

# **CRAWFORD AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY**

Minutes 17 August 2010

The monthly meeting of the Crawford Amateur Radio Society was held at St. Brigid's Church on 17 August 2010 with 25 in attendance. It was called to order by President Jim K3TLP at 7:30PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and a moment of silence observed for the deceased members of our hobby.

Minutes of the July 2010 meeting were read by Mark KM3P. A correction of a typographical error in the Treasurer's Report was made and a motion to accept the corrected minutes was made by John N3CUP and seconded by Barry WA3GSH . Motion carried.

The Treasurer's report was given by Rich WA3MCH. A copy of this report is attached. A motion to accept was made by Bill N3VVZ and seconded by Ralph KA3CDH. Motion carried.

At this point everyone introduced themselves.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**REPEATER** – Jim K3TLP said that the GE Repeater that was on 147.03 will be re-crystaled for 145.13 and placed at Norrisville as a hot standby should the fairgrounds system go down. Mike KE3JP will retune the repeater. Jim and Barry WA3GSH met at the Route 27 site and sealed the holes the feedlines come into the building with duck seal. They also looked at both buildings and the cracks in the concrete building can be patched with concrete patch that is available from Home Depot. John N3CUP looked at the ground for the building and it is in place however it should be secured along the bottom of the building so no one accidentally trips on it. It was also mentioned that the 147.03 repeater occasionally drops out momentarily. The Vertex Repeater has a built in overheat protection circuit; if the repeater overheats it will automatically switch to low power. John N3CUP reported on the progress of the 10 Meter repeater. Currently Fred N3QFA has the transmitter as it is only putting out milliwatts; also Russ KB3CIT donated an Antron 99 vertical for the receive antenna. John and Mark KM3P are working on testing the link to see if it will work from Mark's house. Jaime WW3S asked if the 145.13 machine could be taken out of PL remotely. He thinks there are stations trying to check in to the nightly net that are not sending the PL tone and therefore are not making the repeater.

**SKYWARN** – Jaime WW3S requested that if someone is going to call up a Skywarn Net make sure the current weather event meets or surpasses reporting criteria. He is also still looking for Net Control stations on Sunday Nights. Jaime also attended the dedication of the county's new Emergency Communications Bus. There is a VHF radio installed that has four Amateur Radio frequencies programmed into the radio.

**NET** – Jerry WA3ZSC said all is going well. Jaime WW3S asked whether or not we accept relayed stations as checkins. Jerry said that our net does not; in order for a station to be counted as a check in either the net control or net manager must be able to copy the station.

*SPECIAL EVENTS* – Jerry WA3ZSC reported on the Cochranon Fair Parade that had been held recently. The upcoming Halloween Parade is the same day as the Severe Emergency Test. Mark N3PBQ is looking for help with the Drake Well Marathon on 22 August 2010 and the Oil Creek 100 on 16/17 October 2010.

*FIELD DAY* – Mike N3QQH reported that he and Barry WA3GSH have already been discussing next year's Field Day. Jim K3TLP found a Cushcraft A3 Tri-Band Beam in Warren OH for ##. It needs hardware but would be a good antenna. John K0ZP make a motion authorizing Jim to purchase the antenna at his discretion and be reimbursed for the antenna should he decide to purchase it. A second was received from Barry WA3GSH. Motion carried. We received a QSL card and Jim will reply with one of the club's QSL cards.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Mark KM3P read a letter from Steve Watt from the Office of Emergency Services dated 14 November 2003 authorizing our being on the fairgrounds tower. When the new tower is erected we will ask Allen Clark to write a revised letter again authorizing our being on that tower.
2. Mark KM3P put together an attendance roster showing who is and is not eligible to vote to date. Anyone wanting to know if they've attended the required four meetings prior to the December meeting can ask Mark after the meeting if they have or have not.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Rich WA3MCH presented the bills totaling ##. A motion to pay the bills was made by Barry WA3GSH and seconded by Bill N3VVZ. Motion carried.
2. Jim K3TLP read an excerpt from "The Daily DX" about some upcoming changes in the DX Countries list.

A 50/50 drawing was held and ## collected. ## was won by Allison KB3RKH and she donated her financial earnings back to the club.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:30PM.

For our program John N3CUP showed off a 2 Meter Moxon antenna he built and with the help of Mark N3PBQ he demonstrated the antenna.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark P. Benson KM3P