

Western Tidewater Radio Association

Minutes for 4th Quarter Meeting on November 9, 2015

I. Opening

1. On Monday November 9, 2015, the Western Tidewater Radio Association convened for the 4th quarter meeting for calendar year 2015 at Main Street Restaurant in Smithfield. Meeting was called to order by Vice President Randy Grigg, WB4KZI. 25 members and guests were present. See attendance list below*
2. Randy WB4KZI call for a motion to approve the August meeting minutes, by 1st Stu WA4JUO, 2nd Dean WB4GUH and approved by the members in attendance.
3. Dick W4RBH, call for a motion to approve treasurers' report by 1st Lyle N4ACK 2nd Alan KK4UCQ and approved by the members in attendance.
 - a. \$3026.16 currently in the bank account.
 - b. \$1886.75 available for the WTRA club.
 - c. VE fund reserve is \$556.72.
4. Repeater report Dick W4RBH.
 - a. The VHF repeater recently had the fan control circuit on the Henry Radio amplifier fail. The amp was replaced with a back-up amp. RF output is down about 15 watts.
 - b. Ron N4TJI, has placed a temporary UHF repeater on the air running about 9 watts into its duplexer. This has allowed Ron to do some initial programming of the ARCOM RC-210 controller and allowed us to complete antenna coverage tests.
 - c. Funds were approved at the August meeting to allow the purchase of items necessary to complete the ARCOM RC-210 controller and to allow the controller to be interfaced to the Yaesu Fusion DR-1X repeaters. According the following items have been purchased
 - i. One RAD 3 port audio delay board
 - ii. One RTC Real time clock
 - iii. Two ADR interfaces
 - iv. Total cost was \$494.95
 - v. One additional item remains to be purchased and this is the API autopatch for ~\$179.
 - d. One Yaesu Fusion DR-1X repeater has been received. Apparently Yaesu only approved us for one unit at the significantly reduced price. We will continue watching for another offer from Yaesu.

- e. On November 8th Chris Peters N4KIT, completed interface work between the Yaesu Fusion DR-1X repeater and the ARCOM RC-210 controller. The repeater is now on the air from his workshop.
 - f. Also on November 8th Randy WB4KZI and Dick W4RBH, picked up the 4-cavity duplexer that Hampton Emergency Services donated to us. The duplexer had been tuned to our frequencies and physically refurbished by Charlie Stokes.
 - g. On November 9th Randy WB4KZI and Dick W4RBH, set audio and deviation levels.
 - h. The club has a couple of mounting and cabling issues to finish working through and once these are completed the new WT4RA 442.825 +tone 100 Hz repeater will be on the air.
5. Chris N4KIT ARES/RACES
- a. 46 volunteers on the Isle of Wight County roster.
 - b. Training is needed for the group.
 - c. When UHF repeater is back on air this will be our activation repeater.
 - d. Future goal is to have a station at the Town of Windsor administration office in addition to the middle school station.
 - e. Ray W4IOW, pointed out that antennas are mounted at the Windsor police station that were originally at the Isle of Wight EOC.
 - f. Dean WB4GUH, reported that Surry County has broken ground on the 350 foot tower installation.
 - g. Randy WB4KZI, proposed to offer amateur radio technician training classes in Southampton County to promote amateur.

II. Old Business

- a. None

III. New Business

1. Randy WB4KZI, recognized Chris N4KIT and Lyle N4ACK for their excellent effort on the WTRA website!
2. Glen KA7HBH, informed the club about Veteran's Day Wednesday Eyeball QSO on November 11th 8:30AM at Dairy Queen in Windsor.
3. Jo Weaver is offering anyone interested in Fred's antennas, to please come her house on Sunday November 15th from 1 PM to 4 PM, rain date is Sunday November 22nd from 1 PM to 4 PM.

4. Stu WA4JUO, proposed and requested permission to sponsor a Southeastern Amateur Radio Picnic on a Saturday in April 2016 at the Nike Park, which includes a request for \$200 expense funds. 1st by Dick W4RBH, 2nd by Dean WB4GUH and approved by members in attendance.
5. Stu WA4JUO, as election committee chairman discussed the upcoming election and proposed selections for the slate of officers.
6. Randy WB4KZI, reminded everyone of the Christmas party on Saturday December 19th at 6 PM at the Villas of Smithfield. Glen KA7HBH, will coordinate the Christmas party.
7. Randy WB4KZI, HOTA Award will be presented at the Christmas party, selection of the winner is decided by the last 3 recipients.
8. Stu WA4JUO, announced that the National Weather Service special station event during the 1st weekend in December and welcomes operators to come participate at the weather station in Wakefield. Details to be posted on the club website.

IV. Program

1. Randy WB4KZI facilitated a, "Ham Radio Show and Tell".

V. Motion to Adjourn the Meeting

1. Approved by Lyle N4ACK, and 2nd by Chris N4KIT.

*** Attendance List:**

Randy WB4KZI	Ray W4IOW
Dean WB4GUH	Don WB4BYR
Sheryl KG4ZCR	Stu WA4JUO
Greg K4MZR	Lyle N4ACK
Candy XYL	Nina XYL
Dick W4RBH	Arthur KM4EBT
Herb KF4RYN	Jo KG4ZGC
Ron W4RRH	Butch W4DXZ
Anne W4AJH	Glen KA7HBH
Robert KM4MCZ	Grace XYL
Alan KK4UCQ	Chris N4KIT
Darlene KM4ABS	Brenda W4BJP
Rob KJ4HMZ	