

Present: Gene Ellefsen-N0VRM, Mike Lovold-N0PDG, Bruce Carlson-KE0NIT, Robin Davis, Dave Davis-AA0AC, Gary Minter-KD9ABS, Randy Johnson-AA0ME, Randy Wabik-KR0B, Grant Forsyth-KC0WUP, Doug Nelson-AA0AW

Guests: Del Minter-KE0CLI

Meeting called to order by President Gene-N0VRM at 6:30 pm

Minutes:

Minutes posted in newsletter and on the web site. Motion to accept by Dave-AA0AC, seconded by Gary-KD9ABS, motion passed

Treasurer's Report:

Checking 2,022.41
Savings 2,173.57
Cash Subtotal \$4,195.98

Outstanding Checks:

Mahtowa Repeater -1,100.00
Bob Boyd-KD0LYN Memorial -1,020.00
Subtotal Checks-\$2,120.00

Winter CD 1,714.03
CD Subtotal \$1,714.03

Grand Total \$3,790.01

Dues are coming in, some donations also coming in also. Question as to who was donating and should we be sending a thank you note. Bruce-KE0NIT stated there are a couple people donating and they wish to remain anonymous. They give extra money because our dues are reasonable. Motion to accept by Dave-AA0AC, seconded by Gary-KD0ABS, motion passed

Elections:

Any nominations yet? Make sure to bring it up at the ARAC General meeting on Thursday, October 8, 2020. Dave Davis-AA0AC nominated for First Year Board by Doug-AA0AW. Gene-N0VRM, Mike-N0PDG, Bruce-KE0NIT and Robin are also nominated by Doug-AA0AW for their respective offices

How will we handle an election if there is a contested office? Nominations due by end of November, reminding Club members. Nomination requests should be published in the December newsletter. Could mail back ballots by December meeting for voting? Publish who won what in January 2021 newsletter. 15% of the membership present at the December meeting, on the air or in person, Election Judge and/or Chairperson could declare a white ballot for the slate if there is not a contested election. Talk to Kim Waller-KE0NQS and Tom Dohr-KE0RHA about being included in the newsletter and on the web page. Print off web page could be mailed in. We would need two (2) election judges and a chairperson. Must be a dues paying member including non-Ham members (Family Membership). More discussion to follow

First Sunday night net after our normal monthly meeting, announce who has been nominated for positions for the Club. Keep informed, no denying, covering Executive Board, transparency, etc.

Committee Reports:

Christmas Party:

Probably no Christmas party this year due to the COVID restrictions

Non Profit Status:

Gene-N0VRM renewed Non-Profit Status with the State of MN. Also edited the Club information on the ARRL site. No activities for two (2) years on the ARRL site, they remove the Clubs completely. We are a sanctioned Club with the ARRL again

94 Repeater:

94 Repeater upgrade discussion. Replacing the 94 may not be just a plug and play. Linking them to the remote sites could be very difficult. It is complicated deal. Upgrade the 94? What are our options? Randy W-KR0B will take a look at it. Gene-N0VRM asked Randy-KR0B to look into it. Mike-N0PDG and Randy-KR0B will do some investigation. Randy-KR0B will look at the manual, at the print. Upgrade Duluth; buy one (1) repeater, more information to follow

Spirit Valley Amateurs replaced the 440 PA Power Amplifier at the main repeater site. Doug-AA0AW and Gene-N0VRM went to the site. It is working because Diane Saunders-K0DSL has come in via Echo Link. Working on putting in a patch at the Repeater at Mahtowa so the two (2) radios will talk to each other. Carrier Operated Relay, Doug-AA0Aw believes it is reversed at Mahtowa. We need the password to complete the project, which we do not have. Randy Haglin-N0BZZ is checking his paperwork that he inherited from Jimmy Watten-KD0DZX. The Repeater at Mahtowa was staying open. We have a temporary patch to take the pressure off Randy Haglin-N0BZZ for now

Mahtowa Repeater:

Mahtowa looks like a POS. We haven't cut the grass this year and the site is loaded with small poplars. Something should have been done this year. Trees inside the fence are even bigger. Discussion on going to the site in the next few weeks to do some clean-up of the grounds, weed whack, cut grass, remove small trees

New Business:

ARRL Elections:

ARRL has an upcoming election for the Dakota Division Director. Matt Holden-K0BBC, incumbent, is running against Bill Lippert-AC0W. Ballots are being sent out via mail. Gene-N0VRM spoke in favor of Matt-K0BBC. He has been to several of ARAC's meetings and has provided the programs for many of our monthly meetings. If you don't get your ballot by October 16, 2020, call ARRL to get one sent to you

FCC:

FYI – FCC just sold a portion of the band to a private company for 4.2 billion. 3.8 to 4.2 lower half for 5G use. They want our 440 band. UHF is valuable. All communications is valuable to someone

Bell Ringing:

In past years, we've done bell ringing for the Salvation Army. Gene-N0VRM got a letter from them to see if we are interested in ringing again. We'll ask at the Thursday evening Club meeting. Bob Hoyt-KC0EIM started it with our Club, several years ago

Motion to adjourn by Randy-AA0ME, seconded by Mike-N0PDG, motion passed at 7:25 pm