

Four States Amateur Radio Club Minutes to the January Club Meeting

January 4, 2020

President Charles Mackey called the meeting into order and asked Robert Ward to lead the prayer and pledge of allegiance to the American flag.

The meeting started by discussion of Past President Charlie Conkey and his illness.

Secretary Robert Ward discussed the November 2019 minutes and then read the December 2019 minutes to the club. Richard Arthur made a motion to accept the minutes and Greg English second the motion with the club approving the motion.

David Glenn was asked by the President of the club to give a financial report. David stated that as of December 31, 2019 the financial books were closed with \$9,249.36 in the account. The start of the 2020 year with dues, the raffle money of \$200 from the Christmas party, the account came up to \$9,828.18. Richard Arthur making a motion for the financial report to be approved, which was seconded by Steve Rogers and approved by the club members.

Arthur Christy was asked about the repeaters. He stated that the 62 machine had problems with the voltage. The history of the repeater problems was told and then found that it was the power gate that is the automatic switching from grid power and battery power. One of the ports had gone out and it caused a lot of problems. Arthur unplugged it from the one and plugged it into the grid and that solved the problem. We still have battery power as backup, it is just not automatic. Plugging the battery in manually will be required to get on battery power. A power gate is needed but one that is higher on the commercial chain than the one that was at the repeater and the one that was at Arthur's house that went out a month prior to this one. West Mountain Radio has a power gate, which is a good one with great reviews. This one has a computer port that one can monitor the voltage that is coming out of all the ports. It is a good health status monitor for the system. Prices for the power gate start around \$169 to \$199 and possibly have free shipping. Carl Nyman made a motion to buy the power gate from HRO. The motion was second by Eric Richards and approved by the club. Arthur continued a report on the D-Star and stated that it was working really good with no R2D2. He was talking around the world. He has been in discussion with J B in Nashville, Arkansas and after some tweaking on their machine it is rock solid. The next time they have a hospital drill on D-Star he will give Arthur the information and hopefully we will have an active part in the drill. The president showed appreciation to the work that is being placed on the repeaters.

President Mackey brought up winter field day on January 25th and the 26th with the decision to reserve the pavilion at the park. Richard Arthur spoke up and suggested that an event coordinator should be appointed by the club. The club started talking about the Run The Line on February 16th with Clarence Shilling planning the event. Members should get in touch with Clarence Shilling to work the event.

Technician Class was brought up by President Mackey and after discussion it was decided to skip this year.

The next topic was the Ark-La-Tex Challenge on April 4, 2020 with a club meeting held prior to the event. After discussion it was determined that Steve Rogers will be the contact person.

Scout-O-Rama is March 7, 2020 and the club did not do anything with it last year. Discussed not working it unless we are asked by the Boy Scouts this year.

May 2, 2020 is Field Day that will be at the pavilion at Spring Lake Park. It has already been reserved. Food will be discussed at a later date.

A motion was made by Richard Arthur that this meeting be the yearly board meeting to meet the requirements of the 501c3. Seconded by Greg English and approved by the club.

July 4, 2020 meeting will be skipped due to holiday.

August 1, 2020 meeting will be the discussion of the September 2020 Queen Wilhelmina Hamfest.

September 2020 will be skipped due to going to the Hamfest.

October 2020 club meeting will be thinking about club officers.

November 2020 meeting will be taking nominations for club officers, discussion of the Angel Tree and ring of the bells.

December 2020 is officer elections, ringing of the bells, Toy for Tots, and the Christmas Party.

Eric Richards discussed the net and recording the net and placing it on Facebook to bring people to the understanding of what the club does. Discussion was brought up in front of the club. A motion was made by Eic Robinson and second by Arthur Christy. The club approved the motion.

Discussion of slow scan tv net and bringing it to the club as “show and tell” and other topics to bring into the club.

Morse Code or CW was brought up to either have a class on it or to bring it to a monthly meeting so that it would create interest to younger hams.

During the clubs Christmas Party we collected 273 pounds of non-perishables goods to donate to Harvest Texarkana.

Clarence Shilling made a motion for club adjournment and Greg English seconded the motion. Club approved.

After the closing of the board meeting David Glenn brought to the club the history of the GPS.

Present for the January 2020 monthly meeting/2020 Board meeting was:

President Charles Mackey KF5VAA
Vice-President Carl Nyman AA5VE
Secretary Robert Ward N5TXK
Treasure David Glenn KF5VAE

Director Richard Arthur N5RGA
Director Clarence Shilling WB5BYV

Arthur Christy KF5VWN Skywarn Director

Eric Richards KI5BZO
Evan Vestre KI7DZP
Gary Martin N5HOG
Steve Rogers AF5JR
Rudy Hatridge AF5EY

Greg English KG5BOC
Carl West KC5EZ
Ronnie Rumsey KA5LEK

Missing due to a funeral - Director David Teague N5GTE