

May OROC minutes

May 6th, 2021

Called to order 7:30pm on Zoom.

April launch recap

- Good mix of low, mid, and high power
- Rob Lamb had a great high flight to ~34k AGL on a CTI M840
- Cloud cover was a problem sometimes, but it was generally a thin enough haze that we were able to fly high
- Waiver call contacts were very helpful and agreeable in allowing us have the whole day on Friday so we could do high flights. Big thanks to Alan Hammond for fostering those relationships for the club.
- OSU had a good showing: HART team flew, USLI team flew, two members got their L3 certs. Go Beavs!
- Some of the maintenance we wanted to do was completed: launch leads were replaced on some of the pad box extension cables. We also mounted the solar charger setup to the trailer for charging batteries in between launches. Thanks to everyone who helped out.

Membership Report

135 Active memberships, 118 from the new online interface

1 new membership was from the April launch.

Annual state non-profit filing and CT-12 state tax filing have been completed

Financial Report

- Report Date: 06-May-21
 - Balance last report \$12,761.64
 - Credits \$590.19
 - Debts (\$2,714.21)
 - Balance this report \$10,637.62
- Notes from Robert:
 - Expenditures: 700 to Beekman and 1882.89 for new GSE (primarily wireless control boxes)
 - The latest batch of PayPal deposits has not posted yet, credit will be about 960 and will show on next report

Finances Discussion

- We have some surplus right now that we could spend on improvements, options include:
 - Weather station (we will use the PIP grant to do this, application will go out this week)
 - New pad boxes. Some were ordered already and should be arriving for the next launch
 - Emergency / First Aid supplies.
 - Launch Pads.
 - The road...
 - Trailers. We still need to see if the current setup is a good long term solution or if we should look at alternatives.
 - Member suggestions at the meeting:
 - FRS / FM radio stuff for LCO announcements. We have this gear, just need to do a better job setting it up. (One of the things missed with David B. not at launches)
 - KATE launch system. Been rejected in the past as a club-owned setup. The combo is about \$1500. The club in theory could buy the ground station and members could buy their own transmitter if they wanted to use it (about \$600 a piece).
 - Altus Metrum Repeater to put on the hill.
 - Satellite Wifi network at the launch site.

Launch site news

- New airstrip owner has a permit to build a house, but no firm date yet
- Chris Beekman has plans to build a large wood-fired kiln on his property. We don't believe this will affect launch activity.
- We are always looking for additional or alternative land opportunities.

New Business

- Robert Kieffer is working on a potential software solution for flight cards / launch operations. Lots of discussion around this idea. Robert will continue to work on the demo, and we will try to coordinate a live demo at the next meeting. He has a Github page if you are interested in helping out.
- JP Roberts has volunteered to propose a first aid kit that he can put together to save the club some money since a lot of prepackaged kits are overpriced.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20pm.