

# Southeast Missouri Amateur Radio Club

Minutes of August 7, 2023

The monthly meeting of the Southeast Missouri Amateur Radio Club was called to order on Monday, August 7, 2023, at 1830 by President Larry Mohundro, KEØTGI, with 22 members present.

Minutes of the last meeting were read by Secretary Patty Chiles, ACØCU, and were approved as read.

Treasurer Judy Bradley, KCØWXS, reported a beginning balance of \$20,355.83. She deposited \$22 for sales of patches and \$12.50 for a half-year membership, leaving a balance of \$20,390.33.

## **Old Business**

Larry Mohundro, KEØTGI contacted new OEM Director Sam Herndon but received no response.

Ernie Chiles, WØRMS, reported that the Washington hamfest was a good one but not as well attended as in years past. The next event will be the St. Charles ARC hamfest in O'Fallon, Missouri, on Sunday, August 13. The Missouri Repeater Association annual meeting will be held in O'Fallon at the same time, if anyone would like to attend.

Ernie brought several items from a SK estate to be distributed free to anyone interested in them. He also wishes to give away two nice antennas with 17-foot booms that are intended for weak-signal 2-meter work.

He also noted the next fox hunt will be held on Saturday, September 30.

Barry Doyle, ACØWL, reported a total of 28.5 man hours for ARES in July. Skywarn nets totaled 26.5 hours for nets held on July 1, 2, and 29, and 1 hour each was spent on the 146.685 and 146.820 repeaters. There were no ARES nets, and there will be none until after Labor Day.

Barry performed the normal tests on the 440.200 and 146.685 repeaters, and both were operating normally. He ran the generator for 25 minutes, and it started on the first try. The fuel level was at 63%, which is about 13 days of run time. He shut down the entire system and brought it back up; everything came up normally.

Barry reported on the incident on Saturday, August 5, when he was notified that the 440.200 repeater was off line. Barry and Larry Mohundro, KEØTGI, went to the site with a surge protector, and they found everything dead: the paging system next door was also off line and the circuit breaker was popped. The Isobar surge protector blew up when they attempted to connect it, and they inserted the temporary surge protector to get everything back up running. Barry has ordered two more surge protectors from Amazon.

Barry also noted that Wednesday, August 9, could be the next potential Skywarn event.

## New Business

Larry Mohundro, KEØTGI, asked for input on noise finders for HF systems. Stan Sides, KØQMV, commented on the unit referenced in *QST* magazine. The basic unit is \$159, but different loops are needed for different bands, and those are all extra. The attenuator is about \$100. This could be used by any club member with HF noise interference, but also as a learning tool for the club. After a short discussion, Stan moved that the club purchase the basic unit, the attenuator, and at least 2 loops, one for 40 meters and one for 20 meters. Barry Doyle, ACØWL, seconded the motion; the motion passed.

Larry Mohundro, KEØTGI, reported on a petition filed with the FCC by the Shortwave Modernization Coalition, a group representing high-speed stock trading interests. The petition is requesting that the FCC allow data communications – not voice – on multiple bands within the HF 2 – 25 MHz range with up to 20 KW, including in bands immediately adjacent to spectrum allocated to the Amateur Radio Service. The ARRL performed a detailed technical analysis over several months to determine if the proposed rules would affect operations on the bands allocated to radio amateurs, and the analysis determined that, if the proposed rules are adopted, the new operations inevitably will cause significant harmful interference to many users of adjacent and nearby spectrum, including amateur radio licensees. **The petition would put 50 kHz wide, 20,000-watt signals immediately next to seven different amateur bands.** In its formal opposition to the petition, the ARRL highlighted to the FCC the seriously flawed HF rules and incomplete data submitted by the petitioners. The entire ARRL article may be found at <http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-files-comments-against-seriously-flawed-hf-rules-petition>.

Larry reminded everyone that our next club meeting will be held on Monday, September 11. Note that this is not the first Monday of the month, but the second. Because the Jackson Civic Center is closed on Labor Day, we will hold our meeting on the following Monday.

The August meeting of the Southeast Missouri Amateur Radio Club was adjourned at 1904.

Respectfully submitted,

Patty Chiles, ACØCU  
Secretary, SEMOARC