

Present: Gene Ellingsen-N0VRM, Mike Lovold-N0PDG, Bruce Carlson-KN0NUL, Robin Davis, Gary Minter-KD9ABS, Dave Davis-AA0AC, Doug Nelson-AA0AW, Randy Wabik-KR0B, Grant Forsyth-KC0WUP

Guests: Elmer Berg-KC0NGY, Del Minter-KE0CLI

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

Minutes:

Posted on web site and in the newsletter. Any questions? Move to approve by Gary-KD9ABS, seconded by Dave-AA0AC, motion passed

Treasurer's Report:

Checking 3,195.54
Savings 2,174.01
Subtotal Cash \$5,369.71

Winter CD 1,724.37
Summer CD 0.00
Subtotal CD \$1,724.37

Assets Subtotal: \$7,094.08

Outstanding Checks:

Mahtowa Repeater -1,100.00
Bob Boyd-KD0LYN Memorial -1,190.00
Reserved Funds -\$2,290.00

Grand Total \$4,804.08

Gene-N0VRM paid for the Storage Unit, paid through November 2022. They no longer are giving the discount of paying for a year and getting one (1) month free

Motion to approve as presented by Gary-KD9ABS, seconded by Robin, motion passed

Grants:

Gene-N0VRM completed grant applications for funds and received a reply from Enbridge. They normally don't fund hobby clubs such as ARAC. After some discussion about the communications we provide, two (2) of the people on their board, they picked out the community service we do and they voted to give us a grant. Most organizations that provide grants are focused on children clubs or veterans groups, but we need to emphasize the communication we provide to the community. Some organizations will not consider ARAC and won't fund without the Club being a 501C3, so we are restricted. The grant will go through a third party before we will actually receive the funds

We will track the money separately in our Accounting. Bruce-KN0NUL stated we would track how the funds will be spent to report to the organization that provided the grant. We keep our monies separately, no different for this dedicated money. We do borrow money out of our accounts for cash flow at the Ham Fest - take it out Friday and put it back on Monday

A couple other applications are in – one (1) with the parent company for Husky. They use the same clearing company as Enbridge does for donations. Approximately a two (2) months process for the application process. Gene-N0VRM will talk to Shane Bauer; Executive Director of Grandma's Marathon to get a letter from Grandma's to add to the packet going to Halvor Truck Lines. Back up what we do for Grandma's Marathon

Repeater:

We have around \$2,000.00 in the funds for the repeater. How will we make Mahtowa work? The grant from Enbridge is for the 94 Repeater. The reason we are holding the money for Mahtowa is so it will talk to the Duluth Repeater. At this point, as far as the Club goes, Randy Haglin-N0BZZ should be approached with a dead line. No work is needed at Mahtowa as far as antennas. Why spend \$1,100.00, to just change it out? We have given him many opportunities to get the work completed and we should make one last appeal to get this done. We need an answer from him. Put the money into the 94 Repeater, our main site, before working on the other Repeaters. Get it working fine, the 94, the antenna is newer, the hard line is twenty (20) years old. Approach Randy-N0BZZ to determine does he want to do this or not. We will also need a tower climbing crew. Estimate is \$5,000.00 for the climbing crew. We might be able to piggyback on work WDSE will be doing. If there is a crew on the tower already, \$1,100.00 might be enough to cover the work we need done. Gene-N0VRM talk to John Pantsar, Chief Engineer at WDSE, about any possible upcoming work. We have a 440 radio that could be used at Mahtowa, from the Spirit Valley Amateur Club. Then they could talk to each other. Gene-N0VRM will talk to Randy-N0BZZ

Gene-N0VRM will check into the process to become a 501C3. Doug-AA0AW warned to be careful with the wording on the application for the 501C3. Gene-N0VRM talked with Cheryl Meese-WA0PSB and she said her company's donations go mostly to organizations that work with children. Cheryl-WA0PSB did state that we, the ARAC, need to consider changing away from the 501C7. If we changed, it is possible we could have the change by next year. It is documented on the internet, type in 501C3, to locate the application process

What is the total amount we need to make this happen? Randy-KR0B's plan was a three (3) year plan, repeater, controller, and amplifier - 9,000.00 for the antenna part of the project

Randy-KR0B's suggestion is that we just shelve the Mahtowa project and reallocate the money into the cost to hire Randy-N0BZZ for climbing as part of the 94 Repeater revision. Randy-N0BZZ has climbed the tower for WDSE in the past, many times. Climbing probably won't happen until next year because of the weather. It won't hurt to ask John Pantsar, Chief Engineer at WDSE, as previously suggested. The FCC requires that you re-lamp towers every year. The climbing to change bulbs is becoming obsolete as most towers are going to LED lights

Any other business?

Nominations:

Nominations for officers will be handled by Gary-KN9ABS as the second year Board member. Randy-AA0ME is up for election this year as Third Year Board Member and he will not rerun as he is moving to Utah. Bruce-KN0NUL will be interested in continue as Treasurer for at least another year. He is also stating that this will be his last year as Treasurer. Five (5) years as a Treasurer is industry standard and the Treasurer should be changed to a different person. Nominations will open on Thursday at the General Membership meeting

Thomas J Reibold W91BM Memorial Award:

The Board members will be looking for nominations for the Thomas Reibold Award for 2021. The award is given to an ARAC member who provided dedicated service to the Club, in honor of a past member

Testing:

Looking for another place for testing as the church has been so busy in the evenings. Doug-AA0AW is looking at the Proctor Moose, using the building on Monday nights and Doug-AA0AW is a member at the Moose so it makes the ask easier

Wild Duluth Race:

Set up for Wild Duluth Race on Saturday, October 16, 2021? Yes, all the Communication spots are filled. Doug-AA0AW will be emailing the information to those working this race

Upcoming Events:

October 23, 2021, we will have a Wild Game Feed at the church (House of Refuge), the Road Kill Café, from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm. Donations accepted, all funds received will be going to the church

Motion to adjourn by Mike-N0PDG, seconded by Gary-KD9ABS, motion passed at 7:13 pm