

Branch County Amateur Radio Club
Meeting Minutes
April 21st, 2009
www.branchcountyarc.com

The April meeting of the Branch County Amateur Radio Club was held in the training room at the Coldwater 911 Center. 20 members and guests were present. Jim Voss was the guest moderator this month, filling in for Club president Andrew Glenn. Andrew could not be present this month due to work responsibilities.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Jim Voss.

MEETING MINUTES:

A copy of the February minutes was not available. A motion was made to accept the meeting minutes as published. The motion was approved by the majority.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Bill Kubiak, KB8VWI, gave this month's financial report. There was \$12.29 in expenses and \$101.00 income for a current balance \$552.46. A motion was made to accept the financial report as read. The motion was approved.

EMERGENCY COORDINATORS REPORT:

Larry Camp, WB8R, was on hand to give this month's EC report:

Skywarn/Spotter training was held last month (March). Mike Lewis from IWX presented an excellent program. Larry reminded everyone that we are closing in on the season of severe weather and that jump kits need to be inspected and made ready for action.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

There will be a competitive foxhunt scheduled for May in place of the regular meeting. There will be a new twist this time with a micro-controlled radio which will provide the signal without human intervention.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

There will be a VE test session this coming Saturday, April 25th in Plainwell. Bill Shaw, W8ILL is heading up the program. Arnie Hayward and Larry Camp will be lending a hand.

Bill Slade, WD8MGF was the winner of the 50/50 raffle. \$15 was in the pot. Bill accepted \$6.00 and donated the rest of his winnings to the Club.

Ed Geiman, WA8HMG threw out the suggestion that the Club make a donation to the PRB-1 initiative which was the Club topic for the month. It was decided that the Board would discuss this further.

Tim Miner, KD8JEK is planning a high altitude balloon launch sometime in the future.

REPEATER REPORT:

Arnie reported that the 440 apparatus continues to work well, and for the most part the two meter is working good also. However, an intermittent intermod type of problem has arisen. Investigation needs to be done but it is felt that something may have changed at the repeater site. Perhaps some new piece of equipment or something old has been moved to a new location at the repeater site because of the regular times that the problem(s) occur.

Mike Jepson has offered a Yaesu 440 repeater to the Club. It would need to be converted to work on the proper frequencies.

UPGRADES – NEW CALLS – NEW HAMS:

None at this time.

NEW EQUIPMENT:

None

DX:

None

UPCOMING PROGRAMS:

May - Competitive Foxhunt

June - A look at past field days and planning for the 2009 event.

July – Foxhunting, your tips, tricks and pointers.

August - Collaborative foxhunt.

September - Liars Club.

October - Dale Williams?

November - Club elections.

December - Annual Christmas gathering.

PROGRAM OF THE EVENING:

Len Todd, N8AGS gave a very interesting talk on the PRB-1 grass roots initiative to have legislation introduced and passed in Michigan that would help Michigan amateurs with issues of tower and antenna construction and ham radio operation with their respective communities. More information can be found at <http://www.prb1michigan.org/>.

Respectfully submitted,
Bill Kubiak, KB8VWI