



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

April 8, 2017

Attendance: Chris KC9NVV, Greg N9CHA, Rick W9WS, Russ WQ0N, Wayne KC9RBL, Jack W9JET, Gale WD9HFT, Mike KK9MC, Rick N9RB, Tom N0HWY, Bruce N9BLU, Dan KB9OBF, Steve N0XC, Steve KD9FSQ

Meeting Called to Order: 9:00 by Chris, KC9NVV, President

Introduction of Guests & Announcements:

- Steve's N0XC son, Will, attended the meeting and assisted Steve with the WSPR set-up.

Treasurers Report:

- Jack W9JET, Treasurer we have money in checking and PayPal
- **Old Business:** None

New Business:

- Bill K9WEN, VP, Net Control Manager – Net controllers are needed for: May 15, 22, 29, June 5, 12, 19. Contact Bill to sign-up
- Greg and Chris reported that CAT5 cable that includes a POE (power over Ethernet) to deliver power to the wireless bridge from the VPN/power supply module became a conduit for water that cause the power supply to fail. The power supply needs to be replaced or repaired and flooded cable should replace the existing cable. Tom W0HWY may have cable to contribute to the cause or the existing cable may be used with a drain slit made in the outer casing to allow water to drain. A motion was passed to authorize the purchase of new cable if necessary (estimated at \$200). Rick will look at the power supply and attempt to repair it if possible, while Greg investigates purchasing a replacement.
- Greg N9CHA shared a sample of new, low loss, coax cable with the group. He has tooling for attaching connectors and more details on connectors if you are interested.

Skywarn:

- Chris KC9NVV reported there were no activations in March
- Thursday 4/13 is the NWS national severe weather awareness day. Chris would like to activate the Skywarn Net at 1:30 and 6:30 (as was done last year). Chris will serve as net control at 6:30 and is looking for a volunteer to serve as net control at 1:30. Rick W9WS will check his availability and contact Chris.

ARES/RACES:

- The Monthly report was submitted to SEC and DEC by Greg N9CHA.
- Greg N9CHA recently attended a WISCOM informational meeting. All three Polk County hospitals use the system and it is being implemented statewide. He also indicated that hospital personnel may not be comfortable with the system and the operation of the equipment. He went on to suggest a possible role for the local AREA/RACES folks to become familiar with the equipment and serve in a support role in the use of the equipment. There may be an opportunity to better coordinate WISCOM and ARES/RACES. The group expressed interest and encouraged Greg to pursue an opportunity to tour the hospitals in the county and meet with the staff involved in emergency communications.

PETTY CASH REPORT: Jack W9JET, Treasurer – donations to the can were \$13.00 for the day

ADJOURN: Motion to adjourn at 10:45

PROGRAM:

- Steve N0XC presented a great introduction to WSPR (weak signal propagation reporter) network. He will email links to the various web sites associated with the system and implementing it at your QTH with your existing equipment.

TRAINING:

- Chris KC9NVV lead a Skywarn re-certification session following the meeting

Respectfully submitted by Russ WQ0N