



Polk County Amateur Radio Association
Meeting Minutes of the Organization
1732 Forest Circle
Balsam Lake, WI 54810
www.N9XH.org

May 14, 2016

Polk County Justice Center - Balsam Lake – Wisconsin

Attendance: Mark W9GWG, Greg N9CHA, Chris KC9NVV, Rick W9WS, Wayne KC9RBL, Jack W9JET, Becky KD9FZN, Steve KD9FSQ, Robert KD6TWC, John NØTCN, Dan KB9OBF, Don W9LRQ

09:00 am Meeting Called to Order: Mark W9GWG, President

- Called the meeting to order.
- Congratulations! New Call: Becky KD9FZN

Treasurers Report: Chris KC9NVV, PCARA Treasurer.

- Reported the club's bank balance.

Old Business:

- Review and submit for adoption: Amendments to the PCARA Constitution and Bylaws as presented during the April 2016 meeting. Robert KD6TWC is to provide information regarding his concern about unwanted exposure to liability and his findings regarding a Corporate or LLC status for future club operations. Motion by John NØTCN, 2nd by Chris KC9NVV to adopt the amendments. Motion passed.
- Discussion regarding general liability insurance. Robert KD6TWC expressed his concern about the leadership being subjected to law suits of negligence during planned events such as Field Day. Jack W9JET mentioned the St. Croix club takes advantage of the liability insurance (approximately \$200/yr.) offered through the ARRL. John NØTCN said he'd appreciate a liability policy be put into effect, but he said it's not a pre-condition of having FD at his place this year. Chris KC9NVV quickly looked up the details on line and read aloud the parameters of the insurance. Motion: Dan KB9OBF, 2nd Rick W9WS to have the PCARA purchase liability insurance. Motioned passed. Several club members offered cash donations to help defray the costs. Rick W9WS will follow up with the ARRL and purchase the policy prior to Field Day 2016.

New Business:

- Bill K9WEN (Mark W9GWG) – Monday night net. Need additional Net Control Ops for 2016. Mark W9GWG passed around a signup sheet.
- PCARA will host VE Testing Sessions on a quarterly schedule. Next sessions are July 9th, October 8th: 1:00pm to 3:00pm
- Chris KC9NVV – Introduction to amateur radio presentation given to the students at Valley Christian School, Osceola on May 10th. Participating were; Greg N9CHA, Becky KD9FZN. Chris reported the presentation was well attended and the students seemed to enjoy the information and practical applications of RTTY, CW and Voice. Becky KD9FZN talked to several of the students and talked about their favorite colors, subjects in school and pets. Steve KD9FSQ asked if perhaps there could be a

summer program sponsored at the school to introduce ham radio and entry level topics for eventual licensing. Steve offered his services to volunteer for such a program. Chris is going to follow up with the school to see if that would be possible.

- Chris KC9NVV promoted the “Bike Northwood’s Tour” and asked for volunteers. The event runs from July 9th to July 15th beginning and ending in Superior, WI. Amateurs are needed to man the rest stops and provide communications regarding those who may need assistance and general event and course updates. There will be 450 bikers participating in the week-long event. Contact Chris if you’d like to participate for any length of time.
- Field Day 2016. A show of hands, how many plan to attend FD this year? 12 showed interest. The club will pay for a chemical toilet and provide money for food. The location will be at John’s NØTCN’s QTH near Centuria. Thanks John!
- Dipole project June 11th: Rick W9WS, Mark W9GWG, Robert KD6TWC volunteered to bring feed line, dog bone insulators, wire, 1:1 baluns, soldering supplies, hand tools, tape measure, launcher and antenna analyzers to the next meeting in preparation of building a 20 meter dipole. Target frequency is 14.225. Other antenna construction by members is encouraged. Greg N9CHA is to put a list of materials needed on the Yahoo Groups.

Skywarn:

- No reportable WX issues this month. Chris KC9NVV said to be prepared as there are several projections of severe WX events on the horizon. Already the Central and SW states have suffered major tornado events. An EF4 or EF5 event is expected locally this year.

ARES/RACES:

- Greg N9CHA – Monthly report was submitted to SEC and DEC.

Petty Cash Report:

- Chris KC9NVV reported \$11 in “the can”

Meeting adjourned: 09:55 am

- Motion by Steve KD9FSQ, 2nd Don W9LRQ

Program:

- Dan KB9OBF – Field Day 2016. New FD points can be achieved by posting FD updates to social media before and during the event. New this year is the inclusion of a “Safety Officer”. Rick W9WS offered to take on this responsibility. Dan went through the N3FJP FD logging software highlighting the setup parameters, logging windows, band/mode, section/class of each entry. John NØTCN said he may have internet wireless access available this year. Networking of the station laptops might be possible.

Respectfully submitted by:

Greg N9CHA

PCARA Secretary 2016