



**Polk County Amateur
Radio Association
1732 Forest Circle
Balsam Lake, WI 54810**

May 8, 2010 Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER

Rick W9WS - opened the regular business meeting

09:22 Welcome by Rick W9WS, 12 members, 1 guest (Kermit W9XA, ARRL Central Division Vice-Director).

TREASURERS REPORT

Carlos N9GIM – reported our checkbook balance, and reported disbursements for recent services. He also notified us that the money granted to the club by Polk-Burnett Electric was deposited.

OLD BUSINESS

FIELD DAY DISCUSSION-DAN KB9OBF

The band-pass filters which have been discussed will not be purchased this year. Dan is looking for volunteer operators. An invitation has gone out to the Polk County OEM and Sherriff's office to see if representatives can stop by during the FD event. An "operators grid" is to be developed by the Webmaster so that members can see who has signed up for which band/mode. The club will operate as 3A for FD 2010.

NEW BUSINESS

SKYWARN COORDINATOR- CHRIS KC9NVV

Chris provided a review of the April 22nd test. He reported that the National Weather Service office in Chanhassen, MN is now able to communicate through our N9XH repeater. The hub-spoke system of communicating weather information was discussed. Our club's reports will be relayed to the WE9COM repeater (145.25) in Baldwin. If for any reason our Polk County weather net is not active, hams are encouraged to communicate their weather reports to the SCVARA repeater in Roberts. (147.33). Chris is looking for volunteers to become Skywarn net control ops.

NWS CLASS REPORT – DAN KB9OBF

Dan reviewed the recent trip (May 1st) that he and Mike KC9JIK and Mark KC9PJJ made to the National Weather Service offices in Chanhassen, MN. A complete detailed report has been posted to the files area of our Yahoo Groups. Dan reported that one of the main reasons for the meeting was to review communications procedures and to suggest how the NWS can better utilize ham radio assets. It was also announced that the new WE9COM 145.25 repeater is the HUB repeater for our area.

ARES/RACES- FRED AB9LV (W9WS)

Rick W9WS provided details about an automated telephone dialer system to be used as a way for Kathy (OEM) to reach the membership. Motion to register (\$31) for the service was approved by the membership. The call package allows for 250 phone contacts per year. A free test is also provided.

VE TESTING- RICK W9WS

The next VE test session will be held Saturday, May 15th at 9am in the Polk County Justice Center.

NIMS TRAINING – CHRIS KC9NVV

A table-top training exercise will take place on May 26th from 18:30 to 21:00 in Hudson. See Chris for more details.

MOTION:

A motion was presented by Greg N9CHA to present Kermit W9XA with an honorary membership as a gesture of thanks for attending our May meeting. Motion accepted. President Rick W9WS presented an Honorary Membership certificate to Kermit W9XA.

CLOSE

Rick W9WS adjourned the meeting 10:00

PRESENTATION

Greg N9CHA introduced ARRL Central Division Vice-Director W9XA. Kermit thanked the members for the honorary membership to the club, and described how he and the ARRL support clubs like the PCARA. He noted that all of the driving force of ham radio is centered around active clubs who provide resources to new and existing hams.

Kermit provided the membership with a slide presentation about current events the League is working on in regards to Federal Communications policies. He also showed a behind-the-scenes tour of Headquarters. Several of the HQ staff were introduced with pictures of them at work. Kermit remarked how amazed he is by the dedication of the ARRL employees and described the work they do for the League as a “calling” because of their hard work and professionalism on our behalf.

After the slide show, Kermit answered several questions from the membership. He provided personal anecdotes about his job as an Engineering Physicist at the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory in Batavia, IL, his hometown. The presentation ended at 11:45.

Submitted:

MARK KC9GHQ, SECRETARY (notes by Greg N9CHA in Mark's absence)