

Meeting called to order at 19:03

In attendance:

Tate Belden/KA70
Bruce MacDonald/KF7CFY
Michael Hopkins/AE7EC
Mike/KE7AZF
Mike/KE7WQP
Ken/K7PLA
Ben/KF7LFN
Shawn/N7RRB
Dwight/AE7YA
Chuck/KF7ZKW
Pete/N7TDJ
David/W6OPS

Old Business:

Bruce MacDonald mentioned the club equipment that belonged to Mike Murphy (SK) that was down at the WAC shop. It was his desire to have it inventoried and listed. He also mentioned we need to move it out of there due to infringing on their space. He believes it would be a good idea for the club to rent a storage space to store this, and other things that may come along like it. Ben said it sounded like a good idea. Mike said he also like the idea of neutral territory for storage of club property, rather than having it in the possession of just one club member. Bruce gave a short, general description of what is currently at WAC, A short discussion on what kind of a price we were looking at ensued. Bruce thought about \$50.00 a month, Mike thought that was shooting a bit low. It was brought up that Bruce was currently renting a unit, a 12' x 24', for \$100 per month. A general enumeration of the clubs property, and where it was stored began, when what size unit we would need was brought up.

It was mentioned that perhaps we could beg storage space from our new host (MWTN Corp), but Mike said that he really didn't want to ask for more than we had been given already. Bruce thought that it would be a good idea to call around and check on storage, Mike mentioned that he would like Tate to consider all that was said first before committing to it. Mike said he could sniff around on a unit. It was also mentioned that we should leverage our 501(c)3 status to decrease the cost of a unit. Shawn said he'd look into one on 12th street.

Once again, regarding the storage idea, Mike said he would like it to be bounced-off Tate, and maybe Josh (it was also expressed how we would like to see Josh return to town).

Bruce brought up the story of Conrad Farnsworth/KF7QYA and his successful building of a Farnsworth Fusor (A type of fusion reactor). Mike mentioned that he had already contacted him over Facebook chat, and gave him an open invitation to come down to Casper for the club meetings. Mike also mentioned that he could come to the meetings and not have to put on a show, dissertation, or demonstration, but just be there for the sake of camaraderie.

The upcoming testing session at the hospital was brought up, and it was mentioned that even though the course had a high drop-out rate, that at least one tester should get her license, and the other 2 are questionable.

It was then motioned that the meeting be closed, and it was seconded.

Meeting was adjourned at 19:40.

Old New Business:

Old minutes were read, Shawn motioned and Tate accepted as read, then it was carried by the body.

Ken said he was getting the 6 meter repeater coordinated and set up. He had coordinated with the "official official group in Buffalo". Tate mentioned that the voting receivers were being talked about being put on Laramie Peak, Copper Mountain, and possibly Mountain View.

Tate brought up storage space, and pleaded that he needed space to work on his motorcycle and went on to describe some of the club owned radio items taking up his space at his house. It was brought up that 50 or 100 bucks a month is a money hole for a storage space. It was brought forth that we do a little capital investment, and the club buy a sea-can (shipping container). The challenge would be where we would put it.

The county shops in Mills were brought up as a possible place for the can, but the limitation would be, we might not have access to the can to get into it there, unless there was county personnel there.

Tate asked Bruce if there had been any data on our returns on investments. Bruce said he had not had time to go over it. The conversation then detoured to hamfest dates, but then back on track with getting a sea-can placed, and the club property moved into it by hamfest.

Ken then asked what size can we were talking about, Tate thought a 40' would be best, dependent upon finances. Ken mentioned that it would cost \$3000 for a 20 footer, and \$5000 for a 40 footer. Tate at that time dropped the requisition of the sea-can into Ken's lap. Ken said he would go through all the local distributors, and get a solid price. Tate said he hoped he would hear something by the next business meeting.

The V.E. Session at the hospital was brought up, and it was said to be very successful. We had 1 General get her first license, and one Technician get his first license. The 16th of March V.E. Session was brought up too.

Tate then asked if any other old news was in need of review, hearing none, the meeting moved on.

New Business:

Bruce proffered a report on the status of the clubs bank account, Tate accepted, and the balance was \$8023.35. It was also reported that we made a whopping \$0.06 interest. Bruce also reported that regarding the investment accounts, that they were doing much better than fairly well. Tate suggested that the club may want to move more of it's capital over to the investment funds.

