

Fluvanna County Radio Control Flying Club

Board Meeting Minutes – December 20, 2023

Call to order

President Bill Sykes called the meeting to order at 9:12 AM on Wednesday, 20th December 2023 at Cuppa Joe's coffee shop in Palmyra.

Those in attendance

Dave Beazley; Brad Braut; Mac Derry; Dave Eames; Irv Fehlberg; Randy Smith; Bill Sykes.

Review of the Agenda

- Approval of the minutes
- Membership and Financial Report
- Field electrification update
- Schedule January club meeting with special presentation
- Thoughts on election of new officers
- Event planning
- Field upgrade projects
- Any other business

Approval of the minutes

The minutes of the last BoD meeting on 10th February 2023 were approved by acclamation.

Membership and Financial Report

Dave Beazley provided the membership and financial report as shown below.

Membership: The club currently has 38 members, 1 honorary member and 11 in good standing having already paid their dues for 2024.

Financial: Note, **the red items** in the table below are the secretary's estimate for the year beginning 2024 should all members who have not already paid their dues do so by the annual membership meeting in January.

	February 2023	December 2023
Checking Account	\$3,288.41	\$1,663.36
Web Account		\$179.80
Debit Card Account	\$29.81	
Petty Cash	\$358.35	\$270.35
Total	\$3,676.57	\$2,113.51^①
① Secretary's Note: 26 still to pay 2024 dues = \$1560		\$3,673.51

Bill Sykes asked if we have a way to pay our dues online. Dave Beazley responded by saying that setting up this capability was proving to be difficult, but he would try again. Meanwhile, he will be accepting checks.

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Field electrification update

Dave Beazley reviewed the status of this potential activity that was proposed by Shawn Wilcox and Scott Lounsbury. On 18th December, Dave Beazley dropped off the documents requested by CVEC in order to obtain an estimate for supplying power to the field. On the following day he received an email from the Field Engineering Department saying the earliest possible date for an onsite visit is Wednesday 27th December at 9:30 AM, to which he agreed.

(Secretary's note: Due to Dave testing positive for COVID (!) this meeting was subsequently rescheduled for Tuesday 9th January at 9:30AM).

Next steps: Once we receive the quotation for installation and the minimum monthly charges, the following steps were discussed and agreed:

1. Put together a projected cost of what else is needed (breaker panel, wiring, receptacles, etc. including electrician's installation costs).
2. Estimate the cost of DIY installation of solar panels, deep cycle batteries and 12 Volt charging stations as an alternative approach. Dave Eames agreed to research the cost of this option.
3. Once all estimates are completed and analyzed by the board, we should survey the members by email to determine how they would propose using either the 120 Volt CVEC supply or a 12 Volt solar panel supplied power system and who would be willing to pledge funding to either of these approaches.
4. If there is inadequate support for the CVEC-based solution, we abandon that approach and consider either the solar powered solution or maintaining our current BYOP (Bring Your Own Power) solution.
5. If the membership supports the CVEC-based solution and we have obtained sufficient pledges of financial support, then we will have to approach the Fluvanna County Board of Supervisors for approval.
6. If the BOS green lights the project, then we solicit the donations from the members and when we have the monies in hand proceed with CVEC and once the pole and meter is set proceed with the wiring.

Dave said that the minimum monthly payment for the CVEC service was likely to be \$40/month. He also suggested that if we had an event, we should charge for an electrical hookup. Dave Eames suggested that we survey the membership to ask how they would likely use this capability. How much would they be willing to pay to cover the expected costs. It may be that we have to levy a special assessment to cover the costs.

Schedule January club meeting with special presentation

We agreed to hold the next membership meeting at the Fluvanna Library on 27th January 2024. The time of the meeting was not decided and will be subject to the availability of the large meeting room at the library. John Hunton from the DC Maxecuters was suggested as a potential presenter.

Secretary's note: Following the board meeting, Dave Eames offered to give a short (15-minute?) presentation on the design and 3D printing process used to develop his blended wing body model.

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Thoughts on election of new officers

There is no provision in our current bylaws for special elections other than those held at the annual meeting. Recognizing that we have not followed the correct elections procedure for the past two years, we agreed that since all the current board members were willing to continue in their current positions, we would present this to the membership at large and at the January meeting and invite volunteers to replace any one of us. In the unlikely event that we should have multiple candidates for any of the current board positions, we would conduct a vote.

Event planning

- March – Club workday
- Plan an article for the Fluvanna local news paper
- April 2023 - The Bingler Memorial Calibration of the Windsock
- TBD - Dave Beazley offered to run an event
- TBD - Plan AMA magazine article(s), e.g. the runway striping process
- Early summer – Club Members' Breakfast Fly-In
- TBD - Hold a swap meet.
- TBD – A Fluvanna County focused fund-raising event. This could be a collaborative event with the Fluvanna County Volunteer Fire Department. There are two contacts: Mike Lynn 819 Union Mills Rd., Troy, VA and Jeff Spinello (434) 989-3245. Dave Eames agreed to contact Jeff Spinello in the New Year to explore this option.

Field upgrade projects

- Assess how well the runway striping is holding up.
- Replacing the existing windsock and add a second windsock
- We should consider replacing the safety fence
- Identify other field aesthetic improvements.
- Define a better method of repairing the GeoTex
- Dave Beazley also recommended that we set up a “capital reserve fund” to cover the anticipated cost of replacing the GeoTex runway and any other potential future field improvement expenses.

Any Other Business

- **FAA-Recognized Identification Area (FRIA)** – Dave Eames has received FRIA approval from the AMA/FAA which allows our members to fly their radio control model aircraft as they always have, without the need for Remote ID broadcast equipment.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:07 AM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Dave Eames.