

A 1/13/2026

The Martin County Amateur Radio Club met at 7:00 pm at the Martin County EMA building. There were 16 members and 2 guests in attendance. Jay Martin, Vice-president, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Election of 2026 officers was the first order of business. Paul made a motion to nominate Chad Dorsey as club President. A 2nd to the motion was made by Crystal. All members voted in favor of Chad for president. Paul made a motion for Jay to continue as Vice-president. John made a 2nd to the motion and all voted in favor. Andy made a motion for Julia to continue as secretary/treasurer for 2026. Max made a 2nd to the motion and all voted in favor. Paul and Melvin will both continue to serve as board members for 2026.

Jay discussed the need for an ARES Emergency Coordinator and Assistant EC for the club. John stated that he thought anyone who wanted to be the emergency coordinator must be an AARL member. After discussion with the club, no one is currently an AARL member. Jay stated he would be willing to become an AARL member and be the emergency coordinator if no one else is interested. Chad is willing to be the assistant emergency coordinator. The coordinators will be responsible for working with EMA Director Andy Ringwald during any emergency. This item was tabled for clarification on needing to be an AARL member.

Andy announced that the EMA will be hosting a Skywarn training on April 13th at 6pm and the EMA building. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

Barry gave an update on testing. Our first testing session of the year is scheduled for immediately following the meeting tonight. 4 people are planning to test. There was discussion on who could help with testing since it takes 3 people. Barry stated that anyone who wants to be a volunteer examiner (VE) must be approved. Barry is our VE Coordinator. Chad is the back-up. One of them must be present at all testing sessions. The other 2 VE's can be anyone who is approved and must be a general class or higher.

The club discussed the time that the net was held weekly. Most felt that 9pm was too late during the winter months. It was also discussed that the net normally doesn't take half an hour so the time between the start of the Shoals and Loogootee net could be cut down to 15 minutes. Chad made a motion to change the net to 7pm on Wednesday for the Shoals net and 7:15 pm for Loogootee effective January 21st. Jay made a 2nd to the motion and all voted in favor. The club will reevaluate moving the net to later in the evening when daylight savings time change occurs.

Andy provided an update on the equipment for the Loogootee repeater. Everything has all been received including coax and antennas. The water tower painting is on hold until April and was previously delayed as well. The group discussed options for permanently mounting the antenna to the water tank since the city wants our tower sections removed from the catwalk. The consensus of the group was to proceed with installation of the linking equipment as soon as possible when weather conditions allow. The updated equipment can be added to the Shoals repeater any time. The city will have to allow access to the water tower so it will need to be set up a couple of days in advance. Jay is willing to discuss options with the mayor regarding mounting the antenna in a new location which would need to be done prior to painting.

Andy also reported that he received some additional equipment from Daviess County EMA. The equipment will belong to EMA but the club will be allowed to utilize it as needed. It included a HF radio, 3 VHF radios and antennas similar to what Martin County EMA received in the past.

Garry reported on Winter Field Day on January 24th from 1pm to 4pm. Anyone wanting to participate in the event should plan to meet at the State Forest shelter house for set up at 10am. Garry will bring coffee and

the computer logging software. Max, Andy, Jay, Chad and Paul will also bring equipment. Jay volunteered to bring firewood to use in the shelter house fireplaces. Chad will bring extension cords. Bring your own chair and join in.

The treasurer's report is as follows: Julia received dues from 22 members for 2025 and received a \$20 donation. There was \$390 deposited in the bank account in December. There were checks received from 2025 dues that were more than 6 months old and the bank would not take them. Julia wrote a replacement check for her 2025 dues and requested replacement checks from 2 other members that will be deposited with the 2026 dues. At the meeting 19 club members paid dues for 2026.

Barry presented a receipt from Walmart for the purchase of supplies needed for testing. Max made a motion for the club to reimburse Barry \$76.59 for the purchase. John made a 2nd to the motion and all voted in favor.

The club discussed remaining funds from the Community Foundation grant for equipment. Andy has all of the final receipts. Cory has all of the documents from the grant. It is unknown at this time if any funds remain from the original grant but if there is funds left over they will be moved to the club checking account.

The next meeting of the Martin County Amateur Radio Club will be on February 10th at 7:00 pm at the EMA Building. The weekly net will be held this Thursday, January 15th at 9pm on the Shoals repeater and 9:30 pm for the Loogootee repeater. Starting January 21st, the net was to move to Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm for the Shoals repeater and 7:15 pm for the Loogootee repeater. Discussion continued after the meeting through email and it was decided that there was some confusion on the vote to change the net time/day so for now the time will remain on Thursday at 9pm on the Shoals repeater and 9:30 pm for the Loogootee repeater and revisit the discussion at the next meeting.

With no other business to discuss, Andy made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Tony made a 2nd to the motion and all voted in favor.