

Hillsdale County Amateur Radio Club

Club Meeting Minutes

February 13, 2016

In attendance: President Don Gambill KC8WAU, Treasurer Joseph Gosla KD8UJS, Members Bill Hicks WB8FFO, Jerry Jordan KA8IEC, Jim Spencer KD8YDD (5 members, 5 total).

The meeting was held at the North Adams Coffee Shop and was called to order at 0905.

Membership Report

Don reported membership was 18 as of the last meeting on January 9. One new member and no renewals since. Twelve members have renewed for 2016. Six members have not yet renewed and are in the grace period. Membership at the start of the meeting stood at 19.

Determination of Quorum

Five of 19 members being present, neither a regular quorum (1/3) or a constitutional quorum (1/2) were present. No official business could be transacted.

Meeting Minutes

Meeting minutes from the January 9 meetings (regular and annual) were not reviewed due to the lack of a quorum required for approval.

Treasurers Report

Joe reviewed the treasury report for January with an ending balance of \$1,201.70, but it could not be approved due to the lack of a quorum.

Board Meeting Update

Board met on February 3. Meeting business was routine. Minutes available.

Past Events

January 24 – Hazel Park W8HP 50th Annual Swap: No report.

Ongoing Business and Reports

ARES/RACES/SKYWARN: Severe weather spotter training will be presented by the NWS Northern Indiana office on March 14 at Hillsdale College Phillips Auditorium. Registration required. Details on club website.

Contesting: Jerry said that he made a few contacts with National Parks on the Air stations in Florida and the western part of the country.

DX: Jerry said that he made a contact in Croatia, as well as one in Germany (transmitting through England) and Amsterdam (transmitting through California).

Equipment: No reports.

Hillsdale County Emergency Management: Next siren test March 7. Next meeting April 4.

FCC License Database Activity:

01/11/16 KE8CLE, Fogarty, Edwin C, upgraded to Amateur Extra from General

01/29/16 KC8YYH, Roberts, Jeffery L, license status set to expired

02/05/16 WB8FFO, Hicks Jr, William, license renewed

02/10/16 KB9NNT, Agnew, Byron L, license renewed

Net Reports: Due to severe weather training next month, the Emergency Test Net will be on March 7.

Newsletter: No updates.

PRB-1 Update: HR 1301 was reported favorably by the Communications and Technology Subcommittee to the Energy and Commerce Committee. HR 1301 now has 120 cosponsors. Senate bill 1685 still has 3 cosponsors. The club has collected 21 pairs of letters urging Michigan senators to support S1685 and all have been sent to the ARRL.

Repeaters: No reports.

Traffic handling: No reports.

Volunteer activity: Don said the board decided not to work the CROP Walk this year but that will work the Community Action Agency Head Start picnic.

Website: Two downtime events since last meeting totaling 10.12 hours for 98.79% uptime.

Unfinished Business

Leadership elections for vacant Secretary position. No nominations.

Membership dues are due by March 31.

Club member Don Playford WB8CCK is getting some RFI and has complained to Consumers Energy and the FCC. Dan Romanchik KB6NU, who visited Don's shack in August, said that he "thinks that it's something in the factory (near Don's house). It is very strong and quite wideband, leading me to think that it's very close. I can certainly see some piece of machinery creating that kind of noise. I think that to isolate the problem someone is going to have to do some snooping with a small AM transistor radio or maybe something like the R3500D radio direction finding (RDF) receiver." Looking for someone to take the lead in helping Don. No takers.

New Business

None

News

Rick Roderick K5UR of Little Rock, Arkansas, succeeded Kay Craigie N3KN as ARRL president.

Tom Gallagher NY2RF of West Palm Beach, Florida, will succeed David Sumner K1ZZ as ARRL CEO effective April 18.

ARRL is conducting yearlong National Parks on the Air contest to celebrate National Parks System 100th anniversary.

Microsoft free upgrades to Windows 10 started July 29, 2015 and area available for a year.

Upcoming Events

February 21 – Livonia ARC's 45th Annual Swap & Shop

March 2 – Board Meeting

March 12 – Ham Breakfast

March 14 – NWS Severe Weather Training at Hillsdale College Phillips Auditorium

March 19 – Crossroads Hamfest (Kalamazoo)

March 20 – TMRA Hamfest and Computer Fair (Toledo)

Next Club Meeting

No club meeting in March due to weather training. Next meeting April 21 at the First United Methodist Church in Hillsdale.

Adjournment

Meeting concluded at 0937.

Respectfully submitted by KC8WAU