

Southeast Missouri Amateur Radio Club

Minutes of May 2, 2022

The monthly meeting of the Southeast Missouri Amateur Radio Club was called to order on Monday, May 2, 2022, at 1830 by President Larry Mohundro, KEØTGI, with 19 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 \$20,457.61. She deposited a \$25 membership fee, and wrote one check in the amount of \$100 as reimbursement to Larry Mohundro for the SEMOARC Post Office box renewal, leaving an ending balance of \$20,382.61.

Old Business

Larry Mohundro, KEØTGI, read a report from OEM Director Mark Winkler, who stated that two of the three OEM projects are still on hold for various reasons, but the MOSWIN tower project is moving forward. It is being shipped to Jefferson City for assembly.

Larry asked if anyone would like to teach a Technician class, as several people have indicated an interest in taking the class. Klaus Mueller, WØLKE, said that he would like to be an aide to an instructor at a later date. It was determined that, since a new Technician class pool will be taking effect on July 1, any class material would have to be updated before a class could be offered.

Barry Doyle, ACØWL, reported that 2 ARES nets were held in April, for a total of 4.25 man hours. Ron Morris, ADØBY, logged 4 man hours for Winlink training; 10 man hours were logged for repeater maintenance; 10 man hours were logged for the Missouri Emergency net; 39.75 man hours were logged for Skywarn events; and 7 man hours were logged for Barry's participation as a way station in a bicycle race.

Barry reported that the 444.200 and 146.820 repeaters checked out fine. The former 146.820 repeater, which is now our interim 146.685 repeater, is working at a reduced power of 17 watts.

Barry purchased two SWR meters for the 146.685 and 146.820 repeaters; the old SWR meter will be moved to the 444.200 repeater.

New Business

Patty Chiles, ACØCU, announced that the FCC is having a problem with their new Universal Licensing System (ULS) application filing system. Since it is not functioning properly, they asked that VECs refrain from submitting any exam session paperwork while they work to resolve the issue. If, however, testing paperwork is submitted to them, we are to stress to the applicants that it may take an unusually long time for their call signs to be issued.

Larry Mohundro, KEØTGI, thanked all those who spent so much of their time troubleshooting the 146.685 repeater: Barry Doyle, ACØWL, Roger Seay, KEØYAE, Larry Rickman, KDØLBL, Ernie Chiles, WØRMS, and Stan, KØQMV, and XYL Kay Sides. The reason for the high SWR is still unknown. After the 146.685 repeater failed, the cans were taken to Reg Swan but they were fine. The SWR came back down and tests normal now. The Scopus backup system was taken to the site but would not operate. The S-Com controller was disconnected, and now the repeater seems to be working fine but running reduced power.

Larry said that the dead repeater was a first generation DR-1X from Yaesu, and he has ordered a second generation DR-2X fusion repeater, with a 3-year warranty, at a reduced price of \$700 from Yaesu. He sent the DR-1X back to Yaesu to check out; if it is possible to repair at a reasonable cost, we will use it for a backup repeater.

Ernie Chiles, WØRMS, attended the Memphis Freefest. He said it was not as large as in the past, but a nice hamfest and well attended. The next hamfest will be the Egyptian hamfest at Granite City, Illinois, on June 12.

Larry Mohundro, KEØTGI, noted that he has been so busy with the repeater than he has not yet ordered the extra dual band amateur antenna for backup.

Larry showed the three radios that were given to the club by the Office of Emergency Management. If no club member wants to buy them, they will be taken to the next hamfest to sell.

Larry also announced that a Public Safety Communication Rodeo/Drill will be held on August 26 – 28 at the SportsPlex. Larry and Ernie Chiles, WØRMS, had attended the preliminary meeting on April 19, since ham radio involvement was requested. The drill is to test the interoperability among all the different county and city organizations, but Ernie stated that he would also like the hospitals and Cross Trails Medical Center to be involved, to pass messages and test their ham radio equipment. It was decided to review the subject next month to determine the degree of interest among club members, as about six members would be needed. Our participation would only be for a couple of hours during one day, rather than all three days continuously.

The May meeting of the Southeast Missouri Amateur Radio Club was adjourned at 1923.

Respectfully submitted,

Patty Chiles, ACØCU
Secretary, SMOARC