

# ACS MEETING MINUTES

**Date & Time:** 9.4.19 @ 1900hrs

**Officers attending:** President: Carl **K7ECW**, Treasurer: Ralph **N2RJR** and Trustee: Randy **NU7D**

**Attendance:** Members: Jeff **KB7PMO**, Darin **KD7TJR**, Butch **AE7KJ**, Randy **NU7D**, Steve **KN7SLR**, Ralph **N2RJR**, Carl **K7ECW**, Elizabeth **KI7RSA**, Mike **KI7RSB** and Earl **N3EG**.

Guests: Lloyd **W7KDG**, Leonard **KA7HZF**, George **KG7NQZ**, Rick **WA7RPM**, Rocky Riggs **AT&T** and Rick Redden **AT&T**.

**NOTE: Meeting minutes were recorded by Treasure, Ralph, N2RJR in the absence of our Secretary, Rick, WA7NWN.**

## Critiques:

1. Low level flight training is continuing with excellent results. Pilots are developing delicate maneuvering skills. Spotters are a necessity due to obstacles plus the pilot's need to be focused on the screen.
2. The Drone team flew at Gearhart Gardens to test the Geofencing restrictions. Results were positive. All drones were able to power up and fly freely. If you were unaware, Gearhart Gardens is the old boat launch on the lower Cowlitz river and is directly across from the airport.
3. Night flights are fun, but would be of limited value with the Mavics. Unless a lot of lighting is added to the drone, it is almost impossible to see. The cameras have good low light capability, but are not really designed for spotting things at night. The Inspire with the FLIR camera would be the best tool for nighttime work.
4. We flew in support of the McMenamins Brewfest and again for the Kalama Car show. We performed well and will see more opportunities to fly for Kalama.
5. We discovered another drone in the air at the Brewfest. A potential issue was settled amicably. At the After-Action Review meeting, it was decided that all future events involving drones, will require drone operators to check in with the Command Post. Flights will then be coordinated between the participants.
6. We have been asked to provide "live streaming" video in order to better share our product. Most of what we have seen or heard is on the expensive side. Thanks to our two guests, Rocky and Rick (soon to be new members), we were told about Cisco's WebX Teams. This is a low cost option providing live streaming capabilities. We will be checking on this.
7. Rocky and Rick also informed us about a program for First Responders. FirstNet is the name of this service. Being volunteers of the Cowlitz County DEM and HAMs, we qualify to join this service. For more information, google FirstNet, and look through the site. If you think this to be an option of interest for you, then go see either Rock or Rick at the AT&T store at the Ocean Beach end of the Triangle Mall.
8. We combined two missions into one when we attended the Toutle Fire Open House and participated in ELT training with CAP. One big issue came out of this. We kept the Comm van

in Toutle in support of the Open House. This resulted in poor communication support for the ELT teams. In the future, we will move the van as appropriate, to maintain best comm support.

9. Kalama Police asked for a drone team to search for possible evidence. Bill **KB7CZ** and Ralph **N2RJR** responded. We searched and took photos of the rooftops of four buildings and a section of the freeway shoulder. Police were pleased with our timely response and product.

### **Upcoming Activities:**

1. River Guage: To be performed by Randy **NU7D**.
2. ELT practice: CAP has requested joint training to be conducted on 9.21.19. Approved by the members with more information as the time nears.

### **Team Projects:**

1. River Guages: No changes to date. Options are still being considered.
2. ELT Team: Developing a good rapport with the CAP folks. They would like us to participate in the 9.21.19 exercise. Our past exercises this year have been positive and productive.
3. Com Van: Van requires two rear mud flaps be installed.
4. UAS: The local Diking District is asking for drone support to video/still image our local dikes. After discussion, we need to see if the Diking Authority can provide boat support for this undertaking. Accessing the shoreline is not doable for some of the requested areas. From a boat, all dike related areas can be accessed easily. We are willing to perform this task, but we need assistance from the requesting agency. Still open to discussion.

The Shooting Range/Erosion project is still on the books. We have been waiting for updated requests.

### **Other Items:**

1. ACS now has a checking account. Finance reports will be forthcoming.
2. If you have items to add, such as photos or information, contact Wally **WM7U**.

**Meeting** adjourned at 2000hrs.