

Hillsdale County Amateur Radio Club

Club Meeting Minutes

May 19, 2016

In attendance: President Don Gambill KC8WAU, Vice President Dan Sprow KC8RYF, Treasurer Joseph Gosla KD8UJS, Members Bill Hicks WB8FFO, Jerry Jordan KA8IEC, Jim Spencer KD8YDD, Guest Jan Spencer (6 members, 7 total).

The meeting was held at the Hillsdale First United Methodist Church and started at 1902 without a quorum. Additional members arrived making a quorum and the official meeting was called to order at 1907.

Membership Report

Don reported membership was 15 as of the last meeting on April 21. No activity since. 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 reviewed the meeting minutes from the April 21 regular meeting. Bill moved to approve, Joe second, motion passed.

Treasurers Report

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

Board Meeting Update

Board met on May 4. Meeting business was routine. Minutes available. June board meeting is postponed to June 8 due to a conflict at the church meeting location.

Past Events

April 23 – BCARC tape measure Yagi antenna build session: Four members attended.

May 1 – CROP Walk: Five amateurs volunteered.

May 14 – Ham Breakfast Sidekick Cafe: Seven attendees.

Ongoing Business and Reports

ARES/RACES/SKYWARN: No updates.

Contesting: No reports.

DX: Jerry said that he made contacts in Nicaragua and Caracas, Venezuela.

Equipment: County ham Don Bannick N6CRV has a Yaesu FT-767GX rig for sale.

FCC License Database Activity: None since last meeting.

Hillsdale County Emergency Management: Next siren test and meeting on June 6.

Net Reports: Passed around a copy of current net participation contest results.

Newsletter: No updates.

PRB-1 Update: HR 1301 now has 126 cosponsors. Senate bill 1685 now has 4 cosponsors. The club has collected 24 pairs of letters urging Michigan senators to support S1685 and 23 have been sent to the ARRL.

Repeaters: No updates.

Traffic handling: No reports.

Volunteer activity: No reports.

Website: No downtime since last meeting. Year-to-date uptime is 98.49%.

Field Day

Field Day is June 25-26. There will be a planning session on June 11 immediately following the ham breakfast.

Unfinished Business

Leadership elections for vacant Secretary position. No nominations.

New Business

Don distributed CROP Walk certificates of appreciation to Dan, Joe and himself.

Bill moved to approve a major expenditure of up to \$35 to renew the HCARC.club domain name for two years. Jim second, motion passed. Dan will submit a receipt to the treasurer after the transaction completes.

News

Jim Beckerich, ex-KC8WSR, of Hillsdale became a Silent Key on May 11.

The Southwest Michigan Amateur Radio Team (SMART) in Kalamazoo canceled their bus trip to the Dayton Hamvention on May 21 due to a lack of participants.

ARROW Communications Association announced that their bus trip to the Dayton Hamvention on May 21 is full.

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. The Branch County Amateur Radio Club (BCARC) plans to activate a station on the North Country Trail at Baw Beese Lake as part of the yearlong ARRL National Parks on the Air (NPOTA) event. They have invited Hillsdale County amateurs to participate in the station activation that will take place June 4-5.

Microsoft Windows 10 free upgrades continue until July 29. Joe reported that he lost all of his apps after his computer updated.

Upcoming Events

May 20 – Community Action Agency Head Start Picnic

May 20-22 – Dayton Hamvention

June 4 – Fulton County ARC Outdoor Flea Market and Hamfest

June 4 – Independent Repeater Association Hamfest (Hudsonville)

June 4-5 – NPOTA Activation at Baw Beese Lake.

June 5 – Chelsea Hamfest

June 8 – Board Meeting

June 11 – Ham Breakfast and Field Day Planning Session

June 19 – Monroe Hamfest

June 25-26 – Field Day

July 8-9 – ARRL Michigan Section Summer Family Outing

Next Club Meeting

No club meeting in June. Next meeting July 21 at the First United Methodist Church in Hillsdale.

Adjournment

Jerry moved to adjourn, Jim second, meeting adjourned at 1938. Don provided refreshments.

Program

Don showed a video titled “The Last Big Field Day” that describes how members of the Potomac Valley Radio Club and Columbia Amateur Radio Association assemble an awesome Field Day operation, with phone, CW and digital in all bands, satellite, VHF/UHF and all the bonus points a group can rack up.

Respectfully submitted by KC8WAU