

The Enid Amateur Radio Club (EARC)
Minutes of April 2009 meeting (Approved)

The Enid Amateur Radio Club met Thursday evening, April 16, 2009, at the American Red Cross Building, Enid, OK.

Attendance: Sam:KD5EUS, Dan:KE5PQY, Mike:KD5OFF, Tim:KD5KTB, Jess:KA5HYK, Al:KD5BA, Darian:KE5NQF, Bill:KC5OKG, Gene:N5SPY, Dave:KC5SII, Ron:WD5HUT, Dave:AD8B.

Jess:KA5HYK called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes of the March 2009 meeting were corrected and approved as corrected.

Treasurer's Report: No detailed report this month. Club accounts are still "in the black."

Correspondence: None.

Report of coming activities by Al:KD5BA -

The club web site has information on all future activities. Club members are encouraged to check the site regularly.

Red Dirt Bar-B-Que Fireworks (4/17) - Volunteers are asked to meet in front of the Mark Price Arena at 8:00. Fireworks are scheduled for 9:00, weather permitting. Use the 147.150 repeater to check the status of the fireworks display and for coordination.

Although informed that our club does not seek donations for service, the coordinators of the Red Dirt Bar-B-Que indicated an intention to donate \$200 to the EARC.

March of Dimes (4/25) - One week from this coming Saturday volunteers will meet in the Save-A-Lot parking lot on Broadway at 9:15 a.m. The walk will begin at 10:00.

Tri-State Parade (5/2) - The parade will be on the first Saturday in May. Volunteers will meet at 9:00 a.m. in the parking lot of the Presbyterian Church on Broadway. The parade begins at 10:30.

4th of July Fireworks - This will be at Meadow Lake.

YMCA Willowlakes Triathlon (8/1) - Al:KD5BA will probably be out of town at that time. A volunteer organizer for this event is needed.

David:KC5SII noted that Gary Gerber will host the Salt Plains Amateur Radio Club Gathering on Saturday, April 25th, at the KB0HH Bunkhouse 48 miles NW of Enid.

Repeater discussions -

The 145.290 repeater continues to suffer from white noise on the output frequency. For this reason the 147.150 repeater is currently preferred for activity coordination. PL tone access (141.3) will probably be reactivated on the 145.290 repeater, possibly as early as this weekend.

It may be possible to get a volunteer climber to help get the 444.400 repeater back on the air. Replacement of the antenna at the same time is advised. It was noted that Greg:KD5MFY is concerned about the current repeater's ability to handle continuous service. This repeater might serve as a link to the National Weather Center for Alva. It is unclear what is needed to establish this link. Jess:KA5HYK will contact Greg:KD5MFY and the repeater committee to request the development of a plan for linking this repeater.

ARES report by Mike:KD5OFF -

The container for the field kit has been chosen along with its general design. The next step is to mount equipment and battery. Members who wish to make a personal

field kit can order a container (\$35) through Mike.

Tim:KD5KTB reported on the 10 UPS batteries retired from his workplace. These are 12 volt AGM batteries rated at 93 AH. All were tested by Greg:KD5MFY and Dean:KL7MA and appear good. Tim moved that three of the batteries be made available to club members for \$20 each with the proceeds to be applied toward a charger for the batteries. Motion was seconded and passed. One battery was received by Dave:AD8B and another by Jess:KA5HYK. If interested in the remaining battery, contact Tim:KD5KTB.

A Power Gate/Charger was selected for maintenance of the club AGM batteries. This unit will be installed at the Red Cross station. In addition to keeping the batteries charged it can provide automatic switch over to emergency power for the 147.150 repeater.

Field Day report by Tim:KD5KTB -

This year's club Field Day activities will be held at the Red Cross Center. The facilities are reserved for us. The ECF group plan a display to promote Amateur Radio. Operation details such as the number of stations and types of antennas will be addressed at the May meeting.

Old Business -

Someone is needed to take the lead on fox hunting. It was moved by Al:KD5BA, seconded by Sam:KO5EUS and passed by the club to hand Dave:KC5SII the honors.

New Business -

A current list of paid members will be maintained by Devon:KD5UID. Dave:AD8B will correspond with former and potential paid members to encourage membership. It was reported that Bryce:KE5GRQ, the Pond Creek High School Radio Club advisor, is moving to Texas. The school club is being disbanded and the equipment distributed. Dale:KD5DCA will set up activities for students outside of the school. Dave:KC5SII reported that the EDF committee plans to hold a 4th Thursday "Radioactivity" each month if building use is cleared with the Red Cross. The purpose is to provide fun, interesting, and educational meetings for hams and potential hams without a business meeting format. This will begin this month. One possible topic is fox hunting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Dave:AD8B