

3rd September, 2014 – Casper Amateur Radio Club – W7VNJ – Business Meeting Minutes

Called to order @ 19:00 by Shawn - N7RRB

Ken - K7PLA
Don - N7QQA ???
Mike - AE7EC
Paul - K7RXC
Bruce - KF7CFY
Dwight - AE7YA
Ben - KF7LFN
Gary - AE7LS
Charles - N7RQW
Tate - KA7O

Reading of the last meetings's minutes:

None. AE7EC forgot to do the minutes from the June meeting (now rectified).

Old Old business:

G. There was talk of finding a new net control for the Sunday night net.

Old Business:

A. Part G above was to be amended to last month's minutes. It was mentioned that AE7EC should send a note to Tate about this. He amended it at the generation of this month's minutes, and will send the completed files to Tate at the same time. Tate moved to accept this amendment, and Ken seconded.

B. Bruce mentioned that he did not say that the last payment, or the balloon payment was coming up... we aren't sure who, but someone said it.

C. Paul, K7RXC, was thanked for continuing to be net control long after his volunteer tenure was requested to expire.

D. Talk of the new as yet unnamed northern Wyoming repeater network was broached. Much chatting was done about links, and a current net operating on it out of Buffalo on Tuesday night.

E. More talk ensued about repeater co-ordination. This went on for much time.

F. Talk about the as yet unused Natrona County Parks reservation came up again. People seemed to tend towards the idea of a special event station at Hells Half Acre. Subject was changed without resolution.

G. Bruce brought up a portable cell tower that was looked at. It's new he said, but it has been wrecked. The very top of the mast is bent, but the rest is in fine shape. Ken mentioned that it appears that the tower was abandoned by it's owners, and that the insurance company holding it may wish to donate it to the club.

H. Regarding 2 thank-you letters, it was agreed that Tate would print them for the club, and AE7EC would mail them to him.

I. Bruce gave an abbreviated Treasurer's Report.

J. More talk about the shelving in the C-can was broached. It was mentioned that we need to set a time to go out and do measurements, AE7EC mentioned that he was available to go out and help with measurements any old time.

New Old Business:

A. Regarding the portable cell tower, KF7CFY said he had contact with the secretary of the company that holds it, and was told he would be called back, he did not hear back from them.

B. AE7EC had it clarified that dollar amounts of business did not have to be inserted into the meeting minutes. Also there was a preference shown to keep them out, but make them available on request to the treasurer.

C. KF7CFY mentioned that someone has piled up a couple of old truck tires against the side of our C-can, and they are in a place that keeps the side door from being opened all the way. It was generally agreed upon that we need to mark our C-can to show it is club property, storage, and is not a dumping ground for everyone else's junk. It was mentioned that we need to get a phone number for the club, that either rang a phone to be held by the president, or a Google voice number to take messages, so that any stencil we use to mark property, could have our number on it. This would allow notification of the presidency if there was a problem with the property. Also it was mentioned that many trees were planted near the C-can and it's advised we be careful of where we drive.

D. The CARC Sunday Night Net has officially been renamed the WyoComm Sunday Night Net. Net control volunteers are still needed, please.

E. More was discussed about the shelving in the C-Can. Many ideas, bushes will be beat, see what runs out of them. Also it was discussed how we can run wires in and out of it. Bruce said there were vents in the top corners of the North side that could serve this purpose. Mike was in favor of 2 lock-boxes with weather tight pass-thrus, and a large through the wall penetration to serve as a multi-cable weather-head.

New Business:

A. AE7EC mentioned that he heard from N7CSO that KC7SNO, the ShyWy Club was looking to get the Sherman Hill repeater linked to Copper Mountain, to get them on Wyocomm.

B. Ken, K7PLA, mentioned that he talked to Gene of Range Solar and Wind about power sources for remote sites, and backup power. Said that he may attend a future meeting. Mike mentioned a bit on how the solar at his house works, mentioning that it is grid tied, thus unsuitable for backup. He also mentioned the new panels are 240 Watt, and his older ones were 180 Watt. He also mentioned that wind turbines are more expensive, and less reliable than solar.

C. Talk of getting an engineer to sign off on the new Casper Mountain tower was broached by K7PLA, and much was discussed about how hard it was to get the needed report. Also that the tower is going to be rebuilt in place, next summer, was mentioned.

D. Shawn, N7RRB said that it was decided at the board meeting that the club would buy a mobile dual band rig with cross-band capability, to give us a mobile repeater.

Meeting was closed at 20:20.