Minutes of June 21, 2025
Regular Membership Meeting
of the Verde Valley Amateur Radio Association

Location: Calavera Restaurant, Cottonwood, AZ

Business Meeting Time: 12:45 PM Speaker Presentation: 1:00 PM

A pre-meeting informal luncheon was available at Calavera Restaurant commencing at 11:30 AM. Most of the members attended both the pre-meeting lunch and the regular meeting.

Present: Twenty-two members of VVARA and four guests attended the meeting.

President Bill Jean, KK7LGE, convened the Business meeting at 12:49 P.M. He led all present in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance. Bill then turned to
Officer and Committee Reports:

Secretary Report: Tim Sullivan, AC7TB, VVARA Secretary, gave his report. He thanked VVARA member, Anita Colebrooke, AC7AL, for preparing the minutes for the May, 2025 membership meeting. Tim was unable to attend the May meeting due to travel with family. Tim also announced that due to upcoming travel with family that would cause him to miss several further VVARA membership meetings in 2025, that he will resign as VVARA Secretary as soon as the Board appointed a successor. President Bill Jean called for a motion to approve the minutes of the May 17 meeting. Chuck Murko, AI7SY, moved to approve the minutes. Ron Rosson, N6XT, seconded the motion. Bill Jean, KK7LGE, called for a vote and the minutes were approved by acclamation at 12:51 PM.

Treasurer's Report: Don Sears, N7PLL, VVARA Treasurer, gave his report. Don indicated that VVARA received a contribution of $111 from the Amateur Radio Council of Arizona. He also indicated that the Club made $214 at the 2025 Prescott Hamfest from the sale of equipment previously donated to the Club. Don referenced the current VVARA checking account balance in his report. Don asked for any questions. President Bill Jean called for a motion to approve the Treasurer's report. Vice-President, Toby Payne, K7APB, moved the approval of the Treasurer's Report. Ron Rosson, N6XT, seconded the motion. President Jean called for a vote and by acclamation at 12:52 PM, the Treasurer's Report was approved.

Membership Committee: In the absence of Starla Thompson, KE7DTS, Don Sears also gave the Membership Committee report. Don indicated that VVARA has 162 regular members.

Technical Committee: In the absence of Matt Dutton, N7YIO, Technical Committee Chair, Vice President Toby Payne, K7ABP, gave the Technical Committee report concentrating on the upcoming Field Day operations on Mingus Mountain on June 28 & 29th. Toby pointed out that a sign in sheet for operating hours at the Field Day was being circulated at the meeting and encouraged licensed ham radio operators to sign up to operate the Club Station. A video with musical accompaniment taken from photos of the 2024 Field Day was shown again and both Toby and Director-at-Large Steve Pearson, KC7TIL, summarized highlights of the 2024 Field Day and promised that the 2025 Field Day would be even better. Kudos were given to the many

members of the Club who participate in the set-up, take-down and organizing of the Field Day, including, but not limited to, Bob Smith, WB6ODR, who uses a bow and arrow to help get the Club's G5RV dipole HF antenna strung up high between branches of trees, Starla Thompson, KE7DTS, who organizes the Saturday noon potluck, Bob Thompson, KC8BOB, who secures the necessary National Park Service permit so that we can use the picnic site at the top of Mingus Mountain to operate from. Carolyn Hills, KA7LKW, who allows us to use her solar trailer to power the Club's transceivers, and several others. Steve announced that the Field Day site set-up would occur on Friday afternoon at 3:00 PM and that a group of volunteers would be going up to set up the antenna and radio equipment. Dan Wills, K6RUF, volunteered to lend an Icom 7300 transceiver to be used exclusively for FT8 transmissions during Field Day.

Speaker Presentation: Fox Hunting! with Marc Gosik, W7MRG, and Guests

At 1:00 PM Marc Gosik was introduced and began his presentation with a 15 minute video presentation that he had compiled for the club meeting. Marc gave an enthusiastic and interesting presentation about Fox Hunting, using small hidden transmitters operating in the two meter band to engage ham radio operators and non-hams in a fun challenge to triangulate and identify the location of the hidden transmitters. Marc pointed out this activity is fun, usually results in a little exercise, is a social event with multiple people seeking to find the same antennas, builds important ham radio and emergency response locating skills, and encourages the use of easily built and inexpensive directional antennas.

During his presentation Marc was assisted by Yavapai Amateur Radio Club (YARC) members, Pete "Steve" Morrison, K6VVR and Jerry Lawson, K7AJL. Steve Morrison has been active in Fox Hunting for many years and coordinates the monthly Fox Hunts for YARC held on the west side of Mingus Mountain in the Prescott, Prescott Valley, Dewey-Humboldt areas.

The Fox Hunting presentation was very well received at the meeting with a long round of applause to Marc, Steve and Jerry for the presentation.

Don Sears, N7PLL, posted a link to Marc's video presentation on Fox Hunting on VVARA's website.

The meeting was adjourned about 1:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted this 11th day of July 2025, Tim Sullivan, AC7TB, Secretary