Lee De Forest Amateur Radio Club

LDARC Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Saturday, August 22, 2026, 10:00 a.m., In-Person & by Zoom
J & M Family Restaurant, 1271 S. State St., Hemet, CA 92543

Call to Order/Welcome: 10:04 a.m. by President Rick Gardner (KN6RBP)

Present / Signed In:
Rick Gardner, President (KN6RBP)
Don Pullens, Vice President (N6DMP)
Mary Ortiz, Secretary (KO6GYP)
Karen Stewart, Treasurer (KN6MJS)
Larry Watson, Director (KN6PUR)
Bart Herring, Director (KM6JWS)
Jackie Harris, Director (KC7CBN)
Terry Smith, Director (K06ALP)
Rod McHenry (N6CG)

V. Brookes (KO6JVD)
Duane Deaton (KN6AUV)
Kimberly Deaton (KG6BAM)
Bob & Charlene Bowan (KK6IZN)

Attendees by Zoom:
None

Quorum Present.

Motion to Approve Meeting Agenda, as posted on Club Website, with the addition of the topics of election committee update and VE testing update; Don Pullens; **Seconded**: Larry Watson.
None opposed. Motion passed unanimously.

Reports:

Secretary's Report: Mary Ortiz (KO6GYP) read Minutes of the July 25, 2026 Board Meeting.

Motion to approve Minutes for the July 25, 2026 Board Meeting: Don Pullens; **Seconded:** Bart Herring.
None opposed. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Karen Stewart provided a review of the Treasurer's Report for July 2026, as stated below:

MONTH	July 2026
BEGINNING BALANCE	$4,644.21
INCOME	$0
EXPENSES	$231.00
ENDING BALANCE	$4,413.21
REPEATER FUND	$1,826.00
GENERAL FUND	$2,587.21

Motion to accept Treasurer's Report for July 2026: Terry Smith; **Seconded**: Don Pullens
None opposed. Motion passed unanimously.

The club secretary noted that there was no action taken on the Treasurer's June report during the July Board meeting. Don Pullens stated the issue was resolved. No motion to approve the June report occurred at this meeting. Note: the Treasurer's June report was received and approved by general club membership at the August 19, 2026 regular club meeting.

ARRL Membership: It is unclear what percentage of LDARC members are current ARRL Members.

- Karen does not have an accurate count.
- The club needs 51% to remain an ARRL affiliated club.
- Don suggested that Duane handle this, since he is doing club membership.
- Duane will modify the club membership application to include this information.
- Duane noted that membership can be verified by a call sign search on the ARRL website.
- Discussion of adding a check box to the website for club members to check if they are current ARRL members.
- Karen asked if the club is monitoring license expiration dates.

Old Business:

Fall Breakfast Fundraiser: Scheduled for October 26, 2026 (check this date – this is a Monday. The club website calendar is not updated as of this report).

- When to start organizing? Larry says 1-2 weeks before date scheduled.
- Don noted Karen is stepping down from this committee and has asked Larry to step in.
- Don suggests establishing an event budget.
- Bart says budget should be set at the beginning of the year and be carried forward.
- Rick suggests establishing a committee to identify club activities and respective budgets.
- Don wants this done by November or December so the new club leadership regime can hit the ground running and have a platform set.
- Don suggests having a December Board Meeting in addition to the Christmas Dinner to set the budget for next year. The meeting should include both incoming and outgoing club officers.
    - Karen has been running summary reports on LDARC events, so she knows approx. costs for each.
    - Don wants Karen to run and send these reports to him and the board ASAP.
- Larry noted we need a caveat to add the cost of food handler permits to event costs.
    - It was noted that the several club members who obtained their food handler cards paid the cost themselves and declined reimbursement. There was no cost to the club.
- Christmas parade is 12/05/26
- Christmas dinner is 12/19/26
- December Board Meeting Date TBD

Motion to have a December Club Board meeting by Zoom on Sat., Dec 12, 2026 at 10:00 a.m., to include all new incoming and all outgoing board members: Larry Watson; **Seconded:** Don Pullens. None opposed. Motion passed unanimously.

