

TIDELANDS AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

Minutes of Meeting February 9, 2017

The meeting was called to order by Cookie, K5EWJ, at 1900.

Those present were:

Cookie, K5EWJ (President)

Bo, KT1AA (Secretary)

John, WA5UUP

Curt, WB5UZZ

Rick, KE5BZE

John, KC5LAA

Wes, KF5UKF

Kenneth, NB9C

David, KE5PPF

Walt, W5ALT

John, WA5TCD

Louis, WB5BMB

That's 12 attendees.

Bo KT1AA read the minutes of the January 12, 2017 meeting. Curt WB5UZZ motioned to accept, Rick KE5BZE Seconded the Motion for January minutes. The minutes were approved as read.

Joe AA5OP Was not Present due to illness to provide the treasurer's report. The end of November bank account balance was \$13,166.53. There were transactions in December for: \$250.00 for Xmas Party, \$50.00 Tip, \$200.00 Cash Prizes, \$100.00 to Dave Young, so the end of December balance is also \$12,816.53.

We met in the Operations Conference Room due to CERT meeting in our normal meeting room.

Rick-KE5BZE reported results for Winter Field Day on January 28 and 29, 2017.

It was moved from the Texas City Flood Gates on Moses Lake to the Dike. Rick said there were 2 stations operating, 185 Contacts, 3 DX from Canada with an accumulation of 3576 points. Rick expressed his appreciation and wanted to Thank all whom volunteered and operated. Moving forward on future field days Rick would prefer not to operate but to let everyone else operate in reaching contacts, Rick is also reaching out for help Promoting Field Days for more participation.

Cookie K5EWJ stated that Rick KE5BZE and his wife provided the BBQ for the dinner during Winter Field Day and feels they should be reimbursed by TARS.

Cookie discussed some aspects of the field day:

Winter Field Day was not a very active contest, most contacts made on 160 and 20 meter.

Cookie mentioned that it was a great dress rehearsal for Summer Field Day,

Rick KE5BZE will be organizing the Summer Field Day and Cookie mentioned that setup could have been reviewed a little more for less interference between the stations and bands.

Cookie mention that Propagation was good on the Dike.

There was a brief discussion of how field day was planned in the past and how it compares today.

Cookie discussed how he wanted to make the club more active as President, discussed all of the old meeting locations and issues which led top here at the North County Bldg. Attendance has improved from around 7-8 to up to 20 at times.

John KC5LAA mentioned Joe AA5OP had secured the Highland Bayou Park if this is where we choose to have Summer Field Day, mentioned also that CW bands were better in summer than winter and that there was more activity on other bands as well.

There was a meeting recently about HamFest, no one present at this meeting that was present for that discussion but preliminary is that everything is on schedule and looking good.

Visitor- Walt Fair W5ALT, A member of the Straight Key Century Club, Recently Retired Petroleum Engineer and had an accident about 2 years ago.

New Member- Kenneth Kirkland NB9C, Lives in Galveston, works for City of Galveston as Supervisor of Island Transit.

Cookie mentioned DX possibilities on the Island and how he received money at one time for QSL cards from IODA contacts. He discussed also about the Saturday breakfast meetings at Napolitos on Texas Avenue in TC from 7am-9am.

There was a discussion on Packet Radio with Club Use and Exploration. Noted that today most DX Packet Clusters were routed through the internet.

Cookie mentioned he had worked 101 countries in 31 days.

Walt mentioned he did 100 countries in a weekend contest.

Discussed DXpeditions- 5 calls, 9 calls

Cookie mentioned in 1962 during his service time had a WB6 call.

There was discussion of digital modes and packet, echolink, dstar, irlp and psk31.

Cookie is interested in what TARS can do with digital modes.

I discussed to the extents of my knowledge with PSK31 and other digital modes.

Cookie discussed his experience with PSK31.

Curt WB5UZZ, informed us that digital modes help us make new contacts globally.

Louis WB5BMB explained GPS will give more than coordinates, it helps with APRS data.

Cookie discussed the difference between the Extra exams from 1976 and today.

Discussion on old systems and methods of operation along with discussion about the NWS.

John KC5LAA Motioned to Adjourn, Rick KE5BZE seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 2050.

The next meeting will be at the North County Building on Thursday, March 9, 2017.

s/ Bo, KT1AA
Recording Secretary