



# Indiana County Amateur Radio Club

## Meeting Minutes for the meeting on February 4, 2014

President – Craig Bigler KB3LBU

Vice President – Doug Fitzsimmons K3LAB

Secretary/Treasurer - Terry Carnahan KB3JOD

### Board Members for 2014:

1. Craig Bigler KB3LBU
2. Terry Carnahan KB3JOD
3. Dave Dzelsky N3DZ
4. Doug Fitzsimmons K3LAB
5. Larry Freeman N3LT
6. Carl Hvozda N3PIE
7. Jerry Kiehl WB3DUD
8. Phil Kopczyk K3PJ
9. Elmer Sorisio KB3WG

Craig KB3LBU called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm local time.

### Presentation: Evergreen Conservancy

Cindy Rogers along with John Dudash and Brooke Esri (please forgive my spelling) of the Evergreen Conservancy gave their presentation. They do a lot for our water sheds here in Indiana County, including water quality monitoring. One of their main projects is the Tanoma AMD Wetlands, which is open to the public. For more information visit their website at [www.evergreenconservancy.org](http://www.evergreenconservancy.org).

### Approval of meeting minutes for January 2013:

Phil K3PJ Moved to accept the January meeting as a meeting and to accept the minutes of the December meeting.

Dave N3DZ seconded the motion.

The motion was voted on and passed.

Dave KA3KFA Moved to accept the minutes.

Doug K3LAB Seconded the motion.

Motion was voted on and passed.

### Financial Report:

Terry KB3JOD

Opening balance For January 2013 was ANNOUNCED

Electric Bill (for January) -\$57.00

50/50 drawing (for January) +\$15

Dues paid in January +\$100

Hoss's fund raiser +\$85.78

Closing balance for January is ANNOUNCED

Dave N3DZ made a motion to accept the financial report

Carl N3PIE seconded the motion

The motion to accept the financial report was passed

Marcia KD4ITP made a \$20 donation.

**Question on Dues:**

Should the Sec. / Trea. send out a general email reminding members to pay their dues? The members present said that it was a good idea to do so.

**Monday Night Net update: (146.91MHz – 20:00)**

If you are interested in being a Net Control Station, please contact the Net Coordinator Roger N3ULC at: n3ulc@live.com.

**Monday Night NBEMS Practice: (146.91MHz – 20:30)**

The NBEMS (Narrow Band Emergency Messaging System) will be at 8:30pm, after the Monday night net. Everyone is welcome to join in. We usually start with voice and then pass messages back and forth to each other. It's a great way to tune up your Fldigi and to gain experience in case there is an emergency. Don't wait until the last minute to figure out how to use Fldigi.

**Information:****Rusty WB3EUQ – contact information**

Rusty is at the Hollidaysburg Veterans Home, a Pennsylvania state facility just south of Altoona. Please note that he is not in the Altoona VA Hospital. He is in Eisenhower Hall and it's nursing care. The phone number for his room is (814) 695-1635. You may call at anytime. He does have a cell phone. For his cell phone (724) 388-1202.

Rusty's mailing address is :

David O'Donnell (David is his actual name)  
P.O. Box 319  
Hollidaysburg, PA 16648

When you go: when you come to Eisenhower Hall (the large building with the WWII tank in front of it, as you first come onto the grounds) You will need to sign in at the Security desk – they will direct you to his unit, North 2. The security guards have room charts and know the residents.

Larry N3LT would like to get a group together to go an visit Rusty. Maybe some Saturday after breakfast.

Bill's W3LAB wife is in the hospital.

**VE Testing:**

The dates are listed on the ARRL web site (The first Saturday in April and October).

There was no interest in holding a class for the Tech class license.

**Facebook page:**

ICARC has a facebook page now. Search for Indiana County Amateur Radio Club on facebook and click on the Like button and or leave a comment. Facebook page address - <https://www.facebook.com/w3bmd> . There is also a link at the top of the Club's web page ( <http://www.qsl.net/w3bmd/> ) that looks like the following icon.

**Business:****Posting of the club roster:**

A discussion was held about whether to display the club roster or not and in what way to display it.

It was a general agreement that no contact information should be posted on the web site. It was suggested that if it be posted on the web site that just basic information be shown, such as call sign and first name.

It was also suggested that we just have a type page with call sign, name, and contact information on it. Everyone present seemed to be agreeable to this method and that no contact information be posted on the internet.

Terry KB3JOD will bring a full club roster to the next meeting.

Dave KA3KFA moved that the membership form for 2015 be modified to include a check box to allow or disallow publishing the member's contact information on the web site or an email list.

Larry N3LT seconded the motion.

The motion was voted on and passed.

**Repeater Update:**

The 444.975 repeater – Elmer KB3WG repaired the preamp and it is working ok now.

The 144.130 packet machine is up and running.

The 146.910 repeater is getting some broad band interference getting into it. The receive antenna was changed from the highest antenna on the tower to the antenna mounted on the roof of the shack. This setup seem to be the less noisy. Efforts are being made to try and locate the source of the noise issue. One of the things that will be tried is to hook up the antenna to a totally different radio to see if the noise is still there.

We do have the equipment to add a PL tone on the repeater, but a PL tone will not get rid of the broad band noise issue. The repeater still needs the preamp. Elmer handed in a bill for \$61.10 for the materials for the preamp.

Fred KM3M made a motion to reimburse Elmer KB3WG.

Doug K3LAB seconded the motion.

The motion was voted on and passed.

Since the building of the new house next to the repeater site, we are unsure of the status or the intentions of the property owners. We need to look for an alternative site for Field Day and or a new repeater site. This is just a precautionary action and not a real need, yet.

