

# **CRAWFORD AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY**

Minutes 19 April 2011

The monthly meeting of the Crawford Amateur Radio Society was held at St. Brigid's Church on 19 April 2011 with 24 in attendance. It was called to order by President Jamie WW3S at 7:33 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and a moment of silence observed for the deceased members of our hobby.

Minutes of the March 2011 meeting were not read. A motion to accept the minutes as emailed was made by Bill N3VVZ with second by Ralph KA3CDH. Motion carried.

The Treasurer's report was given by Rich WA3MCH. A copy of this report is attached. A motion to accept the report as read was made by Jim K3TLP with second by Ralph KA3CDH. Motion carried.

At this point everyone introduced themselves.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

*REPEATER* – John N3CUP reported no changes since last month. Jamie WW3S said there had been no progress on echolink.

*SKYWARN* – Jamie WW3S noted that the training event had been canceled due to severe weather. A session was held in Erie which Jamie attended. There were 137 attendees, with 80 being new.

*NET* – Jerry WA3ZSC said the net is going along and he is being flexible.

*SPECIAL EVENTS* – The Memorial Day 5K Run will be held, but Mark KM3P cannot organize the event this year. Jerry WA3ZSC will not be able to head up either, so there is an opening for someone to take this on.

*FIELD DAY* – Mike N3QQH again reminded everyone that Field Day is June 25-26 and that he has confirmed shelter #3 for Saturday at Roche Park. We may not have a shelter for Sunday. Saturday start-up time is 9 AM.

*VE* – WW3S reported that the next scheduled VE exam is April 23<sup>rd</sup>, which is this Saturday. No registrations have been received at this time. Volunteers expecting to be on hand if needed include WW3S, K3TLP, K0ZP and N3QQH.

*CORRESPONDENCE* – Allen Clark sent a Thank You card expressing his thanks for helping set up the county EOC, assistance during the flooding and participating in the annual Weather Exercise.

*MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS* – None.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

Gary WA3NSM gave a brief report on the Ohio Skywarn training.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Rich WA3MCH presented bills totaling \$XX. A motion to pay the bills was made by Ralph KA3CDH with second by Cynthia WB3CNJ. Motion carried.
2. Cynthia WB3CNJ announced that she would be happy to offer her services for ham radio classes. She has been doing this since 1996. Jamie WW3S asked if she would put together a proposed schedule.
3. John K0ZP said the we should reapply for ARRL insurance now that we have created the not-for-profit W3MIE Holdings. In a related matter, we should request a vote to transfer the Route 27 property to the W3MIE Holdings. Mike N3QQH moved to make the transfer, second by John N3CUP and the motion carried. We also need to establish officers for the W3MIE Holdings entity.

A 50/50 drawing was held and \$XX collected. Jim K3TLP won the drawing and he donated his earnings back to the club and selected a book from the new club selection.

There being no further business, on motion by Bill N3VVZ with second by Gary WA3NSM, the meeting was adjourned at 7:52 PM.

The program for the evening was Western PA Section Manager John Rogers N3MSE. John spoke for about an hour. Below is a summary of the topics John covered.

1. The ARRL on-line ARES registration is dead as of today due to extensive technical issues with the server. Going forward a totally different approach will be tried.
2. NBEMS is the official digital mode for WPA. Free software can be obtained by going to [www.w1hkj.com](http://www.w1hkj.com) and downloading the 'fldigi' software. The program also sends and receives CW and has a built-in logging program. John is running it on an ACER netbook with an Atom processor and 1-gig of ram, proving this software does not need a robust computer. You can use acoustical coupling between your computer and an HT – you do not need a hardware interface. You can also visit [www.panbems.org](http://www.panbems.org) for more information. There are also YouTube videos and a Yahoo group.
3. The League is working to enhance Affiliated Club benefits. For example there are discounts on ARRL publications for affiliated clubs.
4. John said there is widespread dissatisfaction with the new ARRL website from both members and within League headquarters. It appears that the firm that designed the site did not anticipate the traffic volume or the extensive nature of the site contents. League staff members have been working feverishly to solve problems as they arise.

5. John also pointed out that there are benefits for clubs by becoming a 501(c)(3) organization. Mike Lazaroff K3AIR can provide assistance. He can be reached via email at [k3air@arrl.net](mailto:k3air@arrl.net).
6. A new company is now handling ARRL insurance, which should make it easier to obtain for clubs that own property.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in red ink that reads "Barry H. Capell". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'B' and 'C'.

Barry H. Capell WA3GSH