

# Hillsdale County Amateur Radio Club

## Club Meeting Minutes

July 21, 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 (6 members, 6 total).

The meeting was held at the Hillsdale First United Methodist Church and was called to order at 1900.

### **Membership Report**

Don reported membership was 15 as of the last meeting on May 19. 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 read the meeting minutes from the May 19 regular meeting. Jim moved to approve, Bill second, motion passed.

### **Treasurers Report**

Joe presented the treasury report for May 31 with an ending balance of \$1,245.45. Dan moved to approve, Jim second, motion passed. Joe presented the treasury report for June 30 with an ending balance of \$1,231.91. Jim moved to approve, Dan second, motion passed.

### **Board Meeting Update**

Board met on June 8 and July 6. Meeting business was routine. Minutes available. June meeting was rescheduled from June 1 due to other activity at the church.

### **Past Events**

May 20 Community Action Agency Head Start Picnic: Two hams worked the parking lot detail, over 500 people attended the picnic.

May 20-22 Dayton Hamvention: Dan, Joe and Jim attended.

June 4 Fulton County ARC Outdoor Flea Market and Hamfest: No report.

June 4 Independent Repeater Association Hamfest (Hudsonville): No report.

June 4-5 NPOTA Activation at Baw Beese Lake: Don, Dan and Joe participated. The station shut down in the early afternoon on June 4 due to weather and did not reactivate on June 5.

June 5 Chelsea Hamfest: No report.

June 11 Ham Breakfast and Field Day Planning Session at North Adams Coffed Shop: Eight hams attended the breakfast and seven stayed for the planning session.

June 19 Monroe Hamfest: Joe attended and said that he thought it was a little bigger than last year.

June 25-26 Field Day: Field Day was held at Sprow Tax & Accounting. We had 19 attendees, ran 3 stations and made 160 contacts. Jim said that he made one contact from his home station that garnered him 155 Field Day points.

July 8-9 ARRL Michigan Section Summer Family Outing: Don attended and said there were about 25-30 people there and that the seminars were interesting.

July 9 Ham breakfast Yesterday's Litchfield: Five members attended.

### **Ongoing Business and Reports**

ARES/RACES/SKYWARN: Simulated Emergency Test is scheduled for October 8.

Contesting: No reports.

DX: No reports.

Equipment: Jerry said that he bought Yaesu FT-767GX rig that had been advertised by county ham Don Bannick N6CRV. Dan said that he bought an HT, a Kenwood TM-V71A and a Raspberry Pi kit at Dayton. Joe said he bought an Icom ID-51A. Jim said he bought a PackTenna in Dayton.

FCC License Database Activity: Dan's granddaughter Rachel Sprow KD9BJR upgraded to General on May 20. County ham Deb McCloud KE8BPS upgraded to General on July 15.

Hillsdale County Emergency Management: Next siren test and meeting on August 1. Construction of the new 911 Central Dispatch building is proceeding on schedule.

Net Reports: Don reviewed current net participation scores from the website.

Newsletter: No updates.

PRB-1 Update: An amended version of the Amateur Radio Parity Act, HR1301, received a unanimous favorable report from members of the House Energy and Commerce Committee and was sent to the full House.

Repeaters: Dan submitted an updated Technical Data Sheet for the D-Star repeater to the Michigan Repeater Council changing the location to the new 911 Central Dispatch building and it was approved.

Traffic handling: No reports.

Volunteer activity: No reports.

Website: One downtime event since last meeting for 99.99% uptime. Year-to-date uptime is 98.95%.

### **Unfinished Business**

Leadership elections for vacant Secretary position. No nominations.

### **New Business**

Club announced in July newsletter a one-day study class and exam session to be held on August 27, with an orientation session on July 23 and an Elmer session on August 20. No one has signed up so far. Don and Joe will staff the orientation session on July 23 to see if anyone shows. Joe asked that amateurs stand by their radios after 10am on July 23 for a possible demonstration on the local 2m repeater. The Elmer session will be an informal opportunity for candidates to ask questions of experienced hams before the test. We may also set up a station or two for the Elmer session. If this class does not have any candidates most of the work done can be recycled into another session down the road.

### **News**

Amateur Electronics Supply (AES) is closing at the end of July. Ham Radio Outlet has purchased the Milwaukee store and will re-brand it.

The new element 4 Amateur Extra question pool went into effect on 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. Don said that Windows 10 installed on his laptop but that he reverted to Windows 7.

### **Upcoming Events**

July 23 – Orientation Meeting for Technician License One Day Study Class & Exam Session

July 30 – CMARC Outdoor Hamfest (Holt)

August 3 – Board Meeting

August 13 – Ham Breakfast Ray's Tavern Reading

August 13 – Angola Hamfest

August 18 – Club Meeting

August 20 – Elmer Session for Technician License One Day Study Class & Exam Session

August 27 – Technician License One Day Study Class & Exam Session

### **Next Club Meeting**

Next meeting August 18 at the First United Methodist Church in Hillsdale.

### **Adjournment**

Jim moved to adjourn, Joe second, meeting adjourned at 2003. Don provided refreshments.

### **Program**

Dan demonstrated a Raspberry Pi computer kit running the Linux Raspbian operating system.

Respectfully submitted by KC8WAU