

CRAWFORD AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

Minutes 15 February 2011

The monthly meeting of the Crawford Amateur Radio Society was held at St. Brigid's Church on 15 Feb 2011 with 30 in attendance. It was called to order by President Jamie WW3S 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 January 2011 meeting were read by Secretary Barry WA3GSH. A motion to accept the minutes as read was made by Bill W3WDH with second by Ed AB3FD. 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 Dave KB3EHA with second by Gary WA3NSM. Motion carried.

At this point everyone introduced themselves.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

REPEATER – John N3CUP reported that the repeaters seem to be working fairly well, and there is good activity on the 440 machine. Dave AB3I has heard the sucking sound on the input of the 145.13 machine, but you have to be at the fairgrounds to hear it.

SKYWARN – Jamie WW3S reported that the Severe Weather Exercise will be on March 1st. K3TLP will be at the courthouse about 8:30 AM. March 23rd is the SKYWARN training. Concerning ARES, Jamie requests that we go to the club website, W3MIE.org, to re-register. ARRL is trying some new software here in WPA. In other news, KE3JP resigned as District Emergency Coordinator (DEC).

NET – Jerry WA3ZSC remarked that there is nothing much to report. WW3S said that he needs Net Control Stations for the Sunday night ARES net.

SPECIAL EVENTS – No report.

FIELD DAY – No report.

VE – WW3S and K3TLP reported that the next VE session would be March 12th at 10 AM at St. Brigid's. April 23rd is National Exam Day, and there will be an attempt to schedule testing for that day if there are any advance reservations.

CORRESPONDENCE – We received a Thank You letter from the Moody Bible Institute for our XX contribution. There was no mention in their letter that the contribution was for our use of their tower for the 440 machine.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS – Frank Keck, KE3CK, had his application for membership read aloud.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Jim K3TLP reported that the Red Cross took the ham radio equipment to the Reno office.
2. Jim K3TLP reported that the Audit Committee met at his home on February 5th. The committee found the Treasurer's books [maintained by our very capable and dedicated Treasurer, Rich WA3MCH] to be in good order, well-organized, with clear records.
3. Fred N3QFA reported on the fairgrounds tower project, which is now making some progress. Verizon may be a potential user of the new tower, which Fred thinks will cause some over-engineering. Our place on the tower is still secure.
4. WW3S asked for a status report on the PA Decennial Report. Vice-President John K0ZP stated that the report has been filed with the state, and that he donated the XX filing fee. [kudos to John!]

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Rich WA3MCH presented the bills totaling XX. A motion to pay the bills was made by Dave KB3EHA and second by John N3CUP. Motion carried.
2. John N3CUP reported that the WPA RACES net has good participation from Crawford County hams, with repeat Crawford County check-ins being chalked up as the "100% Club".
3. Dave KB3EHA asked about the possibilities of hosting our own hamfest.
4. WW3S asked that if you are a regular user of the repeater, please support the club by joining at the low dues rate of \$15.
5. WW3S requested that the meeting minutes be distributed before the meeting via email, and paper copies be made available at the meeting. Since many people come early, they could be encouraged to read the minutes prior to the meeting if they had not already read them. We will try this and avoid the time taken to read the minutes aloud at each meeting. The minutes will then be posted on the website after they have been approved at a subsequent meeting. Mark KM3P reminds us that they be posted on the web minus the Treasurer's Report, the bills, and the 50/50 results.
6. K3TLP reported that Leonard Hunter will bring an Enigma machine to the March meeting. If you have never seen his presentation, you would be well advised to attend this meeting.
7. WW3S noted that there had been a big solar flare on Sunday that deadened the bands, followed by great propagation on subsequent days. Another event, an X-Class Flare had just happened last night. With this latest Coronal Mass

Ejection, we may see visible aurora here if the weather cooperates. Those interested can go to 'spaceweather.com' for aurora pictures.

8. WW3S had copies of the original RSGB G5RV antenna article published in July, 1958 - and those who were interested could pick up a copy at the close of the meeting.

A 50/50 drawing was held and XX collected. XX was won by John N3CUP and he donated his earnings back to the club.

There being no further business, on motion by Gary WA3NSM with second by Mark KM3P, the meeting was adjourned at 8:17PM.

We enjoyed two program presentations:

Dave AB3I did a show-and-tell of Ham Radio Deluxe, using his laptop.

On John K0ZP's suggestion, in perhaps a soon-to-be-repeated new program format for future meetings, John N3CUP did a stand-up routine, giving us a biography of his personal life and history. John entertained us with plenty of stories about his days with the telephone company, including some "shocking" experiences!

Respectfully submitted,

Barry H. Capell WA3GSH