

3-19-2024

The Martin County Amateur Radio group met at 7pm at the Martin County EMA building. There were 20 people in attendance. Everyone attending the meeting introduced themselves and told where they were from. By-laws for the newly formed group were discussed. ARRL has a template for them and by-laws from other clubs were reviewed. The By-laws will be finalized and presented at the next meeting for a vote.

The group discussed the status of the Loogootee repeater located on the City of Loogootee water tower. Jerry Purcell volunteered to test the system and help with repairs if needed. He gave the background history on the purchase and installation of the District 10 repeaters. He stated they were originally designed to link to other southern Indiana repeaters for emergency use by EMA. He informed the group that maintenance and upgrades to the repeater are allowed as long as it remains available for its original purpose. A group will meet at the repeater site at 9:00 am on Saturday, March 23rd to assess the repeater and develop a plan for repairs. Andy Ringwald will contact the City of Loogootee to get permission for the group to access the water tower. Reuben stated it is a goal of his to eventually get the Shoals and Loogootee repeaters linked to allow better coverage throughout the county.

Testing for new members was discussed. Jerry Purcell is also able to assist with ARRL testing. The cost is \$15 per test for the testing site and \$35 paid to the FCC after the paperwork is filed. John Kettinger is also able to help with testing. Dates for reviews and testing will be set up at a future meeting.

There was discussion on a day and time for the weekly net and a net control script. Reuben volunteered to run the weekly net. It was decided to hold the net on the Shoals repeater on Thursday evening at 9:00 pm beginning on March 28th.

The group discussed an official name for the club. Several suggestions were presented and members chose their 3 favorites. A final vote was held among the 3 highest with Martin County Amateur Radio Club getting the most votes.

Jay Martin volunteered to develop a social media page for the group. Meeting dates and other information can be shared easily through Facebook.

Andy announced the EMA will be hosting a Weather Spotters class on April 23rd at the EMA building.

It was discussed that we need to have a set day of the month for meetings. The 2nd Tuesday of the month was the agreed upon date. The next meeting of the Martin County Amateur Radio Club will be April 9th at 7:00 pm at the EMA building.