

Southeast Missouri Amateur Radio Club

Minutes of April 7, 2025

The monthly meeting of the Southeast Missouri Amateur Radio Club was called to order on Monday, April 7, 2025, at 1830 by President Larry Mohundro, KEØTGI, with 23 members and six guests present. Guests were Danica Miller, Kara Ely, Laura Johnson, David Sullivan, KC9DVF, Bob Spooner, AD3K, and Kevin Allen, KK6QCM.

Minutes of the last meeting were read by Secretary Patty Chiles, ACØCU, and were approved as read with one exception: The backup battery on the 444.200 repeater – not the 146.685 repeater – was installed on March 1.

Treasurer Karen Brewington, KDØJMO, reported a beginning balance of \$17,981.15. She wrote two checks: \$25 to Jackson Civic Center for the May fox hunt shelter and \$73 to the postmaster for postage stamps. She debited the checkbook by \$0.18 as a correction for the GoDaddy domain renewal, and she deposited \$410 for 13 memberships and two \$5 donations, leaving a balance of \$18,292.97.

Old Business

Barry Doyle, ACØWL, reported that three ARES nets were held in March, totaling 11 man hours. Repeater maintenance on the 146.685 repeater totaled 15 hours; the Guardians of Liberty presentation totaled 12 hours; and Skywarn nets totaled 58.75 hours, for a grand total of 96.75 man hours reported for ARES. No maintenance was performed at the 146.820 repeater site.

Barry reported that David Obergöenner will not be replacing the KRCU generator after all – the University hired a Farmington generator company to get the old one running again. Barry ran the generator 30 minutes, and it started and ran just fine.

Barry noted that we are approaching peak storm season. Barry also mentioned that he had met the state emergency coordinator, Jeff Young.

Larry Mohundro, KEØTGI, did not receive an EOC report this month.

New Business

Ernie Chiles, WØRMS, reminded everyone of the River Hills Amateur Radio Club hamfest at Perryville on Saturday, April 12, at the Eagles building from 8 a.m. to noon, and he encouraged everyone to support this local hamfest. [There will be a drawing at 11 a.m. for a Yaesu FT-300. VE testing, food, and drink will be available. Admission is \$5 and tables are \$10. There will also be a raffle of 75 tickets at \$10 each, for two prizes: a Yaesu FT-300 DR radio and an FT-70 handheld.]

Ernie also reminded everyone of the spring fox hunt to be held on Saturday, May 3, at Shelter 5 in the Jackson City Park. For this hunt, a dual band handheld – 2-meter/440 – will be needed. Bring a sack lunch at noon; the hunt will begin at 1 p.m. Again, desserts to share are always welcome! Ernie mentioned something about a secret government entity and a lost package with a tracking device, but evidence suggests he was in jest.

Barry Doyle, ACØWL, Karla Kiefner, AEØYA, Ernie Chiles, WØRMS, Larry Mohundro, KEØTGI, and Neil LaVanchy, ACØUT, all attended the Guardians of Liberty meeting on March 4. Barry, Karla, and Ernie all gave presentations about ham radio. About 25 people attended the meeting, and our club members received positive feedback.

Henry Clark, KEØON, doesn't yet have details regarding the ham radio event scheduled for June 3 but will let us know more as the date nears.

Larry Mohundro, KEØTGI, announced that we have issues at the 146.685 repeater site: on the 2-meter nets we have static if the wind blows. Our old antenna needs replaced. At present the 2-meter antenna is in use at 160 feet, and the main antenna, which needs to be replaced, is at 260 feet. Barry Doyle, ACØWL, reported that Dennis Karnes, N9TAK, has estimated that it would cost about \$1350 to climb the tower and replace the antenna, but this would not include the cost of a new antenna at around \$300. Dennis recommended the Diamond X510 antenna to replace our X300 antenna.

Stan Sides, KØQMV, moved that we proceed with Dennis to get on his schedule and replace the antenna. Kirk Barks, WTØU, seconded the motion, and the motion carried. Barry will get us on Dennis' schedule. After some discussion, Kirk moved that we set a maximum amount of \$2350 for all expenses, and that if a decision must be made before next month's meeting, the club officers may decide on which antenna to get. Barry Doyle, ACØWL, seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Our next club meeting will be held on Monday, May 5, 2025.

The April meeting of the Southeast Missouri Amateur Radio Club was adjourned at 1927.

Respectfully submitted,

Patty Chiles, ACØCU
Secretary, SMOARC