Proposal from Terry Smith (KO6ALP)

Motion to table the Proposal from Terry Smith to a future meeting: Terry Smith; **Seconded:** Don Pullens. None opposed. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion: how to get the above topic before the full club membership.

- Rick suggests bringing it up during at least 3 nets, at the next club meeting, the next board meeting and sending emails to the full club membership roster.
- Karen suggests phone calls to club members
- Bart says text messages

Zoom meeting set for Sept. 14, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. RE: Action Committee, to include Larry, Jackie and Terry. They will prepare a recommendation for the Board's approval.

New Business:

Special Event Discussion & Fulfillment: Rick stated we all want to know when the next Special Event will be.

- Don suggests it should be an annual event, which allows time to work out the kinks.
- Rick would like to see another Special Event in January or February 2027.
- Terry Smith stated the event was great. Suggests an After Action Report can help the club set up next time.
- Terry proposes an After Action Committee to discuss and establish best practices for the next Club Special Event.
- Terry has a list of suggestions – not sure it is a Board matter.
- It was noted that the club did receive some feedback on the special event by email.
- Terry's suggestions include: a comment section on the event page of the club website; donation button on the event page; LDARC Special Event should be annual.
- Terry requested a motion on an annual special event.

Discussion on how a donation button on the club website would work and affect the club's non-profit status.

Motion to add a Donation button to the LDARC website, using Zelle to process donations: Terry Smith; **Seconded:** None.
No action taken. Tabled to allow time to get more information.

- Don suggests details such as where such a button would go on the website, what platform would be used…etc.
- Duane stated there will have to be a 3rd party processing platform, which will take a percentage.
- Karen noted that Zelle payments have to be associated with a cell phone number.
    - Zelle payments have been going to her, then she has been paying the club.
    - The club does not have a cell phone number / Zelle account.
- Larry notes that donations require receipts.
- There may be a threshold (limit) to non-member donations.
- Jackie suggests formation of a committee to investigate establishing a phone number for the club to receive Zelle payments directly to the Club's account.
    - Rick nominates Karen, Duane and himself (Rick) for the committee.
- Don and Larry expressed concern over proper notification to the state – research what is needed by the state.
- Don wants to know who has the club's 501(c)(3) documents.
    - Karen, the Treasurer, has that documentation.
- Don wants to address, in the club by-laws, who is required to keep this documentation.

Motion to table the topic of a donation button on the club website and to look into establishing by-laws or an amendment to the club constitution to define who keeps the club 501(c)(3) documents: Don Pullens; **Seconded:** **None. No action taken.**

Don stated he believes the club needs a committee with the former club president, treasurer and directors to act as an Advisory Committee to the Board.

Motion to have 3-4 volunteers work on the topic of a donation button on the website: Jackie Harris; **Seconded:** **None. No action taken.**

Don clarified that Larry will work on obtaining information regarding a donation button on the club website.

Larry volunteers to do a presentation to the club at the next regular club meeting regarding a donation button on the club website and receiving donations.

Rod is willing to serve as an Advisor to the Board with his significant club experience.

Terry feels strongly that the club website should have a donation button.

Mary noted that to use Zelle the club would need a cell phone number and account, which would be an added monthly expense to the club. Who would be the designee, to keep that phone, would also need to be defined.

Motion to table the topic of the club website donation button until the Board receives a report on the topic from Larry: Don Pullens; **Seconded:** Bart Herring. None opposed. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion RE: members only. Rick will work with Karen and Duane regarding the details of adding a button to the website once details are worked out.

Terry stated that was just one item on his list regarding after action items for the LDARC Special Event. In the interest of time, he will table the rest of his After Action Report and the request to have an Event Planning Committee for each and every event going forward who will be responsible for Event After Action Reports.

