

# **CRAWFORD AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY**

Minutes 18 January 2011

The monthly meeting of the Crawford Amateur Radio Society was held at St. Brigid's Church on 18 Jan 2011 with 26 in attendance. It was called to order by new incoming 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 December 2010 meeting were read by new Secretary Barry WA3GSH. A motion to accept the minutes as read was made by Jim K3TLP with second by Gary WA3NSM. 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 Mark KM3P with second by John N3CUP. Motion carried.

At this point everyone introduced themselves.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

*REPEATER* – John N3CUP reported that the “sucking straw” sound continues on the 145.13 machine, and this is baffling. It seems to only happen at net time. The debate over the source of the problem continues. Mike Hall checked the input on at least one occasion and did not hear the sound.

*SKYWARN* – Jamie WW3S noted that Wednesday, March 23 at 6:30 PM is the annual training session here at St. Brigid's. The hospital antenna location and erection discussions continue. K3TLP reported that the Red Cross is closing the Meadville office as of January 28<sup>th</sup>. WW3S said that ACS is progressing. One of the requirements for membership is NIMS classes, and they are available on the internet.

*NET* – Jerry WA3ZSC reported that he is trying to settle some open NCS positions, but otherwise all is going well. WW3S said that he needs Net Control Stations for the Sunday night net for April through December.

*SPECIAL EVENTS* – Jim K3TLP reported on a Weather Emergency Exercise on March 1<sup>st</sup>. They are looking for Courthouse and Hospital activity, and probably a 6-meter backbone operator.

*FIELD DAY* – Mike N3QQH reported that there will be a Field Day exercise – be there!

*VE* – no report.

*CORRESPONDENCE* – EMA Director Allen Clark wrote a Thank You card to Crawford RACES, thanking the operators that came to help set up the County EOC and test the base radio. Allen wrote “Your group is the backbone to EMS and my eyes and ears. Thank you again and keep up the great work!”

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

1. On motion by Jim K3TLP, second by Dave AB3I, it was voted that Arden Brown KB3UNV is approved as a member of CARS, after having his application read at the December meeting.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Rich WA3MCH presented the bills totaling XX. A motion to pay the bills was made by Ralph KA3CDH and second by Mark KM3P. Motion carried.

2. On motion by Jim K3TLP, second by Jerry WA3ZSC, the Treasurer is requested to pay XX to St. Brigid for the annual use of the meeting room, and XX to Moody Broadcasting for the use of the UHF Repeater site. Motion carried.

[There was a sidebar discussion between WA3MCH, AB3I and K3TLP on the telephone line control of the repeater via the modem.]

3. Jamie WW3S said it is time to audit the books. A meeting will be held January 29<sup>th</sup> at 9 AM at the home of Jim K3TLP. Those volunteering to attend are K3TLP, WA3MCH, WW3S and KM3P.

4. Dave AB3I discussed a possible Boy Scout Ham Radio Class (Technician Class). Teaching will be done from the Gordon West books. He is looking for donations for materials, and is looking at a possible February time frame. AB3I made a motion that CARS sponsor expenses at XX per boy, with a maximum expenditure of XX; second by Jim K3TLP, motion carried. Rich WA3MCH questioned on how and who to pay, and it was decided to wait and see what progress Dave makes in setting up the class sessions.

5. John N3CUP advanced an idea on looking for a place for a club station, perhaps donated space, but not at someone's house. This would allow HF access for prospective hams, to introduce them to ham radio on-the-air. John mentioned possible periodic access to the 911 center? Jamie WW3S noted that we own the Rt 27 site, and we have a club license. Perhaps we could remove and replace the storage building. Mark KM3P asked whether the County was trying to buy the old Talon building? Perhaps we could ask for a room there. And is there any possibility we could get the Red Cross equipment, since they are relocating? Dave AB3I asked if a committee could be set up to follow these issues.

A committee consisting of the following members was formed:

Dave AB3I  
John K0ZP  
John N3CUP  
Mike N3QQH

6. John K0ZP asked what sort of programs would the club like to see at the monthly meetings?

Jim K3TLP would like to see a PSK31 demonstration.

Mark KM3P noted that we had a great time with Rich's old radio.

Dave AB3I suggested we speed through the business meeting to get to the program.

7. Rich WA3MCH asked John K0ZP what progress he was making on the PA Decennial report. John said he will get it going.

A 50/50 drawing was held and XX collected. XX was won by Bill KB3DBB and he donated his earnings back to the club.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:35PM.

We enjoyed two program presentations.

Jamie WW3S Jamie had a stirring narrative on his Bermuda trip to work the ARRL RTTY contest. made 1007 contacts, after dupes, in 24 hours. He made over 900 CW contacts outside of the contest times, with over 300 on 160 meters.

Wrapping up the evening, Dave AB3I discussed his upcoming quest for an Appalachian Trail hike later this year. He wants to hike the entire trail, and he wants to carry a radio. He showed us his dismantled Yaesu FT-817 with the pc boards and the case, and commented on how he could lighten the load of this already diminutive 5-watt radio by avoiding the somewhat heavy case.

Respectfully submitted,

Barry H. Capell WA3GSH