

Hillsdale County Amateur Radio Club

Club Meeting Minutes

April 21, 2016

In attendance: President Don Gambill KC8WAU, Vice President Dan Sprow KC8RYF, Treasurer Joseph Gosla KD8UJS, Members Bill Hicks WB8FFO, Jerry Jordan KA8IEC, Mark Seevers KC8QVX (6 members, 6 total).

The meeting was held at the Hillsdale First United Methodist Church and called to order at 1902.

Membership Report

Don reported membership was 19 as of the last meeting on February 13. One new member and one renewal since. Five members from 2015 did not renew. Membership at the start of the meeting stood at 15.

Determination of Quorum

Six of 15 members being present, a regular quorum (1/3) was present but a constitutional quorum (1/2) was not.

Meeting Minutes

Don read the meeting minutes from the January 9 regular meeting. Dan moved to approve, Jerry second, motion passed.

Don read the meetings minutes from the January 9 annual meeting. Joe moved to approve, Dan second, motion passed.

The minutes from the February 13 meeting were not reviewed as there was not a quorum present at the meeting and no official business could be transacted.

Treasurers Report

Joe presented the treasury report for January with an ending balance of \$1,201.70. Mark moved to approve, Dan second, motion passed.

Joe presented the treasury report for February with an ending balance of \$1,215.45. Bill moved to approve, Mark second, motion passed.

Joe presented the treasury report for March with an ending balance of \$1,245.45. Dan moved to approve, Jerry second, motion passed

Board Meeting Update

Board met on March 2 and April 6. Meeting business was routine. Minutes available. Board voted to change the starting time of Board meetings to 1830 instead of 1800.

Past Events

February 21 – Livonia ARC's 45th Annual Swap & Shop: No report.

March 12 – Ham Breakfast Yesterday's Litchfield: Seven attendees.

March 14 – NWS SKYWARN Training at Hillsdale College Phillips Auditorium: Approximately 75 people attended, including 11 hams. The set up an information table that garnered one new member, two sets of signed S1685 letters and contact information for four prospects.

March 19 – Crossroads Hamfest (Kalamazoo): Don, Joe, Dan, Jerry, Tommy Palmer KD8WWW and Ed Trombley N8DCC attended from Hillsdale County. Jerry said that he bought an Alinco DJ-V17 HT.

March 20 – TMRA Hamfest and Computer Fair (Toledo): No report.

April 9 – Ham Breakfast Ray's Tavern Reading: Seven hams attended despite unseasonable winter weather and icy roads.

April 16 – Michigan QSO Party: No report.

Ongoing Business and Reports

ARES/RACES/SKYWARN: Dan said that he will be assuming net control for severe weather events when necessary as he is more often available now and Emergency Management will not be opening their office as often due to funding. Dan said that he is working to get the ARES program back on track. Dan said that he has talked to Hillsdale County Emergency Management Director Doug Sanford N8WFB and that the D-STAR radio will be installed in the new 911 building. Don said that Doug informed him of some changes at the hospital. Brenda Brendel has left and Shirley Curtis will now be our contact. The D-STAR radio that is currently installed in the emergency room will be relocated. Dan said that there should also be a Kenwood radio somewhere at the hospital, possibly with Scott Brown.

Contesting: No reports.

DX: Jerry said that he made a contact in the Canary Islands and got a good signal report.

Equipment: Joe said that he bought a TM-V71A dual band mobile.

FCC License Database Activity:

02/23/16 W8JNT JOHNSON, JOE H license status set to expired (Homer).

03/11/16 KE0TCA, ARNOLD, TERRY C, issued vanity call sign, previously KE0FVB, address updated from out of county.

03/21/16 KD8DVP, SOUTH CENTRAL MICHIGAN EMCOMM - HILLSDALE CHAPTER, license renewed.

03/21/16 KD8DVQ, SOUTH CENTRAL MICHIGAN EMCOMM - HILLSDALE CHAPTER, license renewed.

03/23/16 WB8NDZ, Shearer, Samuel J, license status set to expired (SK 10/24/14).

03/31/16 KD8QHD, CADOO, COREY D, upgraded to General from Technician.

Hillsdale County Emergency Management: County broke ground on a new 911/Emergency Management building in the Hillsdale Manufacturing and Technology Park on April 5. Next siren test and meeting on May 2. County is building a new tower in Litchfield to install radio equipment that is currently at the Endicott Generating Station, which is being shut down.

Net Reports: Had eleven check-ins for April 11 net, most since 2013. Don may need to change date of Emergency Test net in May due to schedule conflict.

Newsletter: No updates.

PRB-1 Update: HR 1301 now has 125 cosponsors. Senate bill 1685 still has 3 cosponsors. The club has collected 23 pairs of letters urging Michigan senators to support S1685 and all have been sent to the ARRL.

Repeaters: Mark said that he would talk to Hillsdale County 9-1-1/Central Dispatch Director Doug Sanford N8WFB about moving the Bacon Street receiver site to the new 911 building tower.

Traffic handling: No reports.

Volunteer activity: No reports.

Website: Three downtime events since last meeting totaling 19.03 hours for 98.84% uptime. Dan said that he would be installing a new router and server sometime in the near future that will cause the website to be unavailable. Don asked that this not be done when the newsletter is scheduled to be sent out.

Field Day

Field Day is June 25-26. Dan is amenable to having it at his house this year. He would like to have at least six people to help. There are two new bonus point categories this year, one for social media usage and one for having a safety officer.

Unfinished Business

Leadership elections for vacant Secretary position. No nominations.

New Business

None

News

Gregg Shiroda KB8RBD of Romulus became a Silent Key on April 6. Gregg was the father-in-law of Dan's son Andy Sprow KB9YJH and participated in our Field Day event in 2014.

Julie McLain KB8ZXR of Holt became a Silent Key on April 7. Julie was president of the Central Michigan Amateur Radio Club and organized the CMARC Outdoor Hamfest, as well as being net control on popular 2-meter nets.

John Sterling KD8HO of Jerome became a Silent Key on April 7.

The Southwest Michigan Amateur Radio Team (SMART) in Kalamazoo is sponsoring a bus trip to the Dayton Hamvention on Saturday, May 21. The cost is \$100 and includes the bus ride, continental breakfast on bus, Hamvention ticket and dinner on the return trip.

ARROW Communications Association is sponsoring a bus trip to the Dayton Hamvention on Saturday, May 21. The cost for the round trip is \$65 and includes the bus ride from Ann Arbor, continental breakfast, the right to sell your stuff from the ARROW attended booth space in the flea market and the opportunity to win one of many ARROW door prizes.

New Element 4 (Extra) question pool starts July 1.

The National Park Service (NPS) is celebrating its 100th anniversary in 2016, and radio amateurs will be able to help mark the occasion with the ARRL National Parks on the Air (NPOTA) event.

Microsoft Windows 10 free upgrades continue until July 29.

Upcoming Events

April 23 – BCARC tape measure Yagi antenna build

May 4 – Board Meeting

May 14 – Ham Breakfast Sidekick Cafe

May 19 – Club Meeting

May 20 – Community Action Agency Head Start Picnic

May 20-22 – Dayton Hamvention

June 25-26 – Field Day

Next Club Meeting

Next meeting May 19 at the First United Methodist Church in Hillsdale.

Adjournment

Jerry moved to adjourn, Joe second, meeting adjourned at 2015. Don provided refreshments.

Program

Dan showed a video titled “Don's 2 Meter Extreme Dream Beam Antenna”.

Respectfully submitted by KC8WAU