Jackie noted that she will be sending the LDARC Board an email in the near future.

Fall Breakfast Fundraiser:

- **Planning Meeting** for event on **October 5, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. by Zoom**
- Follow-up Planning meeting on October 12, 2026 – cancelled

Atta Boy Awards at Christmas Dinner:
Rick would like to raise the gift cards for the Atta Boy Raffle.

- Top prize: $50.00 – Rick will donate $25.00 toward this prize
- Rick would like the Club to match the amount for a 2nd prize of $25.00
- Don volunteered to donate the 2nd Prize amount of $25.00
- Larry volunteered to donate a 3rd Prize amount of $25.00

No motion needed, as no funds will come from the Club account toward increasing the prizes.

Terry requested **Raffle Discussion Topic be added to the next Board Meeting Agenda.**

Membership Letters:
Don spoke regarding letters received from a particular club member regarding concerns addressed on multiple occasions.

- Don has consulted with advisors.
- Don has been advocating for the member with concerns.
- Latest letters have made members uncomfortable.
- KE6JGM has submitted multiple letters resigning from the club.

Motion to accept KE6JGM's resignation from the club and send him a letter stating that, and thanking him for his past contributions: Don Pullens; **Seconded:** **None. No action taken.**

Continued on next page.

Discussion RE club member resignation:

- Jackie states it has not been a club policy to provide a letter to members who leave the club. The only response should be no response. The secretary agrees.
- Don has had conversations with the member. Other members who have left have not presented the club with such issues.
- Bart read the last letter (email) received from the member which states he is "divorcing" himself from the club and will not renew his membership.
    - This is one of four (4) such letters. Other letters include the statement, "I resign".

Motion to no longer renew the club membership of KE6JGM: Larry Watson; **Seconded: None. No action taken.**

Bart asked what club assets are still at the member's house?

- Karen stated there are two boxes, with unknown contents, in her room.
- Don stated he was surprised those boxes were not turned over to him at the time other items were. Don has been in communication with the individual.
- It was noted that there is no comfortable solution.

Motion that the Club make no formal response to the member's latest letter and do not allow him to renew club membership in the new year: Jackie Harris; **Seconded: None. No action taken.**

Don requested at this point that Rick just observe the conversation and not make any statements that may influence the board.

Jackie stated no response is necessary. Any desire on the member's part to renew can be dealt with when, or if, he submits for renewal.

Terry stated a formal letter may just trigger more letters and agrees with Jackie that no response is the best response.

Don stated he has been in the member's corner and is now in the club's corner. Don stated a letter from the club will simply be a "Thank you for your service. We wish you well and accept your decision".

Terry would accept such a letter if it states "no further contact".

Don wants to table this.

Jackie provided a history of events that lead to the Board meeting in which the situation blew up. The club has to move on.

Karen wants a “Thank you for your service” letter.

Motion to have no further response, uncles there is a request from the member to renew his club membership: Jackie Harris; **Seconded:** **None. No action taken.**

Larry wants to table this.

Show of hands for no response: 0

Show of hands for final letter with no divisive language: 9

Duane is willing to act as the club VE Liaison.

- He has a venue (his church fellowship hall).
  - It has the same conditions for use as the funeral home. No alcohol or smoking allowed on site.
- Moving toward doing testing on-line.

Motion that LDARC offer sponsorship to Duane Deaton (KN6AUV) to be the club Volunteer Examiner (“VE”) Liaison: Don Pullens; **Seconded:** Larry Watson. None opposed. Motion passed unanimously.

Don returned to the topic of the letter to Bob Brown and suggested the club secretary should compose it. The club secretary objected to the task and does not want to be associated with the letter in any way.

Don and Larry will work together on drafting a letter.

Karen wanted to remind all that her birthday celebration will be at Valley Wide on Sat., August 29, 2026 from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

Meeting Adjourned: 12:18 p.m.