

Minutes of April 10, 2022 meeting
Pella Amateur Radio Club
1:30 PM Liberty Evangelical Free Church

1. Present: David – WA6CGS, Steve – WBØCHS, Kevin – KBØBGU, Daniel – WØOTV, Roger – WØZMU, Harry – KFØGWJ, Larry – KBØMOT, David – WØIM, Larry – WBØYCT, Justin – KEØFKF, Mike – NØMPM and Scott - KRØU
2. Treasurer's Report:
 - a. Income
 - i. February Interest \$0.04
 - ii. Memberships \$75.00
 - iii. Donations \$200.00 (Repeater Fund)
 - b. Expenses: None
 - c. Balances
 - i. General Fund: \$2,141.59
 - ii. Repeater: \$573.81
 - iii. PENS: \$146.27
 - iv. Total of all balances: \$2,861.67
 - d. There are various expenses expected relating to PENS balloon activities. The ARRL has approved a \$3,000 grant to be used for PENS. It has not yet been received.
3. Further discussion was held regarding the 100 Km gravel road bicycle race organized by Iowa Bike and scheduled for April 23. After some discussion, it was decided that we will not offer our services for this event. Some members might go to the route and observe to learn more of how we might be able to help in the future.
4. The Gene Van Wyk 5K Run/Walk is scheduled for April 16, just one week earlier than the 100 K bike race. Justin offered to coordinate our assistance if enough operators can be found. Seven would be ideal, but it could be done with 5. If we do this, we will use a 2M/440 crossband repeater at Federated church to help fill in communications with the start-stop location.
5. David – WØIM reported that we are still within our limits on Groups.io. He asked if we were satisfied with the quantity of messages coming from the use of that site. It appears that the current reminders are appreciated and will continue.
6. The repeater is operating with a duplexer belonging to Dave – KFØDMU and without the amplifier, and running at 25 Watts. Further adding of components and testing will continue.
7. Daniel – WØOTV is scheduling a fox hunt for May 15. He is planning to use a fox belonging to Tyler – KEØZZO. It was suggested that we invite some of the Scouts that we worked with previously as well as surrounding clubs to participate with us.

8. As regarding Field Day:

- a. The Hy-Gain TH3 antenna that was offered for club use at Field Day has not yet been repaired. With the better weather, Scott – WRØU expects to do the repairs in the coming weeks. Repairs are mainly mechanical. It is still the goal to assemble and use this antenna before Field Day arrives to be sure it is fully operational.
- b. Daniel – WØOTV offered to bring an entire station for Field Day use. Roger-WØZMU offered his Kenwood TS-870 if needed.
- c. Justin asked for and received additional input on the setup to be used. Separate station shelters for each station and another shelter for visitors and amateur radio information was recommended.

9. A date has not yet been chosen for VE testing, but will be some time in October.

10. Other items:

- a. Mike – NØMPM indicated that everything is set for a high-altitude PENS launching in April. This will be done when winds are conducive and members will be advised.
 - b. Kevin – KBØBGU shared that Curtis – KBØBHR could use some help in lowering his tower, as he will be moving. The tower might be for sale at a reasonable price.
 - c. It was shared that now is the time to get your antenna work done and if help is needed, advise the members, as some might be available to help.
 - d. The Des Moines Radio Amateurs' Association will hold their 2022 annual Hamfest on Saturday, April 23 from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM at the Elwell Family Food Center on the Iowa State Fairgrounds. Admission is \$10.00 and tables are \$20.00 for the first one and \$10.00 for each additional table. VE testing registration begins at 9:00 AM.
 - e. We were reminded of the Iowa QSO party coming up September 17-18. The Great River Amateur Radio Club in Dubuque is sponsoring an "Iowa Railroads on the Air" event running from July through August. Operation is to be from the approximately 387 existing railway depots in Iowa.
11. As no further business was presented, the meeting was adjourned at about 3:15 PM on April 10, 2022. After adjournment, various members went outside to see the Blue Sky Mast donated by Ver Meer Manufacturing and go through the exercise of erecting it. Some members made suggestion on how to attach a beam antenna, such as might be used at Field Day.

Roger Stubbe - Secretary