



INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA
AGENDA ITEM
Assistant County Administrator /
Department of General Services
Parks and Recreation

Date: May 23, 2023
To: The Honorable Board of County Commissioners
Through: John Titkanich, County Administrator
Michael C. Zito, Assistant County Administrator
From: Beth Powell, Director Parks & Recreation
Subject: Extension of License Agreement for the Vero Beach Amateur Radio Club

BACKGROUND

The Vero Beach Amateur Radio Club, Inc. (VBARC) is a registered not for profit organization located within Indian River County. The VBARC stated mission is "to recruit, train and help committed HAM (term that refers to amateur radio operators) Radio operators to carry on the tradition of amateur radio by using our network of technical resources, and expertise to provide equipment, skilled operators and emergency services when called upon by local authorities in time of need to assist and protect the citizens in the communities in which we live and serve."

The VBARC has a long-standing history of service to the citizens of Indian River County through their cooperation with the Indian River County Emergency Services Division.

VBARC is looking to continue to utilize space at the Donald MacDonald Campground, located at 12315 Roseland Road. The office of the campgrounds is housed within a 1,976 square foot, repurposed modular building. Campground staff use only a small portion of the entire square footage of the building and their primary tasks are focused on campsite maintenance and grounds maintenance duties on nearby parks.

VBARC entered into a License Agreement with the Board of County Administrators on June 23, 2020 for a period of three (3) years with two (2) one (1) year terms upon mutual agreement of both parties.

VBARC has partitioned approximately 204 square feet of the building's space and set up a fully operational amateur radio station along with an antennae tower in order to conduct HAM certification trainings for Scouts, Veterans and other interested residents. The club will hold monthly gatherings for low powered temporary installations, training in the latest digital techniques, license courses, testing, and conduct amateur radio exercises.

FUNDING:

Vero Beach Amateur Radio Club, Inc. will reimburse the County for additional electrical expenses incurred through their license agreement.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff respectfully recommends the Indian River County Board of County Commissioners accept the license agreement extension with Vero Beach Amateur Radio Club, Inc. and authorize the chair to execute the same.

ATTACHMENT:

License Agreement - Vero Beach Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Approved Agenda Item for June 6, 2023