

**The Enid Amateur Radio Club (EARC)
Minutes of January 2010 meeting (Approved)**

The Enid Amateur Radio Club met Thursday evening, January 21, 2010, at the American Red Cross Building, Enid, OK.

Attendance:

Dave:KC5SII, Bryan:KF5BYO, Christina:KF5CJZ, Mike:KD5OFF, Jess:KA5HYK, Greg:KD5MFY, Richard:K6GLA, Ron:WB5HUT, Sam:KD5EUS, Dan:KE5PQY, Dave:AD8B, Bill:K5ECI, Tim:KD5KTB, Richard:WB5SZX, Bill:KC5OKG, Al:KD5BA, David:KF5AKU, Phillip:K5ECH, Emily Bishop, and Lynne Benkendorf

Call to order:

Mike:KD5OFF called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Minutes of the previous meetings:

It was M/S/C to accept the minutes of the November 2009 meeting and the December 2009 meeting as posted on the web .

Treasurer's report:

Bill:K5ECI reported that the internal audit committee composed of Bill:K5ECI, Ron:WD5HUT, and Richard:K6GLA has completed its review of the club financial records for the 2009 calendar year and found accounts to be in order. A signed affirmation of the committee's report was filed with the club secretary.

Mike:KD5OFF and Bill:K5ECI have registered with the bank and can now access club accounts.

Recent account activities and current balances as of January 19, 2010, for the club checking account, savings account, and petty cash were shared. All accounts are currently in the black. Approximately \$1000 of ECF committee funds remain in club accounts. Club insurance is due to be paid in March. The equipment listed for insurance needs to be updated before then. A printed report of account balances was filed with the club secretary.

Dues are currently being received. Dues for 2010 are set at \$25 for individuals and \$30 for families.

M/S/C to approve the treasurer's report as presented.

Correspondence:

No correspondence reported this month.

Red Dirt BBQ:

Al:KD5BA introduced and the club welcomed Lynn Benkendorf, representative for the Enid Red Dirt BBQ. Lynn came to discuss how the club could assist with communications. She provided maps of the event area which were very helpful to the discussion.

The BBQ will be held on Friday, April 16. Two people were requested to help with RV parking at the Q Spot during the day beginning at 8:00 AM. Also, help was requested to control parking at the bank parking lot beginning at 4:00 PM. The ATM will be closed at 5:00 PM. Fireworks setup in the bank parking lot will likely begin at 6:00 PM or earlier. More help will be needed before and during the fireworks to control car and pedestrian traffic through the area. The city requested that we move the north and south city barricades to the side before we leave after the fireworks. Also, Red Dirt BBQ barricades should be set up at the south end of the cooking area to prevent Saturday morning traffic from entering. Lynn will send a follow up email with all of these requests to Al:KD5BA. Al:KD5BA will serve as our single-point contact with Lynn.

We thanked Lynn for joining us to clarify the needs for this year. Discussion continued after Lynn left.

Current plans are to use FRS radios due to potential conflicts with Amateur Radio regulations. It is likely there are already enough FRS radios among club members to do this. The March meeting will provide an opportunity to test available FRS for compatibility. Members with FRS radios should bring them to the club meeting at that time.

Coming events:

Al:KD5BA noted these future events.

March 13 - Green County Hamfest at the Claremore ExpoCenter

April 16 - Red Dirt BBQ

April 24 - March of Dimes Walk

May 1 - Tri-State Parade

June 26-27 - Field Day

July 4 - Meadow Lake Park Fireworks

August 7 - YMCA Triathlon

September 4 - AMBUCS for Bikes

September 11 - Cherokee Strip Parade

November 6 - Enid Hamfest

November 26 - Enid Lights Up the Plains

APRS digipeter:

Dave:KC5SII reported that he and Tim:KD5KTB took the club digipeter down in November. Greg:KD5MFY tuned it up. Dave:KC5SII and Bryan:KF5BYO put it back in position on the Johnson elevator last Monday. It seems to be working well. In addition to serving as the area digipeter it is a good indicator of VHF propagation. The frequency is 144.39 MHz.

ARES:

Mike:KD5OFF reported on last week's ARES meeting. One project to complete is mapping the quality of area RF paths that might be used during an emergency. On March 6, from 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM, there will be a disaster preparation meeting involving several area agencies.

Radioactivity Night:

The topic of next Thursday's meeting will be APRS. Dave:KC5SII is preparing an "APRS-101" slide presentation. He plans to show how to set up and use the UIVIEW APRS software.

It was noted that several members have other commitments on each fourth Thursday of the month. The possible selection of a better day for Radioactivity Night may be addressed in the future.

Club patches:

Jess:KA5HYK is looking for a source of reflective material approximately 4 inches wide on which to apply the club name. This could then be used to identify the club to the public when attached to a member's safety vest. The cost of a large embroidered patch with the club logo and name is also being investigated.

Participation log:

Tim:KD5KTB is working on a log of member participation in club activities. A record of man-hours and participants could be beneficial as we apply for grants or publish our activities. He also noted that there are a few jobs that need to be accomplished in the club shack.

ECF antenna:

It was noted that the ECF antenna seems to be ineffective and needs to be checked.

Club room access:

There was a discussion about access to the club room. It was decided that Robin should have a current membership list. Bill:K5ECI will prepare a list for Dave:AD8B to provide Robin.

President's Day chili supper:

The chili supper will be held at the Willow Road Baptist Church near Willow and VanBuren on February 18, a regular activity meeting night. We will start early at 6:30 PM. The club will provide drinks, chips, plates, cups, and table service. Members should email Mike:KD5OFF what they plan to bring. He will post a list on the club web site so members are aware of what others plan to bring.

ARRL membership contest:

Ron:WB5HUT reported that the ARRL will hold a membership contest in April. Prizes will be awarded to clubs based on percentage increase in ARRL membership. Information about ARRL membership will be gathered on meeting attendance sheets and as dues are collected.

Work day:

Greg:KD5MFY mentioned that there is still a quantity of scrap wire in the back room of Wheat Capital Communications. Three or four people are needed to collect the wire for recycling with proceeds going to the club. February 6 was set as a work day starting at 8:00 AM. Volunteers should bring gloves and wire cutters.

Donations:

Tim:KD5KTB noted that a laptop, monitor and speakers were donated to the club. The laptop came from Central Christian Church. These items are in the club room. They should be added to the club inventory but not to the insurance list.

M/S/C to adjourn at 8:21 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Dave:AD8B, club secretary.