

Present: Gene Ellefsen-N0VRM, Mike Lovold-N0PDG, Robin Davis, Dave Davis-AA0AC, Randy Johnson-AA0ME, Gary Minter-KD9ABS, Randy Wabik-KR0B, Kim Waller-KE0NQS, Steve Waller-KE0NQT, Grant Forsyth-KC0WUP

Guests: John Aasen-KF0BXQ

Meeting called to order by President Gene-N0VRM at 6:35 pm

**Minutes:**

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

**Treasurer's Report:**

Checking 1,624.43  
Savings 2,173.57  
Cash Subtotal \$3,798.00

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 \$3,392.03

Two (2) bills that are coming for payment. Merger is our Liability Insurance and that is due in January 2021. Normally, we also pay \$150.00 to Coppertop Church for six (6) months of use of their fellowship hall for our monthly meetings. We have not met for most of 2020 due to the Pandemic. Mike-N0PDG made a motion to continue our bi-annual payment of \$150.00, seconded by Dave-AA0AC, discussion ensued. Call for the Question - motion to accept by Randy-AA0ME, seconded by Gary-KD9ABS, motion passed

**Elections:**

White ballot for all offices, how do we do this over the air on the 94 Repeater? Per Grant-KC0WUP, put out that everyone is running unopposed. Ask for motion for a white ballot, get a second and listen for discussion. Anybody opposed to the white ballot, a no response from all is considered passed, nominated are now elected. This task should be handled by either the Second or Third Year Board Member over the air at the General Membership meeting. Gary-KD9ABS stated he nominated Randy-AA0ME to handle this task, as he is the newest Board Member. Randy-AA0ME agreed to handle this task

**Thomas J Reibold Award W9IBM Memorial Award:**

Elmer Berg-KC0NGY is the only name brought forward for the award this year and it is a good choice. Decision to announce it at the monthly meeting, over the air and then work on getting the plaque to him. Possibly could deliver the plaque to his home. Dave-AA0AC will work with Doug-AA0AW to write up the Declaration of Elmer-KC0NGY receiving it. The plaque is at the Engravers now

**Grant Money:**

Discussion on writing applications for possible grants. MN Council of Nonprofits puts out a yearly book that can be a good resource. Start by looking at the relationships the Club already has to see if they have funds available. We use the 94 Repeater for the National Weather Service, used by the race community, used in Emergencies such as the Husky Fire several years ago. This was a multi-state response team, coordinated over the 94 Repeater. During Pagami Creek Fire, we were responders, using our repeaters and emergency response system. Consider the fact that Canadian National has \$10,000.00 a year to give for community relationships. Enbridge also has a large pool. We are a nonprofit but not a 501C3 (tax-deductible

organization). Write up language showing what we do for the community and what we would do with the money. Our #1 priority is to redo the 94 Repeater, upgrade what we have. We need a new controller, power supply, complete new unit, etc. Look for sponsors. It helps if we have a personal relationship or contact with whom we are asking for a grant. Randy-KR0B will put together a list of needs, with a rough estimate (plus 15%). Discussion on including Mahtowa Repeater to upgrade to a whole new set up, including the generator. Randy-KR0B will make up a wish list - Phase 1 Duluth, Phase 2 Mahtowa. Some of the applications will require a short video. Dennis Anderson-W0DIO volunteered before to be the voice on the videos. Kim-KE0NQS and Steve-KE0NQT will work up storyboards, do the required writing, etc. and bring back a product for Board to review

### **Committee Reports:**

#### **Repeater:**

During Randy-KR0B's last conversation with John Kruk-N9UPC, he learned our controller on the hill is discontinued. John-KR0B said he will work with anything but if something goes wrong, we are screwed as far as the programming. The last person to program and maintain the Mahtowa Repeater was Jim Watten-KD0DZX, who is deceased. To install a new 94 Repeater, it makes sense to install a new controller at the same time. Feed line & connectors (700 feet), \$31.50 for cable, antenna \$1,200.00, tower crew \$3,500.00, we're at \$10,000.00 to upgrade the feed line with quality. Controller, \$700-800, amplifier, \$1,000.00, bringing us up to \$15,000.00 at a glance

#### **Christmas Party:**

Looking for something to replace the Christmas party that was cancelled to try and connect all our members over the air. Maybe a Christmas carol sing along using Zoom? We can use Kim-KE0NQS's Zoom Account. Several ideas were brought forth but no further action was taken

#### **Programs:**

DX Engineering is set up for January's program. Tom Ferguson-WB0DHE is scheduled for the February program. He is retired from MN Power and teaches Electrical Engineering at UMD

#### **Newsletter:**

Newsletter is 95% done. Kim-KE0NQS and Steve-KE0NQT were out of town, just returned and the newsletter will be completed soon. Distribution by email and on the web page

#### **Historian:**

Grant-KC0WUP brought a box of DVDs full of pictures, old new clippings, etc., for Kim-KE0NQS to add to the collection

#### **Ham Fest**

Planning to have Ham Fest in May, first Saturday, depending on conditions. Bob Schultz-KC0NFB will be contacting the Superior Fair Board about securing the location for us. We have a security deposit that has rolled repeatedly a few years

Motion to adjourn by Randy-AA0ME, seconded by Gary-KD9ABS, motion passed