



EOSS Meeting Minutes

Tuesday May 12, 2020

Online via Zoom

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

Previous Meeting Minutes: Meeting minutes for April 2020 are available on the EOSS web site for review. Tom KE7KCK directed attendees to review minutes online. April's minutes is accepted with correction.

Treasurer's reports: Rob NØRPF reviewed checking, savings, and PayPal accounts. Rob welcomed William N6YEL as a new member.

Tech Committee: Tom KE7KCK relayed that Steve KØSCC is evaluating the flight string in terms of using a Sherachute for the NOAA Glider flight to slow the descent to prevent damage to the glider.

Launch Team: Larry NØNDM will order gas next week on the EOSS account. We are good on balloons.

Ground Station: Jeff N2XGL said we are standing ready for the flight on May 30th. We will be practicing social distancing. Ground team will be operating out of our vehicles since the sunroom will be off limits at the Windsor launch site. We will have the club generator on hand for power.

Track and Recovery Team: Marty WAØGEH will put out call for trackers tonight for the May 30th flight for NOAA. Marty WAØGEH added that on May 24th on the RMRL 146.940 at 3 PM, we will put out a final call for Rick NØKKZ. Rick NØKKZ's family will be listening. Rick's call will also be appended to the APRS string on the May 30th and GPSL flights.

FAA: Russ KBØTVJ said there is nothing to report from the FAA.

NOAA Glider Flight: Jim KCØRPS says NOAA wants to have a test flight for their glider to verify communications and controls. The glider will be hanging nose down at the bottom of the flight string and will not be released. A camera will be mounted on the glider to observe the controls. Their goal is to be released on multiple balloon flights from Edwards Air Force Base in California. Russ KBØTVJ is working on calculations to see what may happen to the bottom payload during descent after the cut-down at about 95k ft. There is some concern that the glider could migrate up and get tangled in the parachute. The glider wings may be removed before the flight to prevent any problems. Randy's predictions will start fifteen days before the flight. Tom KE7KCK added that if you are not feeling well to please stay home.

EOSS Tracker Update: Jeff N6A gave a presentation of the new features in version 1.3 of the tracker software. New software will have an updated look and feel, vector maps, improved landing predictions based on CWOP data, audio alerts, and flight synchronization. New software is expected to be available in June 2020. Jeff N6BA and Mark KCØD are working together to develop new hardware and software in the beacon so that it will have intelligence to calculate where it will land based on data gathered during flight and transmit that data out to the EOSS trackers. This will also require changes to the EOSS tracker software.

COVID-19 Protocol: Tom KE7KCK stated that many of our customers have cancelled their flights for May due to the virus. EOSS will follow state guidelines at the launch site to reduce exposure on the May 30th flight. Please bring a mask and maintain social distancing. EOSS will adjust protocol as time goes on.

Upcoming Flights: Jim KCØRPS says the next flight will be on May 30th for NOAA's Glider test that will fly out of Windsor, CO. GPSL flight is still in play but not known where it will take place. BIRST is scheduled for July 18th. COSGC has been moved to October 1st. Metro State may have a flight in late August. NDIA is scheduled for a flight on October 3rd. Bernadette KEØGKI informed Jim KCØRPS that the Gateway to Space class has been canceled for the fall semester and will return in the spring of 2021.

Metro State Proposal: Metro State is partnering with another company to provide a proposal to NASA on the development of some lunar payloads. Randy Owen of Metro State approached Tom KE7KCK for a rough estimate for a half dozen qualification flights to test their payloads in a high-altitude low atmosphere environment. If NASA approves their proposal, qualification flights would begin in the spring of 2021 and be spread over two years.

Twitter: Marty WAØGEH inquired if we have a twitter account that could be used to attract new members. Rob NØRPF said that Rick NØKKZ had the account and will see if he can gain access to it. If access cannot be gained Tom KE7KCK will look into creating a new twitter account.

Meeting adjourned at 09:00 PM

Minutes prepared by David Lanning, Secretary.