



Indiana County Amateur Radio Club

Meeting Minutes for the meeting on March 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

Tom Stutzman – director of the Indiana County Emergency Management Agency

Tom gave us an update on the Ham antenna replacements.

There will be four Diamond x500HNA antennas installed at the EOC on Haven Drive. The coax will all be one piece from the antennas to the radio console inside the EOC. The work will begin as soon as the ground thaws. There is currently water in the conduit that has the existing coax in and it is frozen solid making the removal of the old coax impossible. (the conduit will be dried and will be properly weather sealed so that it will not collect water again)

The current HF delta loop antenna that now runs from the tower to the barn that houses the animal shelter will be taken down and a new delta loop will be installed on poles located between the sediment pond and the parking lot for the animal shelter. When the animal shelter moves the barn will probably be torn down.

The county's 2 meter repeater should be installed at the Blue Spruce site this spring.

The I.C. EMA is having issues with the FCC on several subjects. They are also having issues with Pennelec over the attachment of fiber optic cable on some of the electric poles.

The date to switch over from the VHF system to the 800MHz system is April 4th.

The EMA is beginning to lease space on some of their towers

This radio project began in 2005.

Approval of meeting minutes for February 2014:

Joe KC3CDG Moved to accept the minutes for the February meeting.

Phil K3PJ Seconded the motion.

Motion was voted on and passed.

Financial Report:

Terry KB3JOD
Opening balance For February 2014 was ANNOUNCED
Electric Bill (for February) -\$53.00
50/50 drawing (for February) +\$26
Dues paid in February +\$175.00
Reimbursement to Elmer KB3WG for repeater parts -\$61.10
Closing balance for February is ANNOUNCED

Fred KM3M made a motion to accept the financial report
Larry N3LT seconded the motion
The motion to accept the financial report was passed

Out standing Bill – Marsh Insurance -\$320,00 (do we need a motion to pay?)
Dave KA3KFA moved to pay the Insurance bill.
Craig KB3LBU seconded the motion.
The motion was voted on and passed.

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.
Roger would like to start a Net on the 444.975 - PL (110.9) Repeater.
Phil K3PJ brought up the idea of doing a simplex net on the county's simplex frequency of 147.570MHz.
Fred KM3M mentioned that we should start out on the .91 repeater and end back on the .91 repeater.
Bill W3LAB said that we should do it on the Monday before the next meeting, that way we can discuss it at the meeting.
There were no disagreements.

Monday Nite NBEMS Practice: (146.91MHz – 20:30)

The NBEMS (Narrow Band Emergency Messaging System) will be at 8:30pm, after the Monday nite 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.

Everyone interested should download and install the latest revisions of software;
(as of 3/23/14 they are as follows)

FLdigi 3/21/80
FLamp 2.1.02
FLmsg 1.1.34

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.

As of March 23rd, Rusty is not doing well.

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.

The need for more publicity for the VE testing was discussed (like announcing it on the Monday nite net).

There were 7 people that said that they would be interested in helping to teach a class this coming fall. More details will need to be discussed at the April meeting.

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:**

Anyone interested may pick up a hard copy of the clubs roster at the meeting. If you cannot make the meeting and would still like a copy of the roster please email Terry KB3JOD at [carnahanterry\(at\)gmail\(dot\)com](mailto:carnahanterry(at)gmail(dot)com) and an email copy will be sent to you.

Repeater Update:

Reminder to keep an eye out for an alternative site for repeater (just in case).

Fund Raisers:

Ideas brought up last meeting:

Hoss's Diner Kits

4 different kits are available (Chicken noodle soup, Beef noodle soup, Spaghetti & meatballs, and Chicken alfredo), there is a 5 to 10 kit minimum, There is a 1 week lead time, the kits must remain frozen, Shelf live is up to one year if continuously frozen, there is approximately a 37% profit for the club on each kit sold, each kit cost \$15, the diner kit fund raiser may be held once a month. For more information go to

WWW.HOSSFUNDRAISERS.COM.

Sheetz booklets – no interest shown

Car wash

Cupcake stand at the Hoodle Bug Festival – no interest shown

Selling Hot sausage – no interest shown

Sponsor a Flea Market (sell table space, concessions)

Hold a Ham Fest next year – there seemed to be some interest in this

We need to specify whether this will be a Ham Fest or a general Flea market of a Ham Fest / Flea Market.

It would be better to plan for one next year instead of this year. We need to figure out what events are going on next year so that we can pick a date.

Mack Park would be an ideal place to hold it. We need to find out the cost associated with that.

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 14th and June 15th

There is a meeting March 13th at the Airport at 5:30pm. Several members will attend.
The EOC antenna trailer should be available for us to use.

Field Day: June 28th and 29th.

It was decided that Field day be held at the repeater site. There is a possibility of a second location at the I.C. EOC.

Ham Radio demonstration for Cub Scouts (1st grade to 5th grade) at Camp Seth Mack:

Because of all the weather related school closings there is no firm date as to when the camp will be held.
It is possible that the date may coincide with the Airport Awareness Days.

MS Walk: April 26

Terry KB3JOD contacted Julie, the MS Walk contact person. She would like us to help with radio support. Please note that this is on a Saturday this year and not a Sunday like last year.

Registration begins at 1:00pm and the walk will begin at 2:00pm.

We will need approximately 12 radio operators to staff this event properly.

If you can help out please let us know at the next club meeting or contact one of the clubs officers.

Programs / Presentations During 2014:

January presentation – Open

February presentation – Carl N3PIE-- Evergreen Conservancy

March's presentation – Indiana County EMA – Tom Stutzman

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:

Fred KM3M won the 50/50 drawing. A total of \$22.00 was collected.

Fred donated the winnings back into the club.

Thank you Fred!

Joe KC3CDG moved to close the meeting.

Fred KM3M seconded the motion.

The motion was voted on and passed.

The meeting was closed at 10.05pm 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) Bill Menk – W3LAB
- (x) Bill McMillen – N3QM
- (x) Joe Rankin – KC3CDG
- (x) Ken Snyder – AA3IO
- (x) Elmer Sorisio – KB3WG (*Board member and Repeater Trustee*)
- (x) Dave Steiner – KA3KFA
- (x) Alton Strong – N3PHL
- (x) Tom Stutzman – Director I.C. EMA