

## Minutes of the February 14, 2017 BCRA meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 by Keith KE8CPN.

Present were Keith Almli, Randy McClellan, Bill Lahti, Joe Dowd, Rich Brooks, Brian Ruddy, Mike Malloy and Mary Sears.

Secretary and treasurer (\$621) reports were accepted.

Progress has been made to put a repeater on the Michigan State 800 tower near the old 67 site. It might be mounted as high as 450 feet up the 500 foot tower. Estimates of \$16,000 were obtained for equipment and climbing. It was learned at the Negaunee swap that ARRL will help with the application process.

MTU students have agreed to conduct a ham radio class leading to a Technician license at the Lanse college campus sometime around March 19 to March 25th. The class would run 4 evenings finishing with the ARRL test.

When BCMH occupied the present Ojibwa College facility there was a room used for its radio operations. Joe will look into using that room for ham radio activities.

The college may also be expanding into the old Pelkie school – perhaps offering agriculture and/or welding. Joe suggested ham radio might fit into those plans.

He will contact the local high schools for the same reason.

Rich reported he learned at a Michigan Emergency Communications meeting that the State Fire Marshal would like to be invited to meet with community leaders, fire, police, EM's, hams to discuss MABAS – a mutual aid call-out system widely implemented in the lower peninsula.

Authority to apply for 501.c3 status was again approved by vote.

The floor was again opened for nominations for next year's BCRA officers. No new names were added from last month so the list stands at: Keith: President; Randy: Vice President; Joe: Treasurer; and Mary: Secretary.

Reminders were made of the Chassell Ham-swap (VFW, April 22; BCRA will donate a \$25 door prize), a Skywarn seminar (May 16, 6:30 - 8, MTU, 1402 Sharon Ave, Free) and UPHAMS.COM web site.

The next meeting will be March 14, 2017, 7pm, at the Ojibwa College. Use the front door, bear left at the first chance and proceed about half way down the hall.

Adjournment: 8:30.

Submitted by Richard Brooks KB8FCX, Secretary