### **Fund Raisers:**

We received a check for \$85.78. Carl N3PIE had also said that Hoss's is starting a new fund raiser. Carl explained that it is not to replace the current Cash Cow fund raiser but an additional fund raiser. It will be called Diner Kits. There will be 4 choices Chicken noodle soup, Beef noodle soup, Spaghetti and meat balls, and Chicken alfredo. Each kit contains all the ingredients that would feed 4 people. The kits are not cooked. What you would do is to take orders for a number of kits. Each kit would be \$15 dollars each. The club would earn \$5.50 for each kit sold. Once the kits are ordered and received it would be our responsibility to deliver each kit. More information can be found at [www.hossfundraisers.com](http://www.hossfundraisers.com). There appeared to be not a whole lot of interest in the alternative fund raiser. Questions: Is there a limit? Do they require refrigeration? What is the shelf life? Is there a limitation as to how often?

Craig KB3LBU gathered information on selling Sheetz coupon booklets. There is a minimum of 25 booklets. You have to pay \$8 per book. There is also a \$15 handling charge. You would sell each book for \$10 and the club would make \$2 profit per book. It will require footwork for the selling. Each coupon book contains a free MTO item, a buy one get one free MTO item, and some more buy one get 1 free items. Again there was not much interest.

Holding a car wash was also offered as an idea for a fund raiser. We would need a location. Liability insurance was also brought up.

Having a stand at the Hoodle Bug Festival. We could setup a stand to sell cupcakes. As well as give out information on amateur radio. There seem to be interest in this idea. Would need at least 6 people. We should also check with the insurance carrier to see if our liability would be covered for an event like this.

Selling hot sausage was also brought up.

### **New Business:**

### **Activities for 2014:**

#### **ARES:**

Our annual Western PA ARES Emcomm Conference at Pitt-Johnstown has been scheduled for Saturday June 14, 2014. Mark your calendars!

### **Attention:**

Indiana County is in need of an official A.R.E.S. Emergency Coordinator (EC). The current assistant ECs are Jerry KB3DUD, Roger N3ULC, and Terry KB3JOD. If anyone would like to take the position of the A.R.E.S. EC for Indiana County please contact one of the assistant ECs listed above. The only requirements for A.R.E.S. EC is that a person have an valid amateur license (Tech or higher) and be a full member of the ARRL.

**Airport Awareness Days: also June 14<sup>th</sup> and June 15<sup>th</sup>**

There seemed to be enough interest for this event.

We need to check whether we can borrow the county's antenna trailer. Craig KB3LBU said that he talked with John P and he said that it should not be a problem.

Elmer KB3WG suggested that we try to get a location on the pavement so as to get more of the public attention. If we get the antenna trailer and run the tower up about 30 feet or so, that would also draw attention.

Larry N3LT made a motion that we do the Airport Awareness Days at the Jimmy Stewart Airport.

Doug K3LAB seconded the motion.

The motion was voted on and passed.

It was also noted that some members will be attending the ARES Emcomm Conference on June 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Field Day: June 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>.**

Doug K3LAB moved that the club do Field Day.

Larry N3LT seconded the motion.

The motion was voted on and passed.

**Ham Radio demonstration for Cub Scouts (1<sup>st</sup> grade to 5<sup>th</sup> grade) at Camp Seth Mack:**

There will be day camps (9am to 3pm) somewhere around the end of May into June.

There will also be Resident camps (sleepovers) somewhere around the end of July into August.

This would be to try and spark some interest in the youths.

Fred KM3M made a motion to do a radio day (date to be decided).

Larry N3LT seconded the motion.

The motion was voted on and passed.

There also may be some interest in the Jamboree On the Air

**MS Walk: April 26**

Contact person: Julie Rothrauff

Contact info: [Julie.rothrauff@nmss.org](mailto:Julie.rothrauff@nmss.org), (814) 696-1017

Terry KB3JOD will contact Julie.

**Programs / Presentations During 2014:**

January presentation – Open

February presentation – Carl N3PIE-- Evergreen Conservancy

March's presentation – Indiana County EMA – Tom Stutzman and Linda Artman

April's presentation – Open

May's presentation – Open

June's presentation – Open

July's presentation – Open

August presentation – Open

September presentation - Open

October presentation – Open

November presentation Open

December presentation – Open

If anyone would like to give a presentation during a club meeting, please contact any of the club officers.

**50/50:**

Marcia KD4ITP won the 50/50 drawing. A total of \$26.00 was collected.  
Marcia donated the winnings back to the club.  
Thank you Marcia.

*Alton N3PHL moved to close the meeting.*  
Larry N3LT seconded the motion.  
The motion was voted on and passed.

The meeting was closed at 10:10pm local time.

**Meeting Attendance:**

- (x) Roger Bartlebaugh – N3ULC
- (x) Christine Bartlebaugh - KB3QJZ
- (x) Craig Bigler – KB3LBU (*President*)
- (x) Terry Carnahan – KB3JOD (*secretary/Treasure*)
- (x) David Dzelsky – N3DZ (*Board member*)
- (x) Doug Fitzsimmons – K3LAB (*Vice President*)
- (x) Larry Freeman – N3LT (*Board member*)
- (x) Carl Hvozda – N3PIE (*Board member*)
- (x) Phil Kopczyk – K3PJ (*Board member*)
- (x) Fred Maize – KM3M
- (x) Marcia Malcolm – KD4ITP
- (x) Ken Snyder – AA3IO
- (x) Elmer Sorisio – KB3WG (*Board member and Repeater Trustee*)
- (x) Dave Steiner – KA3KFA
- (x) Alton Strong – N3PHL
- (x) Joe Rankin (possible new member / ham)