

Minutes of the Bluefield, WV's East River Amateur Radio Club held on September 07, 2020. <http://www.erarc.com>

Local emergency HF freq: 3.860+-5. Skywarn / ARES local simplex freq: 146.53. We meet at [704 Bland St. Bluefield, WV](#) on the first Monday of each month. Our backup meeting location is at the Princeton, WV. Burger King. President Matt Morris KC8LGS, VP. Keith Jennings AD8L, Treasurer Mike Clemons KM4UCR, Secretary George "Hooger" Fisher III W4OF, Webmaster David Lester N8VFR

The meeting was opened by Matt Morris KC8LGS, ERARC President at 700pm. He welcomed all 13 members present as well as 3 online via ZOOM. Also present were: Terry Owen KO4GYC from Bluefield, Va., Bill Williams KK4EWT and Kathy Williams K4NIT from Christiansburg, Va.

Hooger Fisher W4OF read the minutes from the August 3rd meeting. They were approved.

Mike Clemons KM4UCR gave the Treasurer's report. He paid APCO \$12.76 and deposited \$30 in dues and \$35.65 from Amazon Smile. Keith Jennings AD8L said that Mike Clemons needs to be reimbursed for purchasing the Alpha Delta DX-DD (~\$135.00), feedline and connectors. The purchases had been approved at earlier meetings. (Don Anderson WD8OOR is still taking care of his wife Connie KB8NMB who is still very ill. We need to keep Connie, Don and John Riddle N8RIG in our prayers.)

Repeater report: Jay Belt K8CTI said that he's pretty sure that the repeaters are working OK. The Alpha Delta DX-DD 40-80M HF antenna has been installed by Mike Clemons, Jay Belt, Nelson Linkous WZ8E and Keith Jennings. Jaiden Borich K4NFP said that his 440 repeater is still off the air.

Skywarn: Keith gave KC8LGR Roger Stefancic's report. 'The Blacksburg NWS activated Skywarn on August 25 which included the Bluefield 145.49 repeater.' Ben Williams said that there is a Roanoke Skywarn net on the 146.745.

DMR: Net every Tuesday at 0730pm on local Bluefield talk group 9.

ARES report: Charles Priest KN4OOH, Mercer County, WV EC, reported that he forgot about the last ARES net and apologized. The next net will be on September 17th at 0730pm on the 147.06 repeater.

Volunteer Examiner report: Keith Jennings. noted that the VE test session on August 8 produced 7 out of 8 successful new Hams and/or upgrades. Congrats to Terry Owen, new Technician and upgrade to General by Jaiden Borich. The next test session will be on November 17, 9am at the 704 Bland St. location. There will be an Elmer class after our meeting tonight.

**Old business:** Greg Dominguez AF8GD is working to get Echolink back on the air and will possibly get it located at one of the repeater sites. Discussion. Ben Williams made a motion, seconded by Charles Priest to delay installation until details can be worked out. The vote passed. Greg also said that we need

to move some of the equipment at the 911 Center to 704 Bland St. We are not abandoning the 911 Center at all but need this move.

Keith: Now on the roof is the Alpha Delta DX-DD 40-80M antenna and are going to install a vertical for all other HF bands. We are looking for donations of 2m/440 antenna(s) to complete the antenna farm. Gary Kadar N8GK said that he may have a 2M antenna. When installed, the Alpha Delta tuned up fine, according to Nelson Linkous who was using his Nano VNA antenna analyzer. The first contact was with two guys from New Jersey and New York who were rag chewing. Nelson asked for a signal report and they responded with 59 and 59+.

New business: Hooger mentioned to that Jamboree on the Air is going to be on October 17, 2020 but the local Scouting District has not yet made a decision to hold their annual Fall Camporee during that weekend.

Matt mentioned that September is the time to nominate officers for the upcoming year. The current officers have offered to maintain their current duties. Nominations are still open. Voting will take place at the November meeting.

The meeting was over at 0742pm.

<<<We are currently accepting dues for the upcoming year. \$15 per Ham and \$1 additional for each Ham at the same address. >>>

The 'to do' list:

- (1) Possible auction/sale on excess equipment at the 911 Center
- (2) The year 2020 is the Club's 60th year of being incorporated. Celebration?
- (3) HF antenna for 80M repair/replacement at the 911 Center
- (4) APRS back on the air
- (5) Echolink back on the air

The meeting was over at 0755pm.

Submitted by Hooger Fisher W4OF, ERARC Secretary. ERARC [P.O. Box 1362 Bluefield, WV 24701](mailto:ERARC@w8mop.com)

*Repeated information here: "Charles Priest KN4OOH was asked about the REMIND DOT COM program. He said that as a music professor, he uses <http://www.remind.com> for notifying his students of changes in meeting times, locations, etc. He said that we can use this free service for Club members to be notified of just about anything. **(To partake in this service, text " @w8mop " to 81010. The system will text you back and asks your name. You can use your name or callsign or both. The system will then text you back and the rest is easy to follow. Your phone number WILL NOT be displayed anywhere. )***