



EOSS Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, April 10, 2018  
Longmont, CO

Tom called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. There were 11 present with 3 attending via Zoom meeting.

**Previous Meeting Minutes:** March's meeting minutes were reviewed and accepted.

**Treasurer's reports:** Tom KE7KCK relayed from Rob KCOUO that we have received payment for the March flight and reimbursement checks have been mailed out for the March flight.

**Tech Committee Report:** Marty WA0GEH relayed for Steve KOSCC that while the release mechanisms on KCOD-1 and KCOD-15 worked on command they both returned latex that fouled the chutes and further down the flight line. Both RF releases suffered damage and one payload lost its foam top. Chutes were soaking wet and payloads and releases were packed with mud. Steve will have these repaired before next flight. Mark KCOD will make adjustments to the accelerometer release settings so it will release before the GPS release. Mark added that on a previous flight EOSS-12 suffered a broken power switch. Doug N0IX will make repair when switch arrives and be placed back in rotation. Mark KCOD said that Steve KOSCC has received two new 12' Rocketman Chutes and has updated the web site with their weights. Tom KE7KCK requested that anyone interested in helping on the flight line see Steve KOSCC. Nick N0LP will continue to investigate one of these new frequencies that is close to the Denver Radio League packet frequency to see if we need to select a replacement.

**Launch Team:** Larry N0NDM says he has enough gas and latex for three heavies or four exempt flights ready for this weekend. He prefers to launch on Sunday if winds will be a problem on Saturday. Larry says that Air Gas now keeps six cylinder of gas available for us at the Vasquez Plant. Tom KE7KCK said that if we are shorthanded on balloon fill to contact himself or Jim KCORPS to find help. Larry will keeps some extra hoodies available for those helping with balloon fill.

**Ground Station:** Jeff N2XGL reported that they have implemented a new approach to verifying that valid beacons packets are seen on the internet before attaching them to the flight string. Russ KB0TVJ looks at Jeff's program output to verify that each beacon is posted to the internet. Russ asked how long the ground station should wait before notifying the flight line that there may be a problem with a beacon. Problems could be no RF, malformed packets, no ground station internet, interfering signals, etc. The group agreed that after 2 minute we will place a hold on the launch, after 5 minute begin trouble shooting procedures. Launch can proceed once valid position packets are posted to the internet.

**Track and Recovery:** Marty WA0GEH reported that he had a good group of trackers on the last flight. At one time we had four balloons in the air. After the first two were on the ground and we had things under control we peeled a tracker from each of those flight to work the other two. Even though we were short on trackers everyone was calm and professional. We are going to be short of trackers again on next weekend's flights.

**EOSS-268 Flight Recap:** Jim KCORPS was the flight coordinator for the Colorado Space Grant and STEM flight launched on a single heavy balloon out of Deer Trail CO on March 17th. Nick NOLP wrote up a good summary of the flight which is posted on the web site. Thanks Nick. The balloon reach over 100000' feet. Norm Black coordinated four elementary schools for the NSSTI STEM flight. Norm's program is funded through the National Defense Contractors group.

**EOSS-269 thru EOSS-272:** Tom KE7KCK was the flight coordinator for these flights out of Eaton Colorado on April 7<sup>th</sup>. Everything went well at the launch site. Jacob, one of the C-base students worked the payload spread sheet. Tom mentioned that there some last minute nail biting due to flight prediction showing a close brush with the 30 nautical mile limit with DIA airspace. Jim KCORPS added that Bernadette had some forethought to move some payloads to the March flight in anticipation that the weather may not allow for three heavies. As a result no payloads were left off these flights.

**Up Coming Metro State Flight:** Jim says these will be two exempt or one heavy from Deer Trail. Weather prediction for Saturday is for high winds at launch site. These flights look like they will be pushed to Sunday. Chris Koehler contacted Jim with request to find space for a couple Gateway to Space payloads that experienced failures on their flight. Metro State has given OK to add payloads. Metro State would like to have air support during flight. Steve maybe able to come up with radio for communications with air support.

**GPSL:** Nick says he has a draft out to everyone that has expressed an interest in GPSL. Hotels have been identified and all participants have been informed. Another draft will be coming out in about three weeks. A ladies day has been planned. Randy asked about lat longs for launch site so he can do predictions. Jim KCORPS has five Mylar balloons and Tom KE7KCK has provided a helium cylinder. Jim would like to get together some Saturday to test fill and launch a balloon with payload weight. Jim asked for a twenty meter antenna to test the tracker. Larry NONDM will provide an antenna for testing. Nick noted that we need to find an indoor fill location at GPSL. Jim will check on this.

**C-Base Student update:** John KCOL said we had six students that passed the technician class test. John would like to thank the Boulder Amateur Radio Club for providing the test session. Two more student will take the test next week. Congratulations to Aanshi Panchal – KD9KRW, Bryan Murphy – KEORDV, Karim Krati – KEORDO, Colin Claytor – KEORDL, Jacob Jarriel – KEORDM, and Antoni Meyer – KDORDP. Tom KE7KCK will post congratulations to our new hams on the web site. Jim made a motion to purchase up to eleven radios to provide to the C-Base students and Bernadette not to exceed \$500.00. Motion was passed.

**Web Site:** Marty WA0GEH say Ben KBOUBZ has the web site upgraded. He is also working on a location to post EOSS meeting minutes.

**Wiggin Launch Site:** Nick NOLP has made contact with the district superintendent in Wiggins, CO for a meeting about a launch location. A meeting has been set up.

**Eaton Launch Site:** Nick NOLP proposes that we provide Dave Anderson a \$100.00 gift card for his high level of support when we launch out of Eaton. Tom will talk with Rob about making this a facilities charge. This will be revisited at the next meeting.

**Space Symposium:** Metro state has a booth at the Space Symposium in Colorado Springs next week. They have allocated space for an industry partner. Marty WA0GEH and Nick NOLP have volunteered to man the booth. They will have some EOSS presentation material for show and tell.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM

Minutes prepared by David Lanning, Secretary.