Rob NØRPF sent a reimbursement check to Jim KCØRPS for tables, chairs, and snow cone machine used at the EOSS-300 celebration. We have received payment from the NOAA flight. Steve KØSCC informed Rob NØRPF of a pending invoice for material used to build and repair payloads. Rob confirmed that EOSS is still insured.

**Tech Committee:** Mark KCØD said that we had a lot of damage to our payloads on the EOSS-300 flight. Everything came back dirty from being dragged along the ground. The upper payloads fared better than the bottom payloads. The top release Adam paired with KCØD-1 is OK. The new wireless release Charlie has been cleaned and lubed and is ready to fly. KCØD-3 which was paired with release Charlie worked fine on the flight but failed to get GPS lock afterward on the bench. Steve KØSCC suspects GPS antenna was damaged on landing. Mark is looking into the failure. Wireless release Baker needs release mechanism repaired. The flap holding the ring to the balloon was bent and is starting to suffer metal fatigue. KCØD-2's power switch quit working when it was dragged on first failed launch. Mark replaced the switch and it is ready to fly. AEØSS-13 received the most damage with internal damage. AEØSS-13 will not be ready for next flight.

**Ground Station:** Jeff N2XGL said that everything seemed to work well. Steve KØSCC expressed appreciation for notification from the ground station that two of the beacons had failed after being dragged on first launch attempt. Jeff N2XGL made a suggestion that we get together to perform some mic gain calibrations on trackers DMR radios. Mike W9CN will make arrangements to adjust and configure DMR radios. John KCØL asked why we are using both analog and DMR communications on flights when half of the trackers do not have DMR. After much discussion Steve KØSCC, Mike W9CN, and Ben KBØUBZ volunteered to document communication protocols to be followed during flights. They will schedule a zoom training session when it comes together.

**Tracking and Recovery Team:** Marty WAØGEH said that we had sixteen teams of trackers on this flight. Fortunately, some of the teams were at the launch site and were able to chase it down. Marty WAØGEH reminded everyone to turn in mileage for this flight. Marty thanked Denise and Tom KE7KCK for putting together the celebration for EOSS flight 300.

**FAA:** Russ KBØTVJ said that this flight was handled by two other people since Michelle was on vacation. They were very interested in what we are doing and asked many questions.

**Tracking Bricks:** Jeff N6BA said we did not get a chance to test some firmware changes made by Mark KCØD to add temperature and pressure to the flight data string. Jeff N6BA has integrated some software changes to use the temperature and pressure to help improve landing predictions. Mike W9CN was running his LTE connected brick that was transmitting landing predictions as an APRS object. Jeff N6BA said that it was sending the data out but due to short flight we were not able to test everything. Jeff N6BA added that the brick will not plot prediction until payloads are above 15,000 ft., unfortunately we did not get that high on this flight.

**Upcoming flights:** Jim KCØRPS will ask Bernadette KEØGKI if any students will be attending launch on August first.

**Launch conditions and check lists:** Marty WAØGEH mentioned that Larry NØNDM hurt his back while filling the balloon in windy conditions. This sparked a discussion about what are our limits and who makes the call to cancel the flight. More discussion is needed on this topic. Jeff N2XGL said he would provide an anemometer for the launch site.

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