

2026-03-03 Net Minutes

opened

20:00

closed

20:41

Check-ins (33)

- Matthew Barry (KG5LYE)
- Larry Shiver (KJ5KFU)
- Brad Snyder (W5BLS)
- Mark Zimmerman (N5NBD)
- Blake Hearen (K5BAH)
- Ron Hambric (N5SBN)
- Gabriel Rodriguez (AI5TN)
- Patrick Zapalac (KJ5ATR)
- Don Ling (WB5CK0)
- Mike West (K5TMW)
- Bill Rose (K5WTR)
- Kevin Walton (N4RMF)
- Dick Zimmer (W5DZ)
- Lorna Flansburg (KI5FIZ)
- Steven Payne (AA5BX)
- Mike Wisby (KA5HIA)
- John Graesser (KC5DWD)
- Bill Preston (KZ3G)
- Roseanne Cunningham (KC5FGG)
- Elizabeth Shutt (KJ5IDP)
- David Bailey (K5DKB)
- Josh McMillin (KJ5DA0)
- Jason Shutt (KI5LGO)
- Joe Napoli (KG5SDF)
- Michael Bobinski (N5NYL)
- Russ McDonald (KL2PB)
- Matt Robinson (W5XMR)
- Nathan Wood (KN4TTV)
- Travis Scott (KI5TMS)
- Phil Gates (N5ZKF)

- Tom Johnson (KI5ZPG)
- John Walker (W1JCW)
- Mike Mertes (KZ5M)

Opening Remarks

- Today was voting day!
 - Thanks to all of our poll volunteers
 - Hopefully you had the chance to get out and vote today or during early voting
- Time change coming up this Sunday, 2026-03-08 02:00
 - “Spring forward” - lose an hour of sleep (boo!)

Officer Reports

President

David Bailey (K5DKB)

- Nothing to report
- Glad y'all are here!

Vice-President

Tom Johnson (KI5ZPG)

- Welcome to Mike West (K5TMW): good signal all the way from Cameron!
- Nothing to report either
- Enjoy the nice spring weather!

Secretary

Matthew Barry (KG5LYE)

- Minutes will be sent out after the net.
- I'm on a team of folks for a project involving remote sensing
 - I introduced LoRa Meshtastic to them as a potential solution
 - Before the end of that meeting, several of them had already ordered equipment!

Treasurer

Lorna Flansburg (KI5FIZ)

- 67 members
- Bank balance: \$12,544.60
- Next license exam will be 2026-03-21 11:00
 - at American Legion Post 159
 - If you're taking the Technician exam, please be sure to have your FCC Registration Number (FRN)!

Announcements / Comments

Question #265 for conversation: *Have you taken part in a DXpedition or made contact with one?*

(If interested in submitting a weekly question, email n5zkf@arrl.net)

Ron Hambric (N5SBN)

- [Brazos County ARES Net](#) tonight
 - 443.425 MHz FM ([KD5DLW](#)) repeater
 - 20:30 or after this net, whichever is later
- [CEOC visit](#) this Friday, 2026-03-06 09:30
 - If you're late, just call on 146.680 MHz FM ([W5BCS](#)) repeater
- I've been in Australia and New Zealand the last few weeks, and learned that there's a reciprocal licensing agreement
 1. Have an extra class license
 2. prefix your callsign with "NZ" (if in New Zealand)

John Walker (W1JCW)

- I really enjoy operating DX!
- Bouvet Island is on the air
 - Just activated tonight!
 - Look for 10 m, 12 m, and 15 m bands in the morning
 - N5ZKF: got FT8 on 40 m

Mike West (K5TMW)

- Very excited to have a new antenna and be able to reach the repeater!
 - Happy to be able to hit the W5BCS repeater!
 - Even up into Waco
- Haven't even been on HF yet, so no DX at the moment
 - I do operate WebSDR
- At last meeting, there was a discussion about putting a new rotor on the trailer

- I don't have expertise, but would be happy to help however I can
- [Good on QRZ](#)

Phil Gates (N5ZKF)

- I've never participated in a DXpedition, but it's a huge undertaking and very exciting to work
- Bouvet Island - inhospitable ice-covered rock in South Atlantic
- Navassa Island - another rock, but closer to us (south of Cuba)
- Guinea-Bissau in West Africa

Buy / Sell

Matt Robinson (W5XMR)

- Selling a Yaesu FTDX-1200 Radio
 - Has a Heil Desktop Mic
 - Asking \$700 for whole package
 - Reach out if interested
 - [Good on QRZ](#)

Information Exchange

Bill Rose (K5WTR)

- Does anyone know of a radio that can decode Bryan PD radios?
- Can it be done with SDR?
- N5ZKF: unfortunately no...
 - You'll need authorization from agency and buy a very expensive radio yourself
 - It's encrypted, so it's not a simple decode; plus, they probably roll keys periodically

Closing Remarks

- Visit us online at w5bcs.radio.