

MARAC BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Jan 20, 2025 9PM EST

Call Meeting to order. Time: __9 PM EST__

Board Members in attendance:

Officers: Pres, K8ZZ___, VP, W0MU __x__, Secretary, W4SIG_x_
Treasurer, K0DEQ__x__,

Directors: Great Lakes, Darl NA8W__x__, Northeast, Al N1API__x__, South
Central, Bary, N0KV__x__, North Central, Mike, NF0N_x__, Pacific, Paige,
W0FLZ_x__, Southeast, Dave,KE3VV___

Guests:

1. Agenda Changes/Modifications

Kerry announced that the agenda items 6 and 8 would be worded differently than distributed.

2. Motion to approve minutes of the BOD Meeting held on Nov 11, 2024. (see attachment)

Discussion: Kerry will send a copy to KA9JAC for addition to the club website

Motion: __N1API_ 2nd _K0DEQ_ Aye _8_ Nay __0__ Abstain __0__

New Business:

3. **NF0N** Motion to approve the Leo Bingham MARAC Outstanding Service Award to Steve Wilson K8II, Alan Carpenter W8OP, and Ed Messenger N8OYY for their hard work in making the 2024 MARAC National Convention in Bridgeport, WV a reality.

Discussion: Many months of planning and coordination were needed to accomplish such a successful convention. These three members did an excellent job of making sure everything went smoothly with the host hotel and the meeting rooms, coordinated an excellent banquet, and were there to make sure everyone had a great time. Our thanks go out to each member of this outstanding team!

Kerry will send a note to AB7RW to issue the awards.

Motion ___NF0N_ 2nd ___N0KV___ Aye _8_ Nay _0_ Abstain _0_

4. **W4SIG** Motion to approve the MARAC Custodian Award to Barry Siegfried K2MF for his outstanding support of the goals, objectives, and needs of the MARAC Awards Program.

Discussion: In support of MARAC's new USA-CA Award, Barry has created tools that are highly beneficial to both the county chaser and the Awards Secretary to enable this award to be a success. Barry created a spreadsheet that is available to all county hunters to utilize and submit with their USA-CA application so as to meet the award's requirements. He also digitized all CQ Magazine records for all levels of the award from the last 50 years to enable the Awards Secretary to assign accurate numbers to all the levels of the award.

Kerry will send a note to AB7RW to issue this award.

Motion ___W4SIG_ 2nd ___N1API___ Aye _8_ Nay _0_ Abstain ___0_

5. **NA8W** Motion to accept nominations for the positions of the MARAC Pacific and Northeast Districts for the period of March 1 to May 15, 2025. The ensuing election will take place in June 2025.

Discussion: Election Coordinator will need to publish this in a RoadRunner article and put on website

Motion: ___NA8W_ 2nd ___N0KV___ Aye _8_ Nay _0_ Abstain _0_

6. **K0DEQ** Motion to set USA-CA award prices as follows:

4. Payment of the applicable fee, if any (in US Dollars only) for each award requested:

- a. For a certificate in PDF form sent by email plus a large (approximately 14" x 21") paper certificate shipped to the applicant the fee is \$50 for MARAC members and \$65 for non- MARAC members, plus an additional \$20 to ship outside the contiguous United States.
- b. For only a certificate in PDF form sent by email there is no fee.

Discussion: W4SIG discussed the latest quote from the printer on the USA-CA award and shipping costs. We believe that the proposed costs will allow the club to break even on costs for members. Also, Some Board members suggested that we should revisit the zero charge to non-members who just request the pdf file, but we should go ahead and pass this as read so as to get everything else in place. We will discuss this non-member pdf part and possibly change it at a later date.

Word of this decision has been passed to K3IMC for updating information for the USA-CA application process. Also, the Award Rules document will need to be updated with these costs.

Motion: __K0DEQ__ 2nd __N1API__ Aye __8__ Nay __0__ Abstain __0__

7. W0MU Motion to approve \$600 in funds to assist Dorie, N8WTQ, with the coordination and planning of the MARAC 2025 Michigan Mini on April 24-26.

Discussion: This is in line with what MARAC usually approves yearly for this purpose.

Motion: __W0MU__ 2nd __N1API__ Aye __8__ Nay __0__ Abstain __0__

8. W4SIG

Motion:

The following paragraph is added to the MARAC Bylaws:

5.5(h) USA-CA Records Custodian. The President may appoint a regular member of MARAC to serve as United States of America County Award Records Custodian. The person in this position shall be responsible for maintenance and enhancement of the Records Database for the United States of America County Award by:

- Keeping the 7 sub-tables of the award updated to ensure the Awards Secretary has accurate data available
- Supplying missing award dates when they become available

- Performing Typo corrections
- Keeping accurate and up-to-date Call Sign histories for USA-CA recipients
- Coupling Call ID data field to USA-CA list maintenance
- Providing checks and balances to MARAC front page and expanded USA-CA MARAC DB listings

Discussion: Since MARAC decided to offer awards for all the lower levels (500, 1000, etc) of the USA-CA award, this created a very complex issue of creating an accurate digital database of all the previous levels issued by CQ Magazine with their version of the award. Barry, K2MF, has done an extraordinary job of researching the manual CQ records of 63 years and completing this task as accurately as possible. He has created these 7 workbooks and has made them available to the MARAC Awards Secretary for use. However, there is a lot of missing data that will continually need to be updated and added to these workbooks. For example, out of 13,000 awards issued during the 63 years, almost 4,000 of them still have missing issue dates. Information continues to trickle in from past recipients. All of these tasks, as highlighted above, should be formalized in an official MARAC USA-CA Records Custodian role.

While the Board approved this, it will need to be on a future ballot for membership vote since it is a By-Laws change. Also, advance notice of this should be included in the next RoadRunner. The Board also agrees that this position should qualify for 300 hours/yr credit toward the Masters Gold award, similar to other appointed positions. This will be a future motion.

Motion: W4SIG 2nd NA8W Aye 8 Nay 0 Abstain 0

9. Motion to Adjourn

Motion: K0DEQ 2nd N1API Aye 8 Nay 0 Abstain 0
 Time 9:41pm EST

Open discussion with membership

K2MF announces that, although dozens of USA-CA awards have now been issued, the first request for a large certificate has now been received.

NF0N reports that he is forging ahead with plans to run the MARAC booth at the Dayton convention again this year.

W4SIG reports that he and KF7ZN have finalized an article on MARAC and the USA-CA award for submission to QST magazine. It should be submitted this week. Hopefully it will further publicize our club and our USA-CA program.