

PITT COUNTY ARES®

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

CONSTITUTION

Mission Statement

Pitt County Amateur Radio Emergency Services (Pitt County ARES), as an affiliate of the Amateur Radio Relay League (ARRL), consists of licensed amateur radio operators who have voluntarily registered their qualifications and equipment to support the mission of developing and maintaining the leadership and organizational structure necessary to provide radio communications support for served agencies (including, but not limited to; Pitt County Emergency Management, American Red Cross, Pitt County Memorial Hospital) in and around the Pitt County area of North Carolina.

- When conventional communications are inadequate to meet the public safety or humanitarian needs.
- When amateur radio resources may help facilitate response or recovery in any emergency situation.
- When lives and properties can be protected.
- When human suffering can be relieved.
- When amateur radio resources may help facilitate effective activities performed for the good of the general public.
- Whenever and wherever it becomes necessary, so no community in need goes without essential communication.

Pitt County ARES strives to enhance to reliability, quality and professionalism of Pitt County ARES personnel through the establishment of training and performance standards, policies, procedures, management, and supervision of amateur radio operators registered with this organization, who may be activated to provide communications on behalf of the served agencies and clients requesting our assistance.

Pitt County ARES pledges a commitment to preparedness and service in protection of public health, safety and welfare by encouraging innovative leadership and individual responsibility, which enhances the reliability and excellence of amateur radio emergency communications. We motivate amateur radio operators to excel in all facets of emergency communications and recognize those who exemplify our emergency communications philosophy.

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Article I: Membership

Any licensed amateur radio operator, regardless of membership in ARRL or any other local or national organization is eligible for membership in Pitt County ARES. The only qualification, other than possession of an Amateur Radio license, is a sincere desire to serve. The possession of emergency powered equipment is desirable, but is not a requirement for membership. Individuals must submit an application and be approved by the Board in accordance with Section 1 of the By-Laws.

Article II: Officers / Board of Directors

The following officers shall comprise the Board of Directors (Board): President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Trustee.

Section 1 - Qualifications

The Emergency Coordinator (EC) of Pitt County shall serve as President for as long as the EC appointment from ARRL is in effect.

All other officers of Pitt County ARES shall hold an amateur radio license and be a member of Pitt County ARES.

Section 2 - Election of Officers

Officers up for election shall be elected by majority vote of the membership present at the Annual Meeting. Incoming officers shall begin their term on January 1 of the following year.

Section 3 - Terms

With the exception of the President, Officers are elected to one (1) year terms.

Section 4 - Vacancies

Vacancies occurring between elections will be filled by vote of the remaining officers within 30 days of a vacancy.

Article III: Duties of Officers

Section 1 - President

As the chief officer of the organization, the President shall preside at all meetings, appoint committees and operational staff as needed, approve all disbursements, and may sign checks in lieu of the Treasurer.

Section 2 - Vice President

The Vice President shall assist the President and perform such other duties as the President may assign. In the absence of the President, the Vice President shall officiate at all meetings, and perform the administrative duties of the President.

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Section 3 - Secretary

The Secretary shall keep the minutes of all meetings, maintain all records and files, including the file copy of the Constitution and By-Laws, handle all correspondence in cooperation with the President and perform such other duties as may be assigned by the President.

Section 4 - Treasurer

The Treasurer is entrusted with the custody of the funds for Pitt County ARES and shall submit a financial report at each meeting. It shall be the Treasurer's responsibility to keep the bank currently informed of the signatures of the Club officers as used on the Club's checks. The Treasurer shall present a budget to the Board at the annual meeting.

Section 5 - Trustee

The trustee shall offer information and opinion on matters that come before the Board, or act in an advisory capacity to the President or as requested.

Article IV: Amendments

The Constitution or the By-Laws may be amended by a four-fifths vote of the officers at any formally announced meeting. All officers must be notified in writing a minimum of 14 days prior to any meeting held with the intent to amend the Constitution or the By-Laws.

Article V: Financial Policies

Section 1

Pitt County ARES is a non-profit, non-commercial amateur radio organization. The club shall operate within the meaning of Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, so long as the Internal Revenue Service considers Pitt County ARES to hold 501 (c)(3) status.

Section 2

No officer or member of Pitt County ARES shall receive any personal compensation for services rendered to, by, or for Pitt County ARES.

Section 3

No officer or member of Pitt County ARES has the authority to obligate Pitt County ARES in any manner, monetarily or otherwise, except as authorized by approved memorandums of understanding, approved budgets, or by vote of the Board.

Article VI: Dissolution of the Club

Should Pitt County ARES dissolve, the ARRL shall be notified and provided a list of the members at the time of the dissolution. Any assets belonging to Pitt County ARES shall be distributed to association(s) for a purpose similar to those set forth in the Mission Statement.

PITT COUNTY ARES® CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

BY-LAWS

1. Membership

Applications for membership in Pitt County ARES shall be submitted to the President. Applicants meeting the membership requirement will be accepted for membership upon approval of the Board. If the Board votes to deny membership to any individual, the procedure for removal from membership will be followed.

2. Removal from Membership

Any member may be removed or denied membership from Pitt County ARES by a four-fifths majority vote of the Board. Grounds for removal or denial of membership are limited to conduct deemed as hindering the ability of Pitt County ARES to complete its mission and/or unacceptable Amateur Radio practices. The member/applicant in question must be notified by the Board, in writing, via registered mail. The written notice must contain the intent of a vote to remove or deny membership, the grounds for removal/denial and the date, time and place that the vote on the issue is to be taken. The member shall be allowed to defend their position to the Board prior to the vote. The vote shall be by secret ballot.

3. Removal of an Elected Officer

Any elected officer may be removed from Pitt County ARES by a three-fourths majority vote of the other Board members.

4. Conflict of Interest

Officers shall not engage in activities which may constitute a conflict of interest without first obtaining permission from the Board.

5. Compensation of Members

As services provided by Pitt County ARES are in the interest of public service, no member shall accept or solicit compensation for their services.

6. Meetings

Regular meetings shall be held as determined by the President. An annual meeting must be held in either October or November of each year.

7. Fiscal Year

The fiscal year for Pitt County ARES shall run from January 1 to December 31.

8. Check Signing

No authorized check signer may be both payee and signer on any check.

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Adopted on January 20, 2010 by:

Dave Pulver, KG4CZV
President

Mike Langley, KD4MTT
Vice President

Terry Monday, K4ZYD
Treasurer

Bonnie Pulver, KG4CZW
Secretary

Bob Moore, N4USB
Trustee