

Minutes 01/2024

Paul GXD was standing up, ready for the pledge a good 30 seconds before club Pres Derek TYG started it. Four of the 27 people attending were on Zoom (W0AF, FJR, QGD, and RLR).

Derek	W0TYG	Manny	KFOIWE	
w/Doug	Wendy	Chris	Norm	WA0JYD
Keith	KE0AEP	Kevin	N0MHK	
Don	W0AF	Dell	KF0NSP	
Gerhard	NZ0B	Joel	KE0QGD	
and Elke	KFOKEH	John	KB0QKH	
Bruce	N0BHB	Bob	K0RJE	
Chris	KF0FBL	Rick	KA0RLR	
Bill	KD0FJR	Rich	K0RWJ	
Greg	N0GR	Dan	KB0TDW	
Mark	KF0GVT	Dennis	WA0VJL	
Paul	WB0GXD	Rich	WA0ZQG	
Rick	KF0IQL		(27)	

Program was the new requirement to calculate **Radiation Exposure** for your station. Our newsletter Editor, Rich RWJ had a slide show to help, explaining you need these four things, your (1) Max power (2) Freq (3) dBi of antenna, and (4) Mode, and the easy way to do it is an online calculator (search ARRL.org for **RF calculator**)



Sitting on your deck within a couple feet of the antenna might be a problem unless you take into account the radiation pattern might be mostly above the ground plane (see pic above).

Using 50W of FM and a 6.5 dBi antenna you need to keep people more than 5 or 8 ft away from the antenna. (Two categories depending on where your antenna is.)

John QKH, who works at Ch. 6 downtown asked, "Hey, what if it's 66kW 12 hundred feet up with a 15 dB gain antenna on 522 Mc?" The answer is 662 ft. or less than half way up the tower. Considering the other 2 TV stations and several FM transmitters in NW Omaha, you'd be well advised to go no closer than Dave N0JSB's house half a mile West of that commercial tower site.

Business Meeting

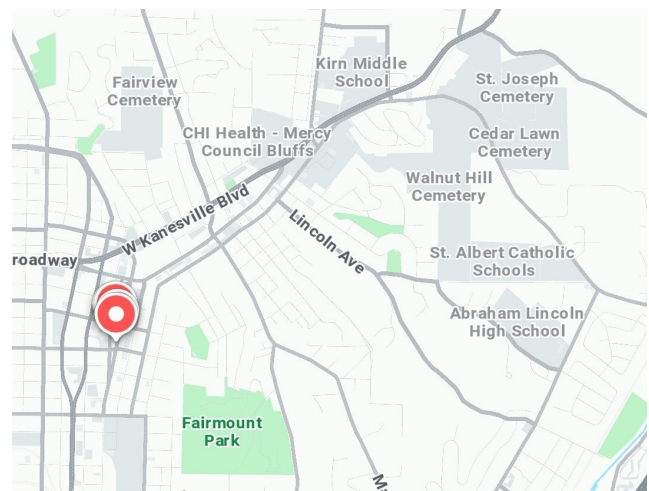
Minutes of our last meeting (November) were approved as printed, and the new Treasurer reported just a dollar more (\$2,780) in the bank. There were multiple transactions, in and out, with the net result nearly unchanged. The report was accepted, subject to audit.

These guys renewed their membership for 2024, giving twenty dollar bills to the Treasurer.

Bruce	N0BHB		
Chris	KF0FBL	Kevin	N0MHK
Mark	KF0GVT	Dell	KF0NSP
Rick	KF0IQL	Rich	K0RWJ
Manny	KFOIWE	Dennis	WA0VJL

Repeater

Station Trustee Chris FBL said the UHF .225 is working well while the VHF .82 continues on the 'Lifeboat' system, both at Memorial Park a mile plus East of downtown Council Bluffs near St. Albert High School.



Map shows CoBlfs City Hall on left to St Albert school right middle

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Minutes 01/24 (cont.)

McClelland Hamfest

Usually the first Saturday in March, that's the 2nd day of the month this year, out at McClelland IA, 10 mi. East of Co/Blfs from 8AM to a little past Noon. Still five (\$5) bucks to get in and \$12 for tables.

Les KB0KFK of **D&L Antenna** will be there, and Joel QGD is handling the kitchen (coffee and doughnuts). Rick RLR says he'll bring a couple dozen doughnuts for the 'DX Coffee Shop'.

The main door prize is a five hundred dollar **Yaesu FTM 500** dual band mobile transceiver.

Field Day 2024

Keith AEP will be our F/Day Chairman this year. He did it for us 2 years ago at Lake Manawa, and then chaired Omaha last year (while we had no chairman and therefore, no F/Day event.) Keith says he wants to do it at **Manawa** again, and all without costing the club anything. Keith wants the emphasis on fun while also racking up a few points. He's also concerned about a safe venue and likes Manawa for that reason.

New Business

Don W0AF related a problem renewing his license which had expired. What used to be free for us is now thirty (\$35) five bucks, but in Don's case cost him seventy. Don't let your license expire!

Don also has a 2M contest to run, any mode, SSB included, with points for distance, but most importantly, has to be confirmed contacts and You are responsible for getting them confirmed. Don is finishing the rules with input from local clubs.

Club Pres Derek TYG again asked for a member to volunteer to be Secretary this year, but there was no response. (Last year's Sec'y said he will continue for a couple months only.)

Announcements

The USAF at Offutt AFB is scheduling a show for August 2024. Keith AEP and Don W0AF expressed interest in an information table as we did several years ago (before the Chinese virus).

Last time we were right next to a heavy duty outdoor speaker. It'd be nice to be in a quieter spot with a secure area for an antenna or two.

Greg N0GR and John QKH have together put up Greg's UHF repeater right next to John's work downtown at TV Ch. 6 where our .225 used to be although a few hundred feet lower atop the office building next door. It's 444.075 with a 136 PL tone. Good location for Omaha and CoBlfs.

Meeting adjourned 8:14PM.

Minutes by temp Sec'y, Rich WA0ZQG