

Mercer County Amateur Radio Club

Meeting Minutes

April 25, 2012

The Mercer County Amateur Radio Club was called to order at 6:40 PM on the above date. Those in attendance were as follows:

- Glenn Phillips, N4VAY
- Michael Sims, KE4YUC
- Chuck Bugg, KK4EYF
- Linda Hager, KD4CSY
- Sam Kindred, KC4HWA
- Jonathan Coslow, KJ4JQT
- Willie McFerron
- Ben Sears

Secretary's Report

Club Secretary Ben Sears read the minutes from the March meeting. Mike, KE4YUC, noted a correction to the Treasurer's account balance from last month. Ben made a motion to accept the minutes as amended with a second from Willie. The motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Club Treasurer Willie McFerron states that there were no expenditures during the previous month leaving a balance of \$23.50 in the Club's treasury.

Old Business

- ARES/Weather Spotter Training
 - Linda, KD4CSY, inquired about upcoming weather spotter training courses in the Mercer County area. Glenn, N4VAY, noted that the National Weather Service has no classes scheduled at this time and that he had discussed the matter with the Mercer County EMA director. Glenn states there will likely be very few courses offered this year in Central KY.
- Club Station/Tower
 - Chuck, KK4EYF, states that weather conditions are now suitable for erecting a tower at the Club station. Chuck presented several documents from the Internet with instructions and specifications for installing and guying a tower. Given the complexities of guying a 100' tower, Chuck suggests that the Club dig the tower base and install approximately 40' of tower initially until guy anchors can be set and the remainder of the tower erected.

- Glenn states that he is willing to use his tractor with backhoe attachment to dig the hole for the tower base. Mike suggested that the members set a date for the tower party; May 19th at 1:00 PM is the tentative date.
- Glenn is going to discuss the purchase of radio equipment and coax with the Fire Board and is hopeful that funds can be allocated to get the radio room at the MCFPD EOC functioning.
- Chuck and Glenn state that the entrance door to the radio room could be moved from the Station 12 equipment room to the small meeting room to better facilitate communications during EOC activations.

New Business

- Ben and Willie will be taking their amateur radio license exam on April 28th at the Red Cross building in Danville.
- Glenn states that he was recently approached by Paul Parks regarding EMP and club members' access to Faraday cages for their equipment. Mr. Parks is a member of a subcommittee of the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) that is investigating potential hazards in the county. Glenn is the only Club member who has a Faraday cage.
- Mike states that the KY Emergency Management Communications Exercise (COMEX) will take place on May 1st and 2nd. Although there are conflicting reports regarding the timing of events, most of the ham radio activities will take place on May 2nd. Mike states an airborne repeater will be flying in the morning and voice nets will be held on several repeaters in the evening. Mike provided frequencies and encouraged members to monitor and/or check in on these nets.

The next Club meeting date was set for May 23, 2012 at 6:30 PM at the McAfee Fire Department training room.

Mike made a motion to adjourn with a second from Sam, KC4HWA. The motion carried and the meeting closed at approximately 7:30 PM.