

# Hillsdale County Amateur Radio Club

## Club Meeting Minutes

April 20, 2017

In attendance: President Don Gambill KC8WAU, Vice President Dan Sprow KC8RYF, Treasurer Joe Gosla KD8UJS, Members Bill Hicks WB8FF0, Mark Seevers KC8QVX, Jim Spencer KD8YDD, Guests Wayne Jones N9UGT, Jan Spencer (6 members, 2 guests, 8 total).

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

### **Introductions**

Wayne introduced himself to the group. He moved to Jonesville from Elkhart, Indiana.

### **Membership Report**

Don reported that membership stood at 16 as of the last club meeting. No new members since. Membership as of March 31 was 16. One member did not renew for 2017 and the grace period expired. Membership as of April 1 was 15. Current membership is 15. Fourteen of Fifteen members from last year renewed.

### **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 March 16 club meeting. Noted a couple typos. Jim moved to approve with corrections, Joe second, motion passed.

### **Treasury Report**

Joe presented the treasury report for March 31 with an ending balance of \$1,076.02. Jim moved to approve, Mark second, motion passed.

### **Board Meeting Update**

Board met April 12. Meeting was rescheduled from April 5 due to other events at the church. Meeting business was routine. Minutes available. Next Board meeting is scheduled for May 3.

### **Past Events**

March 18 – Michigan Crossroads Hamfest: Dan, Mark and Joe attended. They said that it was a good hamfest with plenty of good parking and wide isles. They said that others attending from Hillsdale County included Deb McCloud KE8BPS, Roy McCloud AB8RM and Dale Smith W9LKI.

March 19 – Toledo Hamfest: No report.

April 8 – Ham Breakfast at Ray's Tavern in Reading: Seven amateurs attended.

April 15 – Michigan QSO Party: Dan said he made about 8 contacts and that conditions were bad.

Joe said that he attended National Weather Service Storm Spotter training in Angola on March 23.

## **Ongoing Business and Reports**

**ARES/RACES/SKYWARN:** Dan and Don participated in the Regional Medical Response Coalition District 1 Dire Play X Mass Casualty Functional Exercise at Hillsdale Hospital on April 18. Dan reported that they were unable to make contact with the Jackson Health Department via repeater or simplex. He will be doing some troubleshooting. He sent an after-action report to hospital Facility Manager Scott Brown.

**Contesting:** No reports.

**DX:** No reports.

**Equipment:** Terry Arnold KE0TCA has a Hy-Gain AV-640 vertical for sale. New, unused and still in the box, it also includes the tilting base unit. Asking \$275.

### **FCC License Database Activity Since Last Meeting:**

03/28/17 W4VIK, TOWNSEND JR, WILLIAM P, address updated within county.

04/03/17 KJ4VOC, SANBORN JR, EDWARD E, address updated from out of county.

04/17/17 N9UGT, JONES, WAYNE K, address updated from out of county.

**Great Lakes HamCon:** Hamfest will be held October 7-8 at Michigan International Speedway. They have a booth at the Dayton Hamvention and are looking for volunteers to staff it. A copy of their April newsletter is available. Those interested in volunteering can send an email to [volunteer@glhamcon.org](mailto:volunteer@glhamcon.org).

**Hillsdale County Emergency Management:** Next siren test and volunteer meeting is May 1.

**Net Reports:** Net is running on 147.06 MHz simplex until further notice until repeater is fixed. Don presented Mark with his Monday Night Net Exceptional Participation Award at the ham breakfast on April 8.

**Newsletter:** No updates.

**PRB-1 Update:** HR 555, no updates.

**Repeaters:** Mark, Dan and Joe moved the repeater within the mill on April 9. Mark noted that after the move the SWR was 1.5 to 1.6 but was unsure of what it was before the move. Sometime during April 10 it stopped working due to a failed power supply, possibly due to storms during the day. Mark said that the power supply is shot for sure. There may also be a problem with the antenna or feed line. More diagnoses needs to be done.

Mark changed the 2 meter receiver at Bundy Hill to receive signals on 147.06 MHz 179.9 PL simplex and link to the 444.825 MHz repeater.

The IRLP computer from the Bundy Hill receive site is still out for repair. It has been down since November 18.

**Traffic handling:** No reports.

**Volunteer activity:** Don, Dan and Joe will work the CROP Walk on May 7. Don will check with Craig Moore KD8TKR and Joe will check with Tommy Palmer KD8WWW to see if they are available to help. Mark or Dan may be able to set up a mobile repeater for the event.

Still need volunteers for the CAA Head Start Picnic on May 19. Date conflicts with Dayton Hamvention. Wayne said that he could help. Don said that Brett Smith KC8ZDA previously said that he is available. Could use one or two more volunteers. Joe will check with Tommy.

**Website:** One downtime event since last meeting for 0.05 hours and 99.99% uptime. Year to date uptime is 99.99798%.

### **Unfinished Business**

Leadership elections for vacant positions: Don opened the floor for nominations for Secretary. No nominations. Don opened the floor for nominations for Board Member At Large. No nominations.

Great Lakes Amateur Radio Association club affiliation agreement has been sent in as approved at the March club meeting. GLARA Treasurer Larry Camp WB8R acknowledged receipt of the agreement with a letter and copy of the executed agreement.

### **New Business**

Mark said that he received a used commercial grade power supply and a monetary donation from Kim Radebaugh KD8NOI. Mark moved that we open a repeater fund account, separate from the regular club account. After discussion, we decided that a savings account would be the best option. Joe seconded the motion and it passed on a voice vote. Bill and Mark made monetary contributions and the funds totaling \$300 were given to Joe for safekeeping. Don directed Joe to establish a separate ledger for the repeater fund. Don will follow up with County National Bank. Discussed donating some club funds, but this was tabled until some more definitive costs are available.

### **News**

New distracted driving legislation was introduced in the Michigan House of Representatives. HB 4466 was introduced on March 30 and referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. The bill is identical to HB 5867 that died at the end of 2016 and includes modifications that have been blessed by ARRL Michigan Section staff.

ARROW Communications Association is sponsoring a bus trip to the Dayton Hamvention on Saturday, May 20. The cost for the round trip is \$65 and includes the bus ride from Ann Arbor, continental breakfast, door prizes and the right to sell your stuff from the ARROW attended booth space in the flea market. It does not include the Hamvention ticket.

Michigan State Parks on the Air event started April 1. The Michigan State Parks system as a whole will be 100 years old in 2019. Some parks actually began operation in 1917, so the event will continue through 2019.

Michigan State Police 100th Anniversary special event stations will be on air April 15 through April 30.

### **Upcoming Events**

May 7 – CROP Walk

May 13 – Ham Breakfast at North Adams Coffee Shop

May 19 – CAA Head Start Picnic

May 19-21 – Dayton Hamvention

June 3 – Fulton County Amateur Radio Summer Swap

June 3 – IRA Hamfest (Hudsonville)

June 4 – Chelsea ARC Swap Meet

June 18 – Monroe Hamfest

June 24-25 – Field Day

### **Next Club Meeting**

No club meeting in May. Next meeting scheduled for June 15 at the First United Methodist Church in Hillsdale.

### **Adjournment**

Bill moved to adjourn, Jim second, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 2015.

Respectfully submitted by KC8WAU