It was asked if Steve/KF7YEN was a club member. It was determined that he was not.

Btuce suggested that the BNSF terminal building looked mostly unused, with the thoughts of using it as a clubhouse. Buce then asked if anyone knew anyone who worked for the railroad. Mike (KE7WQP) said he knew someone that worked on the tracks, but not in the office. Other possible contacts were discussed, at too low a volume for me to make out most of it.

Tate announced that KG7BML is the new club callsign of the Wyoming Medical Center's amateur radio club. The new club 'over there' was set up to facilitate better disaster response preparedness. The new club is only for employees of the hospital, due to some bureaucratic legal, liability, and security hurdles involved in working with CARC, and hams not employed by the hospital.

Tate then brought up that the club has currently no liability insurance. Tate said, that if we need to add that, the dues the club members will pay, will likely go up. Equipment insurance was also discussed.

Hamfest dates (1st June?) were brought up, and the location was mentioned to be Buffalo. If they can't find anything, it may be up in Gillette, and if not there, it may end up in Casper again. The idea of combining Field Day, and Hamfest was also brought up.

Casper Marathon was mentioned. Tate asked when it was happening. Mike (KE7WQP) announced that it was June 2nd. Tate said he would be out of the country. Mike (AE7EC) Then mentioned that the Wyoming Senior Games had rejected our offer of assistance, as they will be using radios lent to them by the county.

It was then asked if we had decided where we will hold our field day. Tate said “Nope.” People were encouraged to keep that in their head, and if anyone wanted to volunteer to set it up, do it.

More new business was then asked for, and Bruce then suggested that for the next activities meeting, that we meet back over at the EOC, and hook the radios up, and test them out. Tate asked if there was any in favor, or opposed, and the motion passed without opposition. It was also mentioned that we might do a table-top emergency exercise.

Mike (AE7EC) then mentioned that for some business meeting in the spring and again in fall, that someone would be needed to cover as secretary at some business meetings. His father has races in Colorado on Wednesdays (Cherry Creek Time Trials in the spring, and Bear Creek Time Trials in the fall), and he had to attend. Mike (KE7WQP) then offered to pick up the slack.

Bruce brought us an item of interest off QRZed, about the television show “Last Man Standing” having a ham-centric secondary story-line in an upcoming episode. Tate then mentioned that the “prop” radios seen in the second season, were actually hooked up to real antennas, and brought up to operating condition for the second season.

The ham classes were brought up, and how a couple of months ago, the club agreed to buy some educational study guides for the prospective hams to then buy as textbooks when they began the classes. Tate had wound up buying them himself (36:30 minutes on the recoder), and he sold 4 out of 6 books bought.

Disposal of the club's ambulance was mentioned. It was disposed at the county garage driveway.

Mike (KE7AZF) Brought up the Pony Express ride, and that the itinerary was “up”, and they would be passing through Casper on perhaps a Friday. They would be traveling from the East to the West. He also encourage participation in the ride as communications assistance.

Tate asked for a show of hands of who used IRLP last month. No one did.

At this time the meeting recessed for a little rag chewing, multiple conversations causing an aural pile-up.

Someone then brought to the floor that they thought they heard that the .640 and .280 repeaters were linked. This was quickly dismissed by Tate as being inaccurate.

Bruce brought up the idea that putting tone on the output of the .940 repeater was causing the .640 intermod problems we were having. He suggested that we eliminate those tones for awhile, to see if that cleared the problem up. Tate said the next chance we get, we would be moving the .640 repeater, and that should fix the problem. Mike (AE7EC) mentioned that he likes the tones on output, as he oftentimes finds himself in high RF noise environments.

Another “intermission” ensued.

Ken asked, “Who is in control of the WyoComm system?”, Tate replied “I think his name is Boyd.” But the way the system is designed, that each local repeater tied into the system is owned by a local operator and they take care of it on their own. Mike (KE7AZF) mentioned, though, if you want to link up to it, you have to go through Boyd.

Mike (KE7WQP) motioned to adjourn, Mike (KE7AZF) seconded. Tate brought forth for a vote, and the body moved to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned @ 20:05