

# AJARC

## Meeting Minutes July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Location: Old Oak Tap Room

Present: 27 Members, 0 guests,

Bryan Smith (AA4BS)-President, Larry Whiteside (KN4MVH)-Sec/Treasurer

Next meeting: Tuesday, August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 19:00, Old Oak Tap Room

### Meeting

The meeting was called to order, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, and a prayer provided by Larry White (AG4OB.)

#### 1. Roll call of attendees/call signs

#### 2. Secretary/Treasurer report

Larry Whiteside Recap of decisions/motions from the June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023 meeting. Covered 4 item from the last meeting: Field day and food, USFS comments, Nominations committee was formed and the moving of the July meeting from the 4<sup>th</sup> to July 6<sup>th</sup> as a special meeting

Larry Whiteside (KN4MVH)-Sec/Treasurer report: **Checking balance: June 30, 2023 is \$7661.28**

**Deposits:** \$555.17 (\$297 Dues, \$121 donations, \$15 decal sales, .79 interest from APEX Bank)

**Expenses** totaled \$5648.01 (GEA of \$33.00, \$461.07 for field day (\$90 Kinser Park Field day, \$279.97 food, \$70.10 fuel, \$21 for fuel), \$2551.44 for new generator for tower trailer, \$2602.50 ARRL F grant). Note: All funds have been spent that were earmarked for the ARRL F except for \$2.27.

Currently, we have 69 members, 23 members would be quorum. Five members need to renew their memberships.

Renew through PayPal or by check. If you have questions about your membership please contact Larry Whiteside at [KN4MVH@gmail.com](mailto:KN4MVH@gmail.com). Minutes are on the website for review. Please check on your membership on the AJARC.org web site.

Asset Tags: During field day, Larry worked with Abner, tagged the antennas, coax and a number of items on the tower trailer (generator, tool boxes, and Trailer), a few more things were later identified and will be tagged at some point. Additional, I have begun tagging ARRL F equipment but still need to finish up stuff at the Greeneville Makers Space.

Larry reported that ARRL Dues survey results were out.

Here is a list of current committees/committee members based on review of past meeting minutes for the last 2-3 years. Just wanted to confirm these names and committee assignment. If there are errors we can discuss during the committee agenda items.

Fire Tower Committee:

Bob Gass (N4FV), Dennis Holt (N4DWH, Bryan Smith (AA4BS), Denny Dunn (KN4AYP), and Ian Bible (KE4EAC)

Educational Committee:

(Bryan Smith (AA4BS), Ian Bible (KE4EAC), Steve Bible (N7HPR), Larry Whiteside (KN4MVH), Bob Etheridge (KM4EBZ), Chris Gass(N4CAG)

Fox Hunt Committee:

(Bryan Smith (AA4BS), Dennis Holt (N4DWH), Scott Bird (KM4FYJ)

Nominations Committee members:

(Larry White (AG4OB), Kyle Fortenberry (AE4DF) and Larry Whiteside (KN4MVH)

Fall Swap meeting/Fox Hunt members: Bob Gass (N4FV), Fox Hunt committee,

### 3. Old business:

Towers / repeaters Committee: Bob Gass(N4FV),Dennis Holt (N4DWH, Bryan Smith (AA4BS), Denny Dunn(KN4AYP), and Ian Bible (KE4EAC): Bryan and Larry Whiteside visited the tower with USFS, Bryan worked on getting all radios working but need to limit to 2m and 70m units. Bryan (AA4BS) reports that there are some pieces of equipment that we need to buy. Bryan will be presenting the specs for the equipment and costs to get all the repeaters working and to isolate them from each other. He presented an estimated cost to buy two MFJ power supplies and new charge controller to get the radios back up and running. **Larry (AG4OB) made a motion to spend up to \$500 plus whatever shipping costs will be to buy the equipment and it was seconded by Elijah (KQ4FNY).** Bob Gass raised the point that we currently don't have a backup 2m antenna as it was damaged over the winter and wanted to know about replacing the backup. He didn't have a firm cost to replace it or the parts needed to fix it. This item was tabled until the next meeting.

