

Mon County Amateur Radio Club  
Meeting Minutes  
September 14, 2024

The regular monthly meeting of the Mon County Amateur Radio Club met at the Post 174, American Legion, 3470 Earl L Core Rd, Morgantown, WV. The President, Jim Morris KF8BKH, started the meeting at 0903 and led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

In attendance was: President Jim Morris KF8BKH, Vice-president Dylan Warren W8DYL, Treasurer Steve Miller K8BBL, Peter Billie WA8TGG, Hasith Perera KE8TJE, Chaplain Chuck Strahin KD8TYQ, Paul White KD8YDO, Linda Marden KE8AMQ, Allen Harris KD8BMI, Alex Lugo KD8NZX, Pete Knapp KN8PPY, Ernie Hill KD8VME, Ty Crawford WN3TYC, Alan Blosser KD8YLQ, Mike Bond KE8LMT, Secretary Chris Condon N2BNW, Ian MacDonnell N0IAN

Guests: Dan Warren W8DWW

Treasurer's report: Given by Steve Miller K8BBL. As of 9/13, there is \$4,668 in the bank. Monthly payments include the storage of the trailer, which has already been paid this month. There is also a bi-annual expenditure of \$85 for the PO Box which will be coming due soon. Steve gave the opportunity for people to take the report with the request that it doesn't end up laying around.

Dues/Membership: Multiple people paid their dues, but there are still some outstanding. Steve Miller gave out updated rosters with a list of expired members. If any members of the club know/see some of the people on the roster, they can feel free to reach out to them and welcome them back to the club.

ID Cards: Ty Crawford got new membership cards for the club. They were passed around at the meeting for anyone to see. People that didn't have updated cards got with Allen Harris to get new ones.

Repeaters: Peter Billie talked about the repeaters, and the troubles we are having with them. He is still working on the issue. There are other frequencies that can be observed through a spectrum analyzer that Peter thinks are causing the problems. Maybe we will be able to reach out to those individuals and ask them to stop, or change their methods. No filter cans have been purchased at this time, as this issue needs to be resolved first.

The university UHF repeater is back online. Talked about updating or re-issuing the callsign/frequency pair. Frequency is 444.800 (+5).

Trailer: The trailer was supposed to be at the meeting for everyone to look at, but was not present. It will be at the next meeting in October.

Equipment Testing: Peter Billie brought equipment for testing radios. That way members could make sure their equipment was working as it should, and was outputting the correct wattage/power people are expecting them to.

Merchandise: Dylan Warren looked at Vista Print and Creations by Amy for different options. Vista Print prices range from \$14 to \$40. Creations by Amy has shirts with a callsign and logo for \$25 or \$30 for plus sizes. Polos would be \$35 or \$40 for plus sizes. The club then discussed

options like cold weather attire, sweatshirts, order pickup, money first ordering, demo pictures, callsign on the shirts, hats, and imagery or something on the back.

Allen Harris needs to get more patches for the club. He usually looks to get 100 at a time, and asked Dylan to put the logo on a flashdrive for him to use.

POTA Picnic: Due to conflicting MWA events, as well as conflicts with Repeat's schedule the Picnic has been changed to November 2. Location will probably be Cooper's Rock. Time TBA - probably 8 or 9 AM until the afternoon sometime.

The club will send around a sheet about equipment/bands to keep people from interfering with each other.

Members of the WVU club asked if they could participate and we told them yes.

MWA NWS Club Meeting: The Mon Wireless Association is having a guest from the National Weather Service at their meeting on October 15th at 7PM. We want to make sure there is good representation at that.

Christmas party/dinner: The club debated on foregoing our Christmas event, and combining with the MWA because of previous years turnout. Opinions were mixed. We will reach out to them, and see if that is something they would want. If they don't want us, that stops the debate right there. Through a show of hands, most members present were interested in having some sort of gathering. Allen said he would try to source a venue for dinner on Dec 21st. Dylan will send out a form to get estimated numbers for the gathering

Website: Dylan talked about the website. He mentioned the website is being updated as often as possible. It includes upcoming events, pictures, who we are, and more.

<https://monradioclub.com/>

Projects: Chris Condon talked about the first project that the club has the option to build at the October meeting. It will be a 2m J-pole kit. It is an easy project that can lead to great performance on the air. Chris also mentioned that a projector would be nice for demonstration purposes, and Allen said that we had one and a screen.

Educational Presentations: Steve Miller will give the first presentation on basic electricity at the November.

Silent Auction: Equipment was brought to the meeting for people to look at. Bids will be taken by email, and can be sent to Jim Morris. The bid will need your name, the item, and price you want to submit. These need turned in by October 17th at 7PM. Winners will be announced on the 18th, so you can bring money to the meeting on the 19th, and claim your equipment.

An appreciation card was sent around for everyone to sign which will be sent to the wife that donated all of the equipment.

Marketplace Scams: Chuck Strahin talked about a younger guy that is "selling" equipment. He has a criminal record, and is scamming people out of their money. They usually would not get the equipment that is being offered. There are many things that are fishy, such as a gofundme page for a new radio, when he has said radio advertised to sell on Facebook Marketplace. Chris Fountaine - KE8ODY. Just stay aware out there and don't fall victim to these scams.

Allen Harris was given a certificate of appreciation for everything he has done for the club, and for all the hard work he has put in to get us to where we are today.

Testing: There was one person, Lew Soccorsi, who took and passed his technician. He is now KF8CEW.

Finances: The club took in \$190 from the Black Box, \$45 from dues, and \$14 from testing.

With no other business to come before the club, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:30 AM.