

Rural Iowa Radio Club

January 4, 2023, Meeting Minutes

The Rural Iowa Radio Club met in regular session on Monday, January 4, 2023 at the Fayette library located in Fayette, Iowa at 6:30 pm.

In Attendance: Eric Grams, Dan Bonjour, Jeff Hughes, Hal Wilson, Jeff Smith,

Treasurer's Report

The report was presented by **Jeffrey Hughes**, Club Treasurer for the period from December 9, 2023 to January 4, 2024.

Treasurer's report stated that the beginning balance in the club checking account was \$849.73. The ending balance was \$1,074.83. Total receipts for the period amounted to \$225.10. There were no disbursements.

Club President's comments

The president informed members that the trailer registration was due. He paid the \$40.25 to the Fayette County Treasurer's Office in early December. He also informed the membership that a \$35 FCC renewal fee was due. That was paid and posted in the account on January 9.

President asked members for input on their desired start time for meetings at the library. He mentioned that the key would need to be picked up at 5pm.

Old Business

None

New Business

1.) *Members discussed ideas for presentation topics at future meetings:*

- **Weather spotter program.** March 25 class in Waukon @ the Fire Station (Time TBD). Requirements will be customized to local geography. No certification will be provided. Mostly just information will be shared.
- **General overview.** In June we do trailer work. In July we participate in the Fayette County fair.
- Eric mentioned a possible topic could be the setup of digital modes. He stated that it would be helpful to show the process from scratch.
- Hal mentioned that he would like to see more in depth discussion of Weather Watch. Talk on APRS.
- Eric said he would like to see a presentation on smartphone apps for HAM use.
- Dan asked if everybody was familiar with WinLink?
- Dick asked that we consider covering how the net works. Hal took the opportunity to mention that he would like to see everyone run the net at some point.
- Admin matter from Eric. He will send out an Email listing with club members on it. The list may need some work.

2.) *Upcoming Events discussion*

June 22 & 23: Field Day. Showcase capabilities to the public. Stir up potential interest in the club & hobby. Feel free to bring your own equipment.

July 23-27 County Fair: Get their actual schedule ahead of time. (It is printed 4 months in advance.) In preparation for the fair we need to develop a program to gain kids attention.

RAGBRI: We may be called upon to assist. Route announcement will come out in late January. We may have to split into two teams.

3.) *General discussion*

Trailer improvement idea discussion: Installation of a whiteboard.
Eric emphasized the need to get out and do events...not just hold meetings.

October: Simulated Emergency exercise.

January: Use this time frame to reach out to area organizations to let them know that we are here.

Eric: Trying to set up a Google share site.

Evening Presentation by Dan Bonjour

Talked about different types of chest pack harnesses that are available to help carry various handheld radios. He also discussed GMRS and pointed out that no tests were required to obtain a license for these.

Closing discussion topics

- Dan mentioned that shirts are available. They cost around \$50. Embroidery services are available at Galls. He suggested having a summer family restaurant gathering.
- Eric discussed the Incident Command System at recent 'Active Shooter' incident in Perry.

Adjournment time was not noted as secretary had to leave early.

Accepted as read at club meeting on February 1, 2024

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Hughes
Rural Iowa Radio Club Secretary