

Polk County Amateur Radio Association
Meeting Minutes
September 9, 2006
Chuck Braun WD9GWG



Breakfast at the Fox Den in Balsam Lake, WI was enjoyed by Club members and friends on Saturday. A meeting followed at the Polk County Government Center. --The meeting was brought to order, reading of last months minutes dismissed. No treasurers report available but mention made that repeater insurance was paid.

RACES information was discussed. The upcoming October 7, 2006 NET will be held with all members asked to report in on the repeater. Also discussed was using the Emergency Command Center as a communication Hub. An attempt will be made to pass messages from a Hospital site which is below a hill by the river. Several modes of communications will be tried. The Club radio shack will be manned and HF communications established with the State of Wisconsin. RACES announced two events involving the NWS(national weather service). All weather spotters, etc., are invited to the NWS open house in Chanhassen, MN on September 16, 2006, and a Metro Skywarn meeting on September 11, 2006 held in Maplewood, MN. Info on both of these events by email to all. Mark, KC9GHQ, will be our new RACES coordinator with Steve, NØXC, our present coordinator, helping him over the rough bumps. Both gentlemen recently met with the Northwest Regional Director.

--Interference on our Repeater frequencies. It was learned that a repeater was put on the air somewhere West of Duluth, MN. Communications on our receive frequency has been heard by several club members at their home locations. More will be learned of this.

---Rick, W9WS, will head up our advancement testing unit. He will notify the public when testing sessions will be held.

---Packet. Additional packet stations were discussed as well as WinLink2K. People on packet now are enjoying receiving messages from others in their personal mailboxes via the automatic forwarding method.

---Greg, N9CHA, a club guest, discussed the possibilities of using a “canopy” system enabling us to use our IRLP station in conjunction with our repeater. More on that later. Our IRLP node is 4176.

---Mentioned was the fact that many antenna building projects reports are quite involved and confusing. A website was mentioned where more definite information is given such as actual length of all elements, etc.

---The next meeting will be October 14, 2006. RACES.

The meeting was adjourned.