

COCHISE AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

JULY 1, 2013 1900 HRS

ATTENDEES: 27

PLEDGE

ATTENDEES INTRODUCTIONS

PRESIDENTS REPORT: Grant KB6OTS

Introduction of Norm Sturm, Emergency Services Coordinator for Cochise County.

Norm told the members what his job entailed, and how much they relied upon services of both the RACES unit as well as CARA as EOC backup.

Norm commented on the support we will receive from his group, both in EOC services and possible new equipment for the MCU.

SECRETARY REPORT:

Last months minutes are on website; minutes were approved.

Paradise is coming up Labor Day weekend – Kurt KF7PDV gave a short synopsis of the activity as well as note that a full write-up with photos is available on our website K7RDG.org

TREASURER REPORT:

Charles K4AFN reported our current financial status, along with expenses incurred for Field Day and our investment CDs.

CURRENT ACTIVITIES:

Field Day - Ken Roth KX6X

Ken advised that Field Day was a rousing success with a large amount of participation in all modes; SSB, digital and CW. CW garnered most points and maintained an almost 24 hr stream of contacts. Lee KD7OED conducted a seminar on the National Traffic System [NTS]

which included participants sending Radiogram messages which also added to the points.

Our GOTA [Get On The Air] station, which is meant for new hams and those wanting to be hams went over very well with contacts being made by the operators.

A great weekend for CARA, filled with fun for all.

Thanks Ken for organizing this event!

PROJECTS

Charles K4AFN reported that we are close to finalization of a network for CARA which would provide internet access.

Especially appropriate for the monsoon season, we are in need of lightning protection for the incoming antenna lines which use PolyPhasers. Charles noted that the BOD had approved the purchase of this hardware.

It was noted that the container is missing door gaskets on the side door, which will let in water. Charles to remedy the missing items.

REPEATER

Rich AA7RH reported that the repeater destined for San Bernadino cannot be situated there as there is no room in equipment cabinet. Rich noted that we have an offer from Dennis in Portal to mount the repeater on his tower. Additionally we are exploring the availability of a Forest Service tower near the NM border, which might have space to mount and use the repeater. Issues which will need addressing are the coverage areas, maintenance and installation costs,.

RACES

Bob N7INK reported on ARES/RACES activities for the month of June, inclusive of number of members, training sessions, public service and emergency response events.

On June 29 is the familiarization/practice for the Bisbee Coaster Race to be held on July 4. This practice is targeted for those who signed up to participate in the event and who may not have attended the event previously.

Awareness of the exercise, procedures, placement, your equipment checkout are essentials for those first timers.

On another note, the MCU is now back in operation with the delivery and installation of the repaired mast. The Sony camera is still not repaired; return date not known.

Cochise County is moving forward on a new radio system that will include a phased upgrade of our VHF and other comm equipment.

In a new consolidation move, Sierra Vista and Fry Fire will now dispatch equipment from both sources, dependent upon location and requirement.

This move should save resources and costs by consolidating locales rather than splitting up the area.

Meeting ended at 1815 hrs.

Submitted by

Kurt KF7PDV

CARA Secretary