

VLBA CC Memo No. 44

NATIONAL RADIO ASTRONOMY OBSERVATORY

Charlottesville, Virginia

1985 February 01

To: Coordinating Committee
From: P. Sebring
Subject: Notes from CC Meeting, 1985 February 01

Participants

NRAD-CV	Hvatum (Chan), Benson, Burns, Cotton, D'Addario, Porter, Romney, Thompson, Sebring
VLA	Bignell, Clark, Napier, Walker
SOC	Horne
GB	Peery
Haystack	Rogers
Caltech	Ewing, Fort, Kator, Seling

1. NSF Quarterly Review. Hein reported on this meeting, which was held Jan. 31 at NSF. Apparently, discussions centered around the effects on the Project of several funding scenarios which NSF had asked that we prepare. It is to be hoped that we shall soon know the level of funding VLBA is to have, at least for 1986, in order that more firm planning may be done. Apparently, the 1985 total (Apr 1 - Dec 31) is still firm at \$9-million.

2. Hein indicated that work must begin, once we know the funding level, on a more detailed schedule for the activities associated with the antenna and equipment for Station No. 1.

3. Action List, update of 18-Jan-85:

3.1 Spec details corr output. Benson requested a new due date of Mar 1.

3.2 Final M/C documentation. Clark hopes to complete this next week. Hein warned that we will soon have to start considering due dates more seriously. Walker proposed a third column in the Action List entitled "deadline", showing the date on which the item becomes "critical".

3.4 Propose software standards. A first draft is done, and a second should be done in one month. Agreement is expected about another two weeks thereafter. Burns felt that agreement will take longer than that.

3.5 Spec M/C-Correlator language & op system. Ewing thinks this item is well enough defined. A proposal should be available by mid-February.

3.6 Spec M/C/Corr interfaces. Ewing said he does not know what this item means. I failed to follow the discussion from this point through that of the next item, "Spec Monitor Data Base". Can anyone help?

3.7 RFI Tucson. Measurements complete.

3.8 A/E contract. Porter states that the contract is written. Will be sent out for approval next week. It presently appears that the contractor's plans for the antenna foundation will be held up by the present schedule according to which the antenna contractor proposes to develop a typical design suitable for their antenna.

3.9 Atmospheric tests, Hawaii. Peery reports data are in and analysis is starting.

3.10 Evaluate antenna polarization performance. Peter reports the program being used uses lots of computer time, and another month is therefore needed to complete the work. It was suggested that more time would be available in Tucson, and that perhaps the work can be completed there.

3.11 RFI Fort Davis. Peter says other calls on Jim Oty's time will prevent start of these measurements before March 7. Feels they are not yet critical.

4. Hein reports that NSF is vitally interested in the sites, vis a' vis such things as environmental impact statements. He asked Buck to begin determining which sites are going to require such statements. Buck says sites must be defined and surveyed before such statements can be prepared. He is of the opinion that no such statement will be needed either for Pie Town or Los Alamos. Craig says preparing a statement for a Hawaii site will be difficult.

The possible location of an antenna at Green Bank is a dead issue, Hein feels, unless the Director wants it resurrected.

5. Buck reports that at the last Sites Group meeting it was proposed that a single frequency coordinator be named for the entire Project.

6. Horne asked whether he should be responsible for the item "Servo/MC interface" on the Action list. Larry suggested that Barry Clark be placed directly in contact with the antenna contractor, since a firm spec for this interface will be needed fairly soon to enable the contractor to develop a final design for the antenna control unit. Bill indicated that the Antenna Test Controller will not be needed by RSi for antenna tests before about June 1986. However, Larry points out that it may be valuable to the servo vendor well before then in testing out the prototype antenna control unit.

7. Socorro Meeting Wrap-up. Larry reports his summary will be out in a day or two. The deadline for the reports of Group Leaders concerning how the workshops affected their subsystems is February 7. Then the update material for the Project Book is due February 21. There will be revisions to the Action List also by next week's CC meeting.

Some matters were left undecided, and Larry is soliciting new items for his "decisions list". It was also proposed that there be an options list, including things that might be added to improve the system, and things that might be deleted, in order to save money.