



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

May 09, 2015

Polk County Government Center - Balsam Lake – Wisconsin

News: Chuck Braun WD9GWW died April 22, 2015. Chuck was one of the founders of the PCARA. He was 84. Chuck was responsible for several organizational efforts including having the Polk County Board recognize the club as an Emergency Communications asset in the County. His efforts also secured a ham shack and antenna structures on the Polk County Government Center building. Discussed the services for Chuck (April 29, 2015 at Grandstrand Funeral Home, Osceola, WI), was a beautiful service. Also discussed that the club should not donate to the ARRL Defense fund, but that each person who would have contributed to the clubs donation should do a personal donation on the ARRL website, making sure to do so in memory of Chuck – W9GWW

Attendance: Rick W9WS, Bill WY9E, Kevin KC9EMJ, William KD9DIV, Thomas KD9DIW, Wayne KC9RBL, Steve NØXC, Mark WM9E, Jack W9JET, Tom AC9LG, John NØTCN, Chris KC9NVV, Bill K9WEN, Carlos N9GIM, Greg W9GDH

09:00 am Meeting Called to Order: Rick W9WS, President, called the meeting to order.

Treasurers Report: Chris KC9NVV, PCARA Treasurer

- Reported the club's bank balance.

Old Business: Rick W9WS, PCARA President

- Internet at the tower shack is still being covered by an anonymous benefactor. Club kity is not covering the full cost. (\$62/mo)
- Discussed a possible grant to replace the guidelines at the tower site. The county has given their approval for us to have them replaced. Tom AC9CG has a possible source in St. Paul that may be willing to provide funds. Tom's wife will be working on writing the grant application. Also was discussed for future grants to have fiber run out to the tower site. If we have fiber, then we may be able to get internet service donated to the club.

New Business:

- Discussed possible term limits for the officers. Members are to consider the idea for further discussion next meeting.
 - Discussed soft-term where if someone is available to continue on in an office and is really good, we don't just kick them out of the office for the sake of having a limit.
 - Possible motion next meeting for change of bylaws based on club discussion/recommendations.
- Discussed if club format is working – another thing to think about for next meeting.
 - Is meeting valuable?

- Think about doing more stuff
- Maybe a time change for meeting
 - o No summer meeting?
 - o Maybe a weekday meeting during summer months
 - o Try to make the meetings more educational?
 - o Maybe have a weekday night show/tell
 - o Maybe meet at other places – other peoples QTH
 - o Maybe have people signup for doing projects/demonstrations
 - o Any other ideas
- Motion from Greg N9CHA for Packet station – get a secondary club station call with Chuck’s call sign (WD9GWG). Membership voted yes. (No discussion as to who would work on it)
- Field Day – Bill – K9WEN volunteered to lead the event.
 - Bill K9WEN talked about fixing the County Emergency van
 - Mark WM9E suggested going out in to the field with people scattered in different places
 - Chris KC9NVV suggested DD Kennedy park. Mark WM9E felt that would be good too, just didn’t want to be in the parking lot as we have been in the past.
 - Some St. Croix county people may join us.
- Chris KC9NVV reported on the Search and Rescue training the county held in April. Kathy didn’t include the radio club because the event was mainly for the ground pounders. She explained to Chris that our club has a definite place in their plans for communication should the need arise. She said that going forward that only trained personnel will be used for search and rescue operations (law enforcement, EMS, firefighters, etc) and they will no longer use civilian volunteers as they have found that it takes extra trained people to manage the volunteer groups, and the trained people are then not effective during the search. PCARA will be utilized as a link between all of the different trained groups for communications.

Skywarn:

- Chris KC9NVV, Skywarn Net Control: No activations yet this year. April test went well. NWS has had problems getting in to the Baldwin repeater, issue is being worked on. Possibly use Roberts repeater as backup, and considering using the Barron repeater as a second backup. Everyone who is on OneCall and did not get a call in the April test should get with Chris to verify their information.

ARES/RACES:

- Chris KC9NVV, Northwest Wisconsin District Emergency Coordinator: Will be making sure everyone has ICS credentials. State may hand out credentials in October, possibly picture ID’s.

Meeting adjourned:

Respectfully submitted by

Bill WY9E PCARA Vice President 2015