

6/10/2025

The Martin County Amateur Radio Club met at 7:00 pm at the Martin County EMA building. There were 13 people in attendance. Club vice-president Reuben Montgomery called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm.

Minutes from the May meeting were presented for approval. Andy made a motion to approve the minutes. Tony made a 2<sup>nd</sup> to the motion and all voted in favor.

The treasurer's report is as follows: Julia received dues from 22 members and received a \$20 donation. There is \$460 to be deposited as soon as the bank account is opened. Cory has resubmitted our application for an EIN number. Once that information is provided to the bank the account can be completed, Julia will make a deposit at that time. Barry made the motion to approve the treasurer's report. Paul made a 2<sup>nd</sup> to the motion. All voted in favor of accepting the treasurer's report.

Reuben gave an update on the tower package discussed at the last meeting. Voting on whether to apply for the tower package had to be done by email since action needed to be taken prior to this meeting. The majority approved of applying for the package. Andy submitted a letter of interest and the application for the tower through Martin County EMA on behalf of the club. There is still concern about the expense of taking the tower down and moving it. Reuben has checked in to the cost of hiring a crane and Melvin suggested contacting Tree Pros out of Jasper for a price to move it as well. No other quote will be sought until we find out if we are awarded the tower. Andy stated there were others interested in the tower package as well. A decision should be made the week of June 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Garry reports there were 6 who attended the Ham breakfast. The breakfast will typically be held on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month at 8:00 am at Stoll's Lakeview Restaurant. The next date will be July 12<sup>th</sup> because of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday weekend.

Barry gave a testing committee update. It has been decided that the testing date will be on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the selected months. Exact dates are not available yet but once they are selected, Reuben will add that information to the website. Additional volunteers to assist with testing include Paul and Mike. Our club testing committee is Barry, John, Max, Chad Paul and Mike. This will allow enough members to host testing in case someone on the testing team is unavailable.

Garry gave an update on Field Day which will be the weekend of June 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> starting at 1pm. The application for the Martin shelter house at the Martin State Forest was approved. Garry was then contacted by the State Forrest office to come over and pay the reservation fee of \$70 in addition to the \$25 fee for the application. The group discussed the cost of using the facility was more than Garry should pay by himself. A donation jar will be set out at field day for donations toward the shelter house expense. Barry made a motion for the club to pay any remaining shelter house expenses not covered by donations. Paul made a 2<sup>nd</sup> to the motion. All voted in favor. Reuben applied for a Parks on the Air (POTA) call sign for the club that can be used on Field Day. Logging software was also discussed. Tony reported he purchased N3FJP software which has a cost associated. It was unknown if there was a club purchase option. If the club could purchase the software for all the net controls to use for logging that would be ideal. It wouldn't be cost effective to purchase for every net control. The Patoka Valley Amateur Radio Club is having a presentation on logging software at their next meeting. Garry and Paul will get more information and report back. There was discussion about available antennas and equipment they would be used for Field Day. Andy, Garry, Jay and Paul will all bring equipment. There was concern about the vertical antennas not working well in that location due to trees in the area. Jay said he will bring hamburgers for the pitch-in meal. Garry will be

sending out an email for volunteers to fill time slots during the event. Garry reported he will be there early on the 28<sup>th</sup> to begin setting up. The net control will also announce reminders about field day during the weekly net. Information about the event will be sent to both county newspapers. Paul volunteered to take pictures during field day to publish on our website and in newspapers. Garry will check into yard type signs with the club logo.

Reuben said the digital is not working on the Loogootee repeater. Andy will check it to see if the system needs to be reset. If it is anything more than that he can share with the group. The rest of the equipment for the Loogootee repeater will be ordered soon. The additional items needed are the power supply, antenna, etc. Paul stated he would like to have a goal date for getting everything installed since we received a grant for that purchase. The coax and brackets to secure it to the tower can be ordered as soon as we get a measurement of the length needed. Nathan will measure it on Wednesday and get back with Reuben. Paul made a motion to set July 31<sup>st</sup> as the goal date to get everything installed. Barry made a 2<sup>nd</sup> to the motion and all voted in favor.

Tony suggested setting up a booth at the 4-H fair. Safety night is July 11<sup>th</sup>. Andy suggested the group could set up with the EMA that night.

Jim shared a handout about DG-ID fusion with the group. Indiana Link South requires a DG-ID 11 to transmit. Reuben explained that it is similar to a tone squelch. Tony suggested that members watch the movie "All the light we cannot see." Several in the group had read the book the movie was based on.

Reuben announced that Chad and Max have agreed to be in the rotation to be net control. An update to the week there was no net recently, Garry is having antenna problems and no one else was scheduled to take over the net that night. The other net control operators weren't available at the time it was realized that there was no net control. A reminder to all that the script is on the website and anyone who is comfortable can cover in the event that it happens again or there is an emergency.

The next meeting of the Martin County Amateur Radio Club will be July 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm at the EMA Building. The Net will be held weekly on Thursday at 9pm on the Shoals repeater and 9:30 pm for the Loogootee repeater. The next ham breakfast will be July 12<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 am at Stoll's Lakeview Restaurant.

With no other business to discuss, Paul made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mike made a second to the motion and all voted in favor.