



Polk County Amateur Radio Association
1732 Forest Circle
Balsam Lake, WI 54810
www.N9XH.org

June 14, 2014

Polk County Government Center - Balsam Lake - Wisconsin
Note: Breakfast was held at Main Street Cafe, Balsam Lake.

Attendance:

Rick W9WS, Steve N0XC, Ben KC9ROI, Ed W9ABA, Chris KC9NVV & Daughter Annalise, Mark W9GWG, Chuck WD9GWG, Kirk KD9AKU, Greg N9CHA, Mark WM9E, Robert KD6TWC, Mel KF6OZ, Greg W9GDH, Wayne KD9RBL, Jack W9JET

09:20 Meeting Called to Order

Rick W9WS, President called the meeting to order. Welcome to guests!

Treasurers Report:

- Chris KC9NVV PCARA Treasurer – Reported the club's bank balance.

Old Business:

- Rick W9WS reported the Luck Historical Museum is coming along nicely. He delivered additional equipment for their use.
- Bike race (CyclovaXC) details were discussed. Kirk KD9AKU described a potential event on December 20th in St. Croix Falls. Organized by Frank, the owner of CyclovaXC. A map has been developed and later this summer Kirk will ask permission to get onto the trail complex to do some RF testing.

New Business:

- Review of the tower climb on May 15th. Special thanks to those who came out to help. Photos and a summary of activities is on the web site.
- UHF link is working between Barron and Balsam Lake repeaters.
- Echolink Node 991104 is now available on the VHF repeater.
- Motion: Greg N9CHA "A \$500 donation to the Wisconsin Interstate Network" was seconded by Mark W9GWG, approved. Chris KC9NVV, Treasurer wrote the donation check which will be sent to Len N9QIP.
- Discussion of rusty guy lines and tower paint needed to maintain the tower. The club decided to begin a grant writing campaign and save as much money as possible over the next few years to be applied to maintenance. Greg N9CHA will contact Len N9QIP to get an itemized cost for repairs.
- Mark W9GWG said thanks to those who have signed up for the next quarter net control ops.
- Bill K9WEN was not present, but anyone who is interested in Field Day is invited to attend.
- Chris KC9NVV proposed the club purchase polo shirts with club logos. He presented a catalog of shirts and pointed to a nice example.

Skywarn:

- Chris KC9NVV provided updates regarding Skywarn activities
- Chris KC9NVV reported the NWS in Chanhassen is capable of working the Barron repeater.

ARES/RACES:

- Chuck WD9GWG, EC for Polk County. Chuck presented "An Emergency Communications Scenario."
- Chuck reported he will be submitting a roster of ARES/RACES to the DEC and SEC by the end of June.
- An email address can be investigated to communicate between the ham shack and Kathy the EC.
- A resource guide can be developed listing phone numbers, email addresses, frequencies, packet addressing and other emergency related information.
- The radio shack needs to have separate radios for VHF repeater use, and UHF repeater use. Headphones for each station should be available.
- All packet radio traffic should be read and passed on if necessary by net control.
- RF testing on VHF and UHF needs to be coordinated with Kathy the EC and the 911 call center to see if there is any interference and to see what communications can be effectively transmitted out of the EOC.
- There are no updates to the Red Cross, Kathy the EC is continuing to make contact with them.

Program:

- Greg N9CHA presented a program illustrating coax loss due to frequency. He brought a service monitor and Icom IC-7000 transceiver to illustrate a practical example. Charts of available coax types and loss charts were handed out. Several examples of coax were on display. Practical tests of RF power through 100' of RG-8X and RG-58 on VHF was shown. The members discussed the effects of VSWR on tuned feeders, and window-line.

Meeting adjourned: 11:30 am

Respectfully submitted by:
Greg N9CHA PCARA Secretary