

BARAGA COUNTY



REPEATERS ASSOCIATION

President: Keith Almli KE8PCN

Vice-President: Randy McClellan KE8DCK

Secretary: Mary Sears KE8FEU

Treasurer: Joe Dowd KE8DUP

Minutes

May 9, 2017 7pm

Ojibwa College; L'Anse

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

- 1. Call to Order:** *The Meeting was called to order by President Almli at 7:03pm.*
- 2. Introductions:** *Introductions were made around the room with no new members or guests noted.*
- 3. Public Comment:** *None*
- 4. Approval of Minutes:** *Minutes were approved and adopted with the correction of Rich Brooks name. Motion made by Vice President McClellan and seconded by Mr. Brooks.*
- 5. Treasurer's Report:** *Treasurer Dowd reported that there is \$723.15 in the treasury with an expenditure of \$23.65 to UPPCO and \$22.25 to Jeff Stricker and a credit of \$100.74 from HAM fest, which split money among all members attending.*

Old Business

- 1. Site Updates:**
 - A. Baraga:** *No news. Unplug 444.925 Repeater. Determined feedline problem. Need better coax to try at site. 25' piece from Ed Selkie. Vance Nelson will give LMR 400, 50' piece. Brian Ruddy has a 50' ½" heliax that he says BCRA can have. Power pole at site old and rickety. President Almli will ask UPPCO about pole and replacement. Jim Peroke, an electrician, will help with the changeover at no cost to the club. Mr. Brooks has a 35' pole in good repair, will donate.*
 - B. Herman:** *Digipeater problem causing interference, pulled out until can determine what is wrong. President Almli has digipeater and wants to test it at that site in the Greenland Area. Grants for Herman project: one sent into Walmart, Tribal 2% grant: President Almli will*

- Speak to the Tribal Counsel about for a pass through. True North Credit Union can award up to \$10,000 per project. Superior National Bank may be an avenue for a grant. Jeff Hubbard volunteered to help write grants. Jeff Summers has a wooded, highland property that he has said BCRA could put a repeater on but it will need to be cleaned. Ruth will continue to work with him. Keith will bring projector to show area on Google Earth.*
- C. Kenton:** *President Almli has not heard anything from forest service. Chris Van Arsdale, Houghton County Emergency Manager, said they have access to that tower and discussed ideas with Almli about what the site could potentially become. Forest Service would like a certified climber to do the work. It was discussed that the HAM clubs could pool their money and send a few people to climbing certification class. Cost could be up to \$1,000/person with continuing education.*
- 2. Ojibwa College update:** *No news. It was discussed that the college should be approached for spot for club house, EOC, meeting place. College may have some left over feed line from FEMA projects in years past.*
 - 3. Grants/Donors:** *Received \$1,000 from the Baraga County Community Foundation. They want to know how their money is being spent and would like a written statement in January for their meeting. BCRA will be publicly thanking them for their donation by placing it on the website, letter to the editor, PSA's on radio. BCRA is looking to by tower harness and other safety equipment. Foundation grants are the preferred way the club would like to get grants. Baraga County Chamber of Commerce will be holding a seminar on how to apply for community grants. Some Community Foundations give money to groups not founded in their county if club work is done in the county. Marquette HAM Club gave Almli some ideas on other possible grant opportunities.*
 - 4. Ham Swap update:** *4 new associate memberships from Iron River. Poster printer from Homestead Graphics. BCRA made money at swap. Two estate sales present anything left over will be sold at a garage sale. McClellan will look into it.*
 - 5. By Law Change:** *Complete. BCRA will meet the second Tuesday of the month unless changed.*
 - 6. ARES update:** *Everyone received an e-mail from the Baraga ARES google group. They wanted to let everyone know that they exist. E-mail should be sent over again. June 21, 2017 and exercise with Jeff Hubbard, shadowing him on an emergency. Could be a drill in Baraga. Chris Van Arsdale needs Bridgefest and Canal Run help. Bridgefest would be parade crossing guards, June 17-18. Canal Run needs HAM to relay messages due to many areas without cell coverage.*
 - 7. QSO party update:** *Gary Hansen from Bumbletown ran a QSO from Noon to Midnight. There were 5-6 people there most of the time. Over 40 contacts. Lots of problems. Antenna issues, not high enough. State Parks have QSO parks and would like HAMs to come in and set up. Is BCRA interested. VP McClellan asked if it would be wise to follow someone who has already done it before. All seemed to think that made good sense.*

New Business

- 1. Ham Classes:** *Next Classes run September 18-22. BCRA will be setting up the class guidelines and instructing. Consider printing test questions and answers.*
- 2. HoCo Road Commission Tower:** *Looking to get rid of tower in Duncan. 67 repeater might be gone if county gets rid of tower. BCRA, having a 501(c)3, could potentially have the clout to get tower cheaply, the tower has paying tenants on it. Wenona tower out of business. Very bad*

shape. Kerti is the Frequency Coordinator for the region. Insurance: some want to increase insurance from \$2 million to \$5 million coverage.

- 3. Misc.:** *Tower in Greenland used to be ship to shore. Commercial Navigator (Loran C) old technology, Almlie sent e-mail asking about tower condition. He Put Digipeater in, May be a home for .73 but BCRA get tower. She wants monetary compensation. Almlie will follow up this spring. May cost BCRA \$3,500 to get up to a viable situation. Hope to cut down some trees and put in solar panels. Should be helpful to Ontonagon Club. (Kenton)
CCRA meeting spoke about taking clubs and merging them but still some hesitation in some members. Looking to umbrella group that could join them in certain aspects. Northern club not compliant in filing paper work. Will need to pay back some tax fees to become legal again.*

Adjournment: *Meeting called to adjourn at 8:44pm by Mr. Brooks and seconded by VP McClellan.*

Dates to Remember: SKYWAR Training MTU ATDC Tuesday May 16, 6:30 pm

Next Meeting: Tuesday, June 13 7pm Ojibwa College

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

Mary Sears; KE8FEU

BCRA Secretary