

**Tamiami Amateur Radio Club
Board of Directors Meeting**

Saturday, March 7th, 2026, 1:30 PM @ Chet's QTH and via Google Meet

MEETING MINUTES

Officers for 2026.

Chet Fennell KG4IYS, President
Frank Wroblewski W2XYZ, Vice President
Lou Ronnau KC4LR, Recording Secretary
Dwight Sullivan KT4DS, Treasurer

Directors for 2026.

Steve Phillips NS4P
Paul Nineaber KN4BAR
Jim Miller N7JIM
Allan Culbert K0AL
Roger McEntarfer N9RM

Guest: Dan O' Donovan

Meeting called to order at 1:35 PM

Do we have a quorum? Yes

Review and approve BOD meeting minutes from February 8th, 2026, motion by Paul, 2nd by Roger, approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Dwight Sullivan, unanimously approved.

Old Business:

1. Repeater Antenna report
 - a. Hardline connector was re-terminated on the tower and inspected
 - b. Still searching for the micro-arcing cause
 - c. Controller has been changed
 - d. Problem occurs when it's warm and sunny
2. Megalodon Races today and tomorrow
 - a. Good participation
3. TARC BBQ & QSOs
 - a. The food is being prepped
 - b. 31 sign-ups thus far
 - c. Jim got 200 tote bags from DX Engineering for give aways
 - d. Last minute show-ups welcome
4. Shark's Tooth Festival booth denied/Blalock Park?
 - a. Amenities needed are restrooms, pavilion, night security, power is nice to have
 - b. Paul will check on availability
 - c. Activation listed in QST, operation from 10 – 4 both days
 - d. Venice Mainstreet membership to be retained
5. Florida State PotA event 4/17 – 20
 - a. 2 club activations, Myakka River S. P. and Oscar Sherer S. P.
 - b. Sign-up sheet to be passed around at the membership meeting
 - c. Karl has been promoting the event on social media
6. Sticker Sales
 - a. The club is in the green for the sticker sales
7. TARC merchandise website
 - a. Six hats remaining from old vendor

- b. The new vendor has a one-time per callsign setup fee of \$15
- c. Dues are now in person and via HamClubOnline.com
- 8. Free first year membership tabled
 - a. It's popular with the membership
 - b. Motion made, 2nd, and approved to retain this benefit
 - c. A coupon for this would be given for passing an exam useable on HamClubOnline.com
- 9. Spotted Ham filter member maintenance
 - a. Paul will add new members
 - b. Meeting attendance recording going online
- 10. Christmas Party arrangement
 - a. Will ask John N3PQD if he'd take point
 - b. Hotel Venetian again for the venue
- 11. Triplexer Purchase
 - a. We got \$20 off, no shipping, and no tax
 - b. No local stock, it will be shipped
- 12. AREDN Mesh Network
 - a. It is difficult for our geography
 - b. HamWAN may have some advantages
- 13. Discussion about Pico balloon launches
 - a. Balloon kit for three launches from the ARRL grant
 - b. Paul is working with Pineview
 - c. No FAA involvement since the payload is tiny
- 14. Credit Cards
 - a. Credit card would be secured by a member
- 15. Florida QSO Party
 - a. W4AC will activate from AI's QTH
 - b. Signup sheet at the next meeting
 - c. Discussion about Lighthouses on the Air

New Business:

- 1. A new standing item for committee updates for the membership meeting agenda
 - a. Not needed, it's in the newsletter
 - b. Ask for any announcements from the membership
- 2. Handling of Bequests
 - a. Paul has documents from previous research, but the board previously considered it morbid
 - b. Possible liability issue
 - c. Chet has examples from ChatGPT
 - d. Get FL attorney review
 - e. Motioned, 2nd and approved by the board
 - f. Paul will have conversations as appropriate
- 3. AI SIG
 - a. Very hot topic and a way to attract more younger members
 - b. Students have limited time
- 4. Steve White is the program for the March meeting
- 5. Auditing the TARC Financials
 - a. Cost may not justify a formal
 - b. No requirement for a nonprofit our size
 - c. We publish our financials on the member's only section of the website

- d. Dwight will solicit information on an auditor
- e. Audit traditionally done when changing treasurers
- f. Paul made a motion, Chet 2nd it was approved with one dissenting vote.

Any Other New Business:

1. Paul spoke about the Patterson Giving Challenge with a Matching Donation
 - a. It runs from noon April 15th thru noon April 16th
 - b. The Sarasota Club (SERC) is qualified as a donor recipient
 - c. They maintain much of the Ham radio infrastructure in Sarasota

Motion to adjourn by Al, seconded by Paul, at 3:21 pm

Next BOD meeting – Saturday, April 4th, 2026, at 1:30 PM @ Chet's QTH and via Google Meet
<https://meet.google.com/whc-sjpp-bgm>

Respectfully submitted,
Lou Ronnau KC4LR
Recording Secretary