

# URAC Meeting Minutes

March 2, 2019



27 people in attendance.

No business was conducted, other than announcing cancellation of the scheduled Board Meeting.

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We did have a most interesting program.

A special *thank you* to Speaker Bob Grubic NC6Q for his “*Vacation DXpedition to Panama*” presentation.

Bob had lots of slides on history, of DX radio contacts, and the unique requirements for operating in foreign countries.

As one of approximately 16 countries of the Americas which accept an IARP (International Amateur Radio Permit), Bob’s ability to operate in Panama was on the basis of obtaining an IARP. The permit, valid for 365 days, can be applied for through ARRL for only \$10.

He entertained us on the challenges of attempting to have a vacation in Panama while taking part in a CW contest.

Everything was planned and ready for the 24 hour contest; everything except for knowing of the Pope coming to town.

So back to vacation only, or not?? A video showed traffic stopped for a sloth crossing the road. That could have been a long delay, but luckily a local safely picked up the sloth and took him to safety.

Vacation brought them to a beach house on the Pacific Coast side during the contest.

Running only 5 watts on his KX3, 18 contacts were made, gaining 810 points. So the combination vacation & contest was achieved after all.

A most entertaining presentation. Again ... thanks Bob.

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Our next meeting is Saturday, April 6th. Those who usually participate in Field Day with K6AA should plan to attend for a status update on how prepared we are for this year’s event.

## Board Meeting

The March Board Meeting was cancelled. The next one is scheduled for April.

Janet Meek - Secretary