Educational Committee (Bryan Smith (AA4BS), Ian Bible (KE4EAC), Steve Bible (N7HPR) , Larry Whiteside (KN4MVH), Bob Etheridge (KM4EBZ), Chris Gass(N4CAG): Bryan (AA4BS) reported the committed approved spending the remaining funds from the ARRL-F grant. Bryan reported that the MOU has been signed.

ARRL Foundation Grant Status Report (Steven Bible-N7HPR): Steve reported on his meeting where he met with administrators from Walters State Community College and Niswonger Foundation to discuss opportunities for the Amateur Radio STEM program for the academic year 2024. There are two with WS, the Talented and Gifted (TAG) program and Summer Camp. And one with Niswonger Foundation, Teacher Professional Development. They have funding from a number of sources to pay for the projects. A new 8 week started July 6<sup>th</sup> at the Makers space and we had 12 kids of which 4 were new. Kids used the snap circuits to help them understand electricity and built a battery out of lemons. On July 12<sup>th</sup>, there will be another electronics group meetup at the Makers space at 6pm. Attendees will be challenged with some kits to build stuff without instructions.

VFW Johnson City communication equipment: Bryan (AA4BS) reported that now that field is past, he will begin working on this project. More details to follow.

Field day - June 24-25, 2023: Results, equipment issues or other concerns were discussed during the meeting. Did anyone loose or find extra equipment when they got home. Club is missing 100ft of the RG8X gray coax cable. The piece of coax that was thought to be Dave Houser was not and most likely, Abner has it. Field day pins were provided to club members that contributed to field day. Some of those that received pins were Matt (K4MBD), Joe (N4JAB), Elijah (KQ4FNY), David (WA9OTP), Steve (N7HPR), Charlie (K4CMF) and Ian (KE4EAC).

USFS Meeting on the use permit: Bryan and Larry met with USFS staff out of Mars Hill NC office. We met at the fire tower on Friday, June 16<sup>th</sup> at noon. They reviewed our equipment, bands that were working on and looked at the condition of the facility. Bryan purchased a first aid kit and a fire extinguisher for the fire tower. John Parker from the CERI University of Memphis attended the meeting. They want us to provide our club radio license information

and our IRS tax info, along with our bylaws and constitution. They seemed optimistic that we could get another use permit. They were appreciative of our work to keep the area around the tower maintained.

Fall swap meet discussion: Discussion centered on October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023 for the event and Bryan will reach out to school about the availability of the facility.

Nomination committee (Larry White (AG4OB), Kyle Fortenberry (AE4DF) and Larry Whiteside (KN4MVH): We have not met yet. If anyone is interested in serving in a leadership position, please contact any of the committee members

Skywarn: Kyle Fortenberry has expressed an interest in being the Greene County Coordinator but we have not heard if it's finalized.

Fox Hunt Committee (Bryan Smith (AA4BS), Dennis Holt (N4DWH), Scott Bird (KM4FYJ): Bryan is now part of a fox hunt group that maintains an email list of hunters and events.

#### **New Business**

Matt (K4MBD) reported that he has SDR system set up. More information to follow.

Rob Robinette (K9OJ) reported that he has a new M17 digital voice and FM Analog (T141.3) 444.6 +5 repeater. He posted a possible coverage map for the new M17 digital voice and FM Analog (T141.3) 444.6 +5 repeater on the AJARC Facebook page. It was coordinated by [SERA.org](https://sera.org). He is thinking the map maybe a little optimistic.

Several club members are going to use the tower trailer at a Skeeter Hunt on Aug 27<sup>th</sup> at the Hunt and Fish club from 1-5 pm as part of QRP event – MJQRP. (<https://www.qsl.net/w2lj/>)

Bob (N4FV) wanted to let everyone know that he is helping dispose of Todd Banner's radio estate and see Bob if you are interested in some of the items.

#### **4. Roundtable**

Motion to adjourn by: Ian (KE4EAC)

Meeting adjourned time: 19:40