



Four States Amateur Radio Club

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ARRL
The national association for
AMATEUR RADIO

Meeting Minutes

Date: February 17, 2014
Time: 6:30 PM
Place: Able Communications Office

Board Members Present:

David Jackson- KE5ZHF	President
David Teague- N5GTE	Treasurer
Carl Nyman- AA5VE	Secretary
Clarence Shilling-WB5BYV	Trustee/Director
Jason Spivey- N5YEV	Director
Robert Bailey-N5ITN	Director

Absent:

Danny Freeman- KE5THI	Vice President
Malcolm Bussey-N5GKV	Director

President, David Jackson called the meeting to order. The agenda followed was suggested by Clarence Shilling.

Treasurer David Teague reported a bank balance of \$1537.42 with \$500 outstanding debt to Four States Fairgrounds. The Club received \$150 in dues and donations and \$70 for Hamfest tables and paid out \$1018 for Hamfest prizes to MTC.

Board Meeting Discussion

ArkLaTex Challenge:

David Jackson gave a report on the ArkLaTex Challenge. The group had their first organizational meeting. FSARC participation was not discussed in their first meeting. David Jackson will be the FSARC liaison for the ArkLaTex Challenge. The ArkLaTex Challenge is scheduled for April 5, 2014. The April 5, 2014 Club meeting will be rescheduled to April 12, 2014 to enable FSARC members to participate in the ArkLaTex Challenge.

Education:

Clarence Shilling reported on the progress of the Morse code class. Last class will be held on February 18th.

David Teague was congratulated on holding an excellent testing session on Saturday February 15th. Five people were successfully tested and Nashville Amateurs were trained on VE testing procedures.

Clarence Shilling reported the Technician Class will begin on March 4, 2014 at the Nash Fire Station at 6:30PM. Currently there are 4 people signed up for the course.

Other education ideas were discussed; Carl Nyman (for Malcolm Bussey) suggested a seminar on Amateur Radio Contests and use of logging software for casual contacts and contests. Clarence Shilling suggested having a class for interested club members to learn how to build qrp radios. Another suggestion during the code class February 18th came from Arthur Christy, he would like to have a course to instruct new operators on how to operate HF and VHF radios.

Hamfest:

Jason Spivey gave a status report for FSARC Hamfest. The Club has signed a new contract with Four States Fairgrounds for the 2014 Hamfest. The Club paid Four States Fairground \$500 for the facility. Another \$250 is due for security deposit. No WiFi is available at the Fairgrounds.

FSARC purchased door prizes from Main Trading Company for \$1018. The Club purchased an Icom IC 718, Kenwood TM -V71A and Wouxun KG-UV5B. So far, the Club has not taken receipt of the equipment. The purchase was made early in order to take advantage of rebates and avoid price hikes.

Jason also stated that the Fairgrounds does not have free tables but FSARC would be allowed to use the round tables in the room. The Fairgrounds will not allow FSARC to use the small storage room in the building for testing.

Next Hamfest meeting will be held on March 1, 2014 after the monthly Club meeting at Wadley Hospital.

Field Day:

Field Day locations were briefly discussed. Four potential locations were identified: Spring Lake Park, Lake Wright Patman, Park next to Four States Fairground and Texas/Arkansas Travel center. The Board would like to have a location that has access to the general public. The group decided to continue to look for suitable locations for Field Day.

Triathlon:

The Triathlon will be held on May 11, 2014. A portable repeater was briefly discussed. The Triathlon will be discussed at a later date when more information is known.

Vests for Club Members:

Clarence Shilling recommended club members have vests for special events to identify club members. There was a general discussion about types of vests, club shirts, tee shirts and name badges. Cost of furnishing a vest or shirt was the major concern to the board members. No decision was made on whether the Club or members should purchase vests.

Four States Amateur Radio Club By Laws

It was suggested by Clarence Shilling that the Club By Laws be updated. A discussion was held on what should be done. The board agreed that the By Laws should be reviewed and updated as required by a committee elected or selected from the current membership. Jackson will discuss this issue at the next club meeting he will hold elections or select Club members to review and update the By Laws as necessary.

Skywarn:

David Jackson and Clarence Shilling told the board that Joe McGee (KD5RJI) has resigned as Skywarn Area Coordinator. Members of Board thought it was important that the FSARC be involved in Skywarn and that the Club provided support and direction to the Skywarn Area Coordinator. The FSARC wants to elect or appoint a Club member as Skywarn coordinator. Robert Bailey has expressed interest in being the Skywarn coordinator. David Jackson and the Board decided to bring this issue up to the membership in March's meeting and elect or appoint a Skywarn

coordinator(s). This is a urgent matter that must be decided before the spring storms.

Other Discussion:

A suggestion was made to change the Four States Amateur Radio Club name. The Club name suggests that the FSARC may not be located in Texarkana and the public has been confused, especially when they are asked to donate to the Club. The Board discussed and concluded that we should remain named the Four States Amateur Radio Club and if necessary to ensure no miss understanding when speaking to the public use "FSARC of Texarkana".

The Board discussed building a FSARC budget. Board members wanted to see a budget that details known and planned expenditures against actual cost. Carl Nyman agreed to build an excel budget for the Board.

Thursday night net was discussed. Robert Bailey stated the Club members have expressed their thoughts that paid Club members should be called first to check-in to the net according the FSARC roster, including Club officers. Other non members should be allowed to check in after the membership list has been called. Currently Club officers and regular check-ins are called first to prevent a lot of non responses during the net. No agreement was made on this issue and was left to the discretion of the net controllers.

It was stated that the FSARC should have a Mission Statement. Some of the Board members thought this was covered in the By Laws. There was a discussion with no conclusion.

Clarence Shilling stated he was looking for people to help with net control on Thursday nights. Robert Bailey expressed his interest as participating as net control.

Meet was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Submitted by:

Carl Nyman (AA5VE)
Secretary - Four States Amateur Radio Club