

**Minutes of the South Alabama Radio Club
February 19th , 2009**

Call to order:

Pat Henagan KG4LNX called meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

Members and visitors in attendance:

Pat Henagan KG4LNX	John Brown KE4HIE
Tim Trent KI4JDV	Jacob King KI4LFI
Richard King KJ4BBL	Wayne Alday W4WEA
Bob Sullivan W5RE	Bob Lawrence KI4RWL
Joe Rose KI4FMR	Bart Gowan WA8YPX - visitor

Minutes from previous meeting :

John read the January meeting.

There were no corrections made to the January minutes.

Tim Trent KI4JDV made motion to accept the minutes and

Bob Lawrence KI4RWL seconded.

Treasurer's report :

Treasurer's Report of \$541.00 given by Wayne Alday W4WEA.

Tim Trent KI4JDV made motion to accept treasurer's report as read.

Bob Sullivan W5RE made a second to motion. It was also mentioned that checks need to be written for PO Box Rent and Alabama Repeater Council Dues. Wayne said he would pay P.O. Box Rent tomorrow. He paid Joe Rose \$120.00 for light bill at tower site at meeting. Wayne Alday W4WEA stated he had sent a letter to Paul Adams N4VFI about his 2008 membership dues check.

Old business:

Bob Lawrence KI4RWL and George Wheeler KI4RNQ went to Elmore, AL. and did the antenna work on Bill Haynes NK4D's Tower in exchange for the Andrews hardline he has donated to the SARC for the repair of the repeater. They arrived at 10:30am and did the work. It was estimated that there was 180 meters or 380 feet left on spool. Bob dropped off that feedline and Tim's trailer to John KE4HIE's home. An Certificate of Appreciation should be sent to Bill Haynes for the feedline and to the Troy Amateur Radio Club for the antenna donations to the Club. The SARC agreed to pay Bob Lawrence for his expenses for the trip and after a short discussion, a check was written to Bon Lawrence for \$40.00. Joe Rose said he had the connectors needed for the new feedline and would notify the Club as to the price of these connectors. Joe also agreed to have the new feedline and antennas stored behind his shop and we remove the (2) old hardline sections currently stored there.

The SARC Club Dues were due at the end of January. Anyone wanting to remain on the 2009 SARC Membership roster will need to pay their dues.

Bob Lawrence KI4RWL said he would try to contact Clay Brown KI4ONH about transferring the hosting of the WC4M website. He would contact Jeff Mills if necessary to get up with Clay Brown KI4ONH about this matter.

John Brown KE4HIE brought up the status of the WC4M Trustee's name and address change. John mentioned that he doesn't need to commit to the WC4M Repeater Trustee position until he knows his final job situation.

Bart Gowan WA8YPX brought in an repeater update form that he had received from Howard of the Alabama Repeater Council. John gave this letter to Pat Henagan KG4LNX.

John also mentioned that the Club will need to relocate the Club storage shed, the SARC Field Day Supplies, and other Club material which is currently being stored at John Brown KE4HIE's Home, shed, and in the back of his Jeep in the case he moves to a new job.

Pat mentioned scheduling a fox hunt in the near future. The Opp ARC is still working on the fox hunting transmitter but it was mentioned that we could do as last time and use someone with an ht as a fox. We will discuss this at next meeting.

Pat Henagan KG4LNX asked Bob Lawrence concerning the on-line FEMA NIMS Courses. Bob stated that the courses were online and it was also mentioned that most EOCs are now requiring all personnel, even volunteers that work in the EOC or Command Posts, to have taken some of the online FEMA ICS (Incident Command System) courses. John said he would post a link to the FEMA NIMS page in the SARC list server for those interested. Links of interest would be: <http://www.nimsonline.com/> or <http://training.fema.gov/IS/NIMS.asp>

John is working to schedule some visits to the Covington County EOC to make other amateurs familiar with the Amateur station at the EOC. It will probably be on Sundays when the EOC is quieter and easier for a small group to get to the Amateur Station.

Jacob King KI4LFI passed out a possible design for some SARC ID Badges. After some discussion, it was agreed that the design for the front of the ID badges was good. On the back, there will be a statement about allowing proper access into and out of a emergency area as an ARES member. There will be (2) id badges. One will be index card size (3" by 5") vertical badge to be worn and the other would be credit card sized horizontal badge to be kept in a wallet or purse. John Brown KE4HIE is to check at Shaw about getting some Badge clips.

Local Repeater reports

Opp repeater: Bob Lawrence-KI4RWL gave report Signal is good and Echo Link up and working.

Crestview repeater :Bob Sullivan W5RE reported that there was some work done at the 147.360 repeater site that eliminated the beacon hash on the repeater but effected the receive, causing some distant stations to be broken into the repeater. He also stated that the Crestview d-star 440 machine is working well and there are plans to get the 2 meter d-star repeater operational shortly.

Chris John's Repeater- No report

Brewton repeater- No report

Andalusia repeater : Still not working well, Replacement antenna and feedline is now at John's QTH, to be moved to the repeater site. The Club will purchase new connectors and a grounding kit for the new Andrews feedline from Joe Rose. We still need tower climber(s) to do the testing and repairs after we have all materials needed.

Committee Reports:

None

Program Committee John called and emailed the NWS Mobile to schedule our annual Spotter Class for the spring of 2009. Gary Beeler has now retired and the NWS would contact me as to who would be doing these Spotter classes now for the NWS-Mobile office. John Brown KE4HIE will call them for an update.

New Business

Any Club members that want to pay their ARRL dues through the Club will get the Club \$2 for any renewals or \$15 for new memberships. An email notifying Club members of this ARRL payment option should also be sent to members. John Brown KE4HIE will download and print the necessary forms so the any one who wants to join the ARRL can do so through the club at the next meeting.

The 2009 SARC Field Day was discussed. The ARRL 2009 Field Day will be on June 27th and 28th this year. The group decided that the SARC Field Day will be at Frank Jackson State Park in Opp, AL. again this year. John Brown said he would ask Allen Scofield KG4CNA if he would make a Field Day PSA for this year. Anyone wanting to campout for the event will need to contact the Park to make their reservations early to assure a campsite. Some will be setting up on Thursday, June 25th and staying till that Sunday, June 28th. Let the Park know that you are with the SARC Field Day Group when making your reservations. The phone number for Frank Jackson State Park is (334) 493-6988. We will need to discuss a menu for Friday and Saturday evenings, reserving the pavilion for both nights, and the number planning to participate. Pat will contact the Andalusia Mayor about an Amateur Radio Week proclamation for June 22nd to 28th. The Opp ARC has not decided as to where their Field Day will be held?

Any unique or long distance contacts made by group?

Bob Sullivan W5RE made contact with FW5RE on Wallace Isl. as well as the DX Group operating off Puerto Rico using the callsign K5D. they will operate there for 2 weeks using a Stateside QSL via N200 w/SASE.

Website is: <http://www.kp5.us/>

Club Members needs:(antennas built, towers erected, etc)

John Brown still needs Rotor replaced.

Adjournment:

Bob Lawrence made the motion to adjourn with Bob Sullivan W5RE seconding that motion. The February meeting of the South Alabama Radio Club was adjourned at 8:30pm.

These minutes submitted by John Brown – KE4HIE