



Indiana County Amateur Radio Club

Meeting Minutes for the meeting on May 6, 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 7:33 pm local time.

Approval of meeting minutes for April 2014:

Dave KA3KFA Moved to accept the minutes for the April meeting.
Larry N3LT Seconded the motion.
Motion was voted on and passed.

Financial Report:

Terry KB3JOD
Opening balance For April 2014 was **Announced**
Electric Bill (for April) -\$38.00
50/50 drawing (for April) +\$23.50
Dues in April +50.00
Closing balance for April is **Announced**
Phil K3PJ made a motion to accept the financial report
Fred KM3M seconded the motion
The motion to accept the financial report was 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.

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 5/3/14 they are as follows)

FLdigi 3.2.82
FLamp 2.1.02
FLmsg 2.0.3

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. He has lost a lot of weight and is not able to communicate very well.

Dennis Whitson, KB3LBQ, became a silent key on Saturday May 3rd.

Dave KA3KFA moved to donate \$50 from the club and to ask for donations to be donated to the Parkinson's Disease Foundation. A total of \$100 dollars in donations was collected.

VE Testing / Class: (October 4)

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

It was suggested that we hold a special exam session after the class. Larry N3LT said that he would consider chairing a class committee.

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.



Phil K3PJ asked about posting some of the pictures from the tower repair on the face book page. The general consenses was that it is ok as long as no names are posted.

Business:

Repeater News:

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

Everyone is encouraged to use the 146.91 repeater (i.e. when in your vehicle, put out your call sign. Don't just listen, talk, talk, talk.)

Craig KB3LBU measured the ground resistance of the tower. The best resistance that he measured was 200 ohms. This is not a good thing. The resistance should be down below 5 ohms.

It was also mentioned that there is a problem tree that if it fell it could possibly bring down the tower. This is a major priority!

Some of the static brushes on the tower will also need to be replaced.

Fund Raisers:

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 life 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.

Bill N3QM suggested that we do one order to see how it goes. Several members present said that they would be willing to order 1 or 2 kits. A motion was not made but it was a general decision of the members to go ahead with the order.

Our next Cash Cow fundraiser at Hoss's will be Friday June 6. We will gather at around 6pm as a group.

A discussion was held about getting a sponsor. This needs farther investigation.

Hold a Ham Fest next year –

No further discussion was held.

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! There will be a \$15 charge for lunch.

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, Bill W3LAB 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.

Vigilant Guard Exercise / Weather Exercise – May 12th – 13th

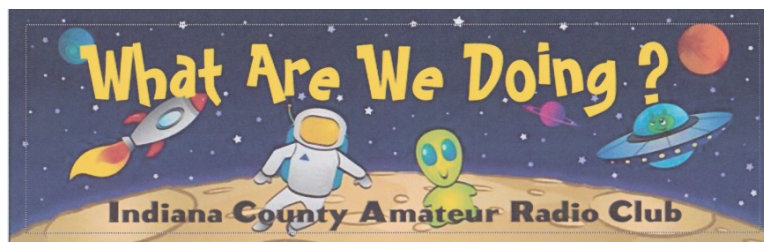
Terry KB3JOD said that he was in contact with the Indiana County EMA and they said that there was only a couple of school in the county participating and that they were only going to call their emergency number to make sure that it works. And that was the only drill they were doing this year.

Airport Awareness Days: also June 14th and June 15th

The EOC antenna trailer is available for us to use.

Craig KB3LBU was instrumental in getting a banner made up to use at the Airport days and other functions.

The banner cost \$75. Below is a copy of the banner.



Dave N3DZ made a motion to pay Craig \$75 dollars for the banner.

Larry seconded the motion.

The motion was voted on and passed.

