

Southeast Missouri Amateur Radio Club

Minutes of January 4, 2021

The monthly meeting of the Southeast Missouri Amateur Radio Club was called to order on Monday, January 4, 2021, at 1900 by President Ron Morris, ADØBY, with 18 members and 4 guests present. Guests were Michael Cox, KØMPC; Brayden Cox, KØBDC; Adam Brown, NØCYA; and Patrick Autrey.

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 \$20,534.34. She wrote checks totaling \$258.09 (\$58.09 for the Ham of the Year award, \$180 for the Jackson Civic Center rental, and \$20 for the Missouri Repeater Council dues) and deposited \$200 in membership fees, leaving a balance of \$20,476.25.

Old Business

Barry Doyle, ACØWL, reported that there were three ARES nets in December, totaling 11.5 man hours. There were no Skywarn events. He reported that Ernie Chiles, WØRMS, and Ed Myers, ADØWN, checked out the HF radios at the EOC and discovered damage to the power/SWR meter. Barry submitted a 2020 ARES report with a total of 346.5 man hours, including 87.5 man hours for the weekly nets, 117.5 man hours for Skywarn, 38 man hours for towers and repeater work, and 14.5 man hours for other emergency services.

Barry reported that all repeaters are operating normally. He did a pull test and the UPS was working fine. He had no information on whether a fuel additive was used in the generator, but it started on the second try.

Barry is going to look up a model number for the correct interface for Eric Bennett, KEØATR, to repair the echolink connection.

Klaus Mueller, WØLKE, reported his findings on deep cycle batteries. There are three kinds of batteries: sealed, nonsealed – which are not practical for our use – and lithium. He referred us to a website at https://www.altestore.com/blog/2020/11/replace-lead-acid-batteries-with-lithium-for-marine-and-rvs/#.X_PkLthKiUk to explain the differences between lithium and lead acid batteries and why lithium is the better choice. Lithium batteries offer more power than lead acid batteries. They cost three times as much as lead acid batteries, but they last four times as long. Some companies even offer a 10-year warranty on lithium batteries. After some discussion, it was decided that Klaus Mueller, Ed Myers, and Barry Doyle would visit the repeater site to get data to determine what our real needs are. They will report on their findings next month, and a decision will be made on what would best suit our particular needs.

Ron Morris, ADØBY, reported that EOC Director Mark Winkler has no EOC report, but Mark let us know that he has put in a request to move the radio tower from the courthouse lawn to a city water tower.

New Business

After a brief discussion, it was decided that we will tentatively hold a mobile fox hunt on Saturday, April 10. The fox will be hidden within the city limits of Jackson. We will meet at a Jackson City Park shelter at 12 noon for a sack lunch, and the hunt will follow the lunch.

Ron Morris, ADØBY, announced that Field Day will be held on June 26 and 27; a discussion will follow at next month's meeting.

Barry Doyle, ACØWL, announced that of the three members of his technician class who tested in December, two of them passed their exams. There were also three who tested for their general exams, all of whom passed.

The January meeting of the Southeast Missouri Amateur Radio Club was adjourned at 1940.

Respectfully submitted,

Patty Chiles, ACØCU
Secretary, SEMOARC