

Minutes 03/2024

Pres Derek TYG called the meeting to order at 7PM and proceeded with the pledge to the flag. Present were these 21 individuals, eager to play a SWIARC version of Jeopardy presented by Paul.

Derek	W0TYG	Dale	W0HMO
Allen	K0AAI	Manny	KF0IWE
Keith	KE0AEP	Norm	WA0JYD
Don	W0AF	Dell	KF0NSP
Bruce	N0BHB	Rick	KA0RLR
Brian	KF0CJE	Rich	K0RWJ
Bill	KD0FJR	Dan	KB0TDW
Greg	N0GR	Bill	N0WWA
Mike	KF0GVU	Craig	KD0YTI
& Ruth		Rich	WA0ZQG
Paul	W0GXD	(21)	

Paul had chosen categories of SWIARC history, plus a couple of tech columns, ARL questions, and some on Morse code like, What does 'FB' stand for in Samuel F. B. Morse's name? Greg N0GR knew Finley Breese. ZQG was the only one other than Paul who knew the previous name of SWIARC. Radio Communications and Electronic Training Club of Southwest Iowa. (Probably because he had the 4 ft diameter wood sign in his garage for a decade or two.)

A tech question threw everybody including Paul, What's the ERP of a Tx running 50W with 1.5dB coax loss, and a 6dB gain antenna? Answ. 50 minus ~30% and then times 4 equals 140W out.

Bill FJR answered 5 questions correctly with Don W0AF, Greg N0GR, and ZQG close behind. It was a great game. Thanks Paul.

Business Meeting

ZQG presented printed Minutes from last month, and a double barreled Treasurer's report. Both were approved – the Treasury subject to audit. Some details of the finances:

Hamfest kitchen	\$183 (-73)	\$	110
Admissions (all profit)			605
Table rent income			253
Door prizes	\$840 (-470)		370
Hall rental		-	250
Net profit (incl 4 dues)		\$	1,088

Treasurer's report continues:

Monthly Treas. Report

previous bal.	\$ 2,960
ARL insurance	- 200
McClelland hall rent	- 250
dues (before the Flea)	+ 147
Gross rec. at McClelland	+ 1,881
Current balance	\$ 4,538

Repeater

Paul GXD, in absence of Chris FBL who is in California, said our UHF .225 repeater has not been hearing well so he did some checking with help from John KB0QKH. Measuring losses from the hardline through assorted parts to the repeater receiver, they found 2.1dB loss in a coax jumper cable; 4.1dB loss through the cans, and 1.5dB in the DCI band pass filter. The filter spec says half a dB, not 1 ½.

Much of the loss was corrected by cleaning corroded connectors. John QKH supplied a new jumper cable. Rich ZQG jumped up to state he now sells custom jumper cables, IBM blue coax with silver plated center conductor; quad shield as with RG-213, and gold plated connectors he got from Les KFK of D&L Antenna.

Our VHF .82 repeater 'lifeboat system' consists of the .22 Rx out at IWCC; a UHF link, and .82 Tx at the same Memorial Park site as .225, but with merely 10W to an omni antenna atop the shack. If that sounds weak, yeah sorta. We need a good site for .82.

Field Day

The site isn't settled yet. FDay Chair Keith AEP prefers the Lake Manawa site as we had 2 years ago, but the accomodative park ranger has moved on. Another possible site is Bob WORJE's house 5 miles North of the Sugar's Saturday breakfast location way past Cow Patty's.

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Minutes 03/2024 (cont.)

Old Business

Our McClelland Hamfest, run by Derek TYG, was a great success (with numerous volunteers like Joel QGD and Suz WYL in the kitchen, Craig YTI taking admissions, Derek handling the door prizes, and several others helping set up, take down, clean-up, and loading Les' antenna truck).

The only door prize we paid for was \$470 for the Yaesu FTM 500 won by Dell NSP who bought \$5 worth of tickets. Jay W0ENX donated all the antennas. Winner list not available at press time. Pic of Dell NSP with the Yaesu dual band is on the SWIARC site – SWradio dot org.



Don W0AF holds the Discone antenna he won at McClelland.

We never did elect a club Secretary last year, but finally did this month. Only one person said Yes when nominated, and we elected Bill KD0FJR by acclamation. (ZQG has been doing Minutes in the interim.)

New Business

Derek TYG said we have to renew our Zoom App if we want to keep using it. \$122 for the next year. Someone suggested WhatsApp for a substitute, but it does not work for larger groups as we have with several on the screen. Expense approved on a motion by GXD and 2nd by JYD.

ZQG motioned to allow up to \$20 each month for printed Minutes (payable to club Sec'y). After some discussion, there was no second.

Treasurer ZQG then announced that after much help counting (Chris FBL and Craig YTI) cash at the Hamfest and depositing it at the bank that there was \$27 cash left over (which messed up his nicely balanced Hamfest results). After some discussion during which the Treasurer said he could make the problem disappear, we awarded the cash to the new club Secretary to use making print copies for distribution at the meetings.

In more of 'New Business' the Treasurer said he is moving out of town in a month. Pursuant to our Club Constitution, we nominated several people to fill out the 2024 Treasurer's term, but none accepted. Unable to resolve the problem, it was tabled until next month. Craig YTI who along with Greg N0GR remains on the bank's list of club representatives, will sign checks in the interim.

We adjourned the meeting at 8:35 PM.

Minutes by acting Club Sec'y, WA0ZQG