A signup sheet was passed around the following members signed it;

Friday June 13th – Setup:

W3LAB, N3DZ, N3LT, KB3WG, KM3M, K3PJ, KA3KFA, K3LAB, KB3LBU, KB3JOD

Saturday Jun 14th Morning shift – operating:

N3LT, W3LAB, KB3WG, K3LAB, KB3LBU

Saturday June 14th afternoon shift – operating:

K3LAB, KB3LBU

Sunday June 15th Morning shift – operating:

K3LAB, KB3LBU

Sunday June 15th Afternoon shift – tear down:

N3DZ, N3LT, KB3WG, KM3M, K3PJ, KB3JOD, KA3KFA, K3LAB, KB3LBU

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. A signup sheet was passed around the following members signed it;

Friday June 27th 6pm – setup

N3DZ, N3LT, KB3WG, KM3M, KB3LBU, K3PJ, K3LAB, KA3KFA, KB3JOD and K3ZYK, KB3VDD, KB3TBV tentatively

Saturday June 28th Noon to when ever – operate:

W3LAB, N3LT, KB3WG, KB3JOD, K3LAB, KA3KFA (on call)

Saturday June 28th 6pm – covered dish picnic:

W3LAB, N3LT, KB3JOD, KB3LBU

Sunday June 29th morning – operate:

N3LT, KB3LBU

Sunday June 29th Noon or so – tear down:

N3DZ, N3LT, KB3WG, KM3M, K3PJ, KB3JOD, KB3LBU

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

3 antennas will be put up; a 20 meter and a 40 meter dipole antennas and a G5RV antenna.

A signup sheet was passed around. The following members signed it;

Wednesday June 11th late afternoon – setup:

N3LT, K3PJ, KB3WG, KM3M, KA3KFA, K3LAB, KB3LBU

Thursday June 12th 9am to Noon – operate / demonstration:

N3LT, K3PJ, KA3KFA, K3LAB, KB3LBU

Thursday June 12th 1pm to 4pm – operate / demonstration:

K3PJ, N3PIE, KA3KFA, K3LAB, KB3LBU

Thursday June 12th 4:30 – tear down:

N3LT, K3PJ, KB3WG, KM3M, KA3KFA, K3LAB, KB3LBU

MS Walk: April 26

We had another successful MS Walk. We had the NCS setup outside the school and Doug K3LAB did a stellar job as the NCS operator. We had 10 operators setup at all the major intersections along the MS Walk course. Many thanks to the following operators; Doug K3LAB, Dave KA3KFA, Bill W3LAB, Elmer DB3WG, Larry N3LT, Alton N3PHL, Phil K3PJ, Fred KM3M, Roger N3ULC, Mike K3UX, Nancy N3WID, Dave N3DZ, and Terry KB3JOD.

Also thanks to Fred KM3M for bringing the Club's signs. And thanks to Nancy N3WID for taking pictures, the pictures are now posted on our facebook page.

Next year it would be nice to bring one of the easy-up Gazebo type shelter in case of rain or to shield the sun.

There was a discussion on safety vest. It was decided to look into pricing some sort of vest. Preferably the high visibility green/yellow with reflective strips, and lots of pockets.

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:

Craig KB3LBU won the 50/50 drawing. A total of \$18.00 was collected.

Craig donated \$13 back into the club.

Thanks Craig.

Fred KM3M moved to close the meeting.

Larry N3LT seconded the motion.

The motion was voted on and passed.

The meeting was closed at 9:03pm local time.

Calendar of Events:

May 13 – State Wide Weather Exercise

June 1 - Breeze Shooters Hamfest

June 11,12 – Ham Radio Demo for Scouts

June 14 – ARES Emcomm Conference, UPJ

June 14,15 – Airport Awareness Days

June 28,29 – Field Day

July 20 - Somerset Hamfest

August 24 – New Ken (Skyview) Hamfest

September - 9 Uniontown Hamfest

October 4 – VE Test

Meeting Attendance:

- (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) Elmer Sorisio – KB3WG (*Board member and Repeater Trustee*)
- (x) Dave Steiner – KA3KFA
- (x) Bill Wieserman – K3ZYK