

Oregon Rocketry May 2012 Meeting Minutes

Giovanni's Restaurant, May 3, 2012: The meeting was called to order at 7:35 by Gary Goncher. Officers present: Paul Bogdanich (Secretary), Gary Goncher (President), Ken McGoffin (Publicity Director) Tim Ryerse (Safety Officer).

Introduction and Call for New Members

The meeting was called to order and a call for new members or visitors revealed none.

Wilsonville Launch Report & Spring Thunder Participation

No Wilsonville report was given other than the launches will be the second Sunday of every month going forward. The President asked by a show of hands how many people were planning to attend Spring Thunder and about 30% of the members present responded in the affirmative. Mr. LaRochelle is hauling the trailer to Spring Thunder and the President reiterated the call for more trailer haulers.

Trailer Party Results

The results of the trailer party were recapped with the most emphasis being on the approximately 250 pounds of material that was removed from the trailer. It was also noted that something needs to be done with the old PA system. In the event that EuRoc can not use it the old PA system is available to anyone who wants it. It was also announced that the measured weight of the reloaded trailer is just below the 3,000 pound rating and that the tongue weight was between 350 and 400 pounds which is in the high end of normal for a 3,000 pound trailer. That being the case it was decided that \$1,800 to add a second axle represented an insufficient return for that amount of capital expense.

Wireless Controllers

The floor was turned over to Keith Packard for a discussion of wireless controllers and Mr. Packard indicated that the electronics design is essentially done with a scalable controller that can handle up to 100 field addressable away boxes with each away box having 4 pad connections. The system would be full duplex with real time status, continuity and function checks. Mr. Packard announced that the circuit diagrams are complete and available by e-mailing Mr. Packard at keith@kiethp.com if anyone would like to review them for redundancy, safety or other concerns or suggestions. The major challenge on the design going forward seems to be the packaging and the interface. As far as packaging goes, the main issue was whether the antenna should be in or outside of the away boxes. Any possible solutions for internal antennas would add expense and would need to be range tested. Mr. Packard also indicate that the time to spin a version was about a month and the cost of the units including replacements would be affordable and much less than for pre-manufactured systems. A call was made for members to research boxes and connectors for the pad side of the system. Bring ideas or hardware to the next meeting to continue the discussion with the goal of having a single channel prototype system working by NXRS.

Treasurer's Report

An in absentia treasurer's report was provided. The balance as of April 5, 2012, was \$4,443.06. Expenses to the May meeting of \$1,173.77, deposits to the May meeting of \$485.00, funds collected for deposit at the May meeting of \$135.00 yielding an accrual May 3, 2012, balance of \$3,889.29. No color was available on the nature of the \$1,173.77 in expenses in the absence of the treasurer.

Membership Report

Pursuant to a request from a member for a membership report the secretary announced that at the time of the meeting there were 86 paid members and 11 probable members. After processing the memberships taken at the meeting the membership total as of this writing are 89 paid members with 10 probable members the first time I see them at a launch.

Adjournment

There being no other business, announcements or pleasantries the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:40 p.m. Please send any corrections to Paul Bogdanich @ tra11654@inet.com