

Hillsdale County Amateur Radio Club

Club Meeting Minutes

January 19, 2017

In attendance: President Don Gambill KC8WAU, Vice President Dan Sprow KC8RYF, Treasurer Joe Gosla KD8UJS, Members Jerry Jordan KA8IEC, Jim Spencer KD8YDD, Guests ARRL Michigan Section Manager Larry Camp WB8R, Arnie Hayward NS8T, Deb McCloud KE8BPS, Branch County Amateur Radio Club President Roy McCloud AB8RM (5 members, 4 guests, 9 total).

The meeting was held at the Hillsdale First United Methodist Church and was called to order at 1906.

Membership Report

Don reported membership was 15 as of the last meeting. No new members. Twelve members have renewed for 2017. Three members have not yet renewed and are in the grace period that ends March 31. Membership at the start of the meeting stood at 15.

Determination of Quorum

Five 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 November 17 meeting. Jim moved to approve, Joe second, motion passed.

Treasury Reports

Joe presented the treasury report for November 30 with an ending balance of \$1,223.49. Jim moved to approve, Jerry second, motion passed. Joe presented the treasury report for December 31 with an ending balance of \$1,291.91. Jim moved to approve, Jerry second, motion passed.

Board Meeting Update

Board met on December 7 and January 11. Meeting business was routine. Minutes available. Board canceled February meeting. Next Board meeting is scheduled for March 1.

Past Events

December 3 – Fulton County Winter Hamfest: No report.

December 4 – LCARC Amateur Radio Swap/Hamfest (Madison Heights): Larry attended.

December 10 – Ham Breakfast at Ray's Tavern: Four attendees.

December 16 – Christmas Party: Twelve attendees.

January 14 – Ham Breakfast at Sidekick Cafe: Nine attendees.

January 18 – Central Dispatch 911 Open House: Joe attended, good turnout.

Ongoing Business and Reports

ARES/RACES/SKYWARN: No SKYWARN training in Hillsdale County this year. Training is available in Coldwater on February 14, Wauseon on March 16 and Angola on March 23.

Contesting: No reports.

DX: Jerry made a contact in Lapland. Larry made contacts in Ecuador, Dominican Republic and Western Sahara. Roy made contacts in Central America, Namibia and Ascension Island.

Equipment: Joe has a new nano node with IRLP node #4843.

FCC License Database Activity Since Last Meeting:

11/03/16 KD8EWZ, TURNER JR, JOHN, license renewed, address updated to out of county

12/23/16 N8BIZ, BAKER, WILLIAM R, address updated within county

01/13/17 KB8WHO, SZARAFINSKI, ROY V, license status set to expired

Hillsdale County Emergency Management: Mid-winter dinner January 21 at Coffee Shop in North Adams.

Net Reports: Don presented Dan with his Monday Night Net Exceptional Participation Award. Six members qualified for the award including Bill Hicks WB8FFO, Joe, Don, Dave King KQ8R and Mark Seevers KC8QVX. Contest will run again in 2017.

Newsletter: No updates.

PRB-1 Update: HR1301 Amateur Radio Parity Act died at the end of the 2016 legislative session. Identical legislation HR 555 was introduced in the new session on January 13.

Repeaters: IRLP computer has been down since November 18. Computer hard drive failed.

Traffic handling: No reports.

Volunteer activity: No reports.

Website: Three downtime events since last meeting for 1.48 hours and 99.90% uptime. 2016 uptime was 99.10%. No downtime so far in 2017.

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.

New Business

Board recommends that we donate \$50 to the Hillsdale First United Methodist Church for use of the building for monthly meetings. As this is a major expenditure it must be approved by a vote of the club membership. Jim made the motion, Jerry second, motion passed. Don directed Joe to send a check and thank you note to the church.

Don reviewed FCC ULS activity for 2016. There were 131 active licenses at the beginning of the year and 126 and the end.

News

Michigan distracted driving bill HB 5867 died at the end of the 2016 legislative session. Larry expects a similar bill will be introduced in the new session.

Great Lakes HamCon hamfest planned for October 7 & 8 at Michigan International Speedway.

Roy and Deb got their VE certifications. There is a testing session January 21 at the Branch County 911 building. Branch County ARC plans to have a testing session periodically.

Upcoming Events

January 29 – Hazel Park ARC Hamfest

February 11 – Ham Breakfast (North Adams Coffee Shop)

February 19 – Livonia ARC's 46th Annual Swap & Shop

Next Club Meeting

No meeting in February. Next meeting scheduled for March 16 at the First United Methodist Church in Hillsdale.

Adjournment

Jerry moved to adjourn, Jim second, adjourned to annual meeting at 2005. After annual meeting, attendees enjoyed Deb's homemade cookies and other refreshments Don provided.

Program

Don introduced ARRL Michigan Section Manager Larry Camp WB8R, who talked about plans for a new hamfest at Michigan International Speedway.

Respectfully submitted by KC8WAU