

Athens County Amateur Radio Association

Minutes of the meeting of October 15, 2013 – amended

In Attendance:

John Biddle	W8PG
Don Carter	KA8PJQ
Jim Crouse	KC8OVB
Carl Denbow	N8VZ
John McCutcheon	N8XWO
Drew McDaniel	W8MHV
Eric McFadden	WD8RIF
Robert Moore	KC8KSM
John Thomas	KC8JWZ

Following the social gathering at 7:00pm the meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by President Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, and asked the assembled members to introduce themselves.

President Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, announced that he will be henceforth be changing the order of the meeting, placing the Program at the beginning of the meeting in the hope that this will allow for a shorter business meeting.

Program: Live Line Safely Demonstration”, a 30-minute film by AEP, provided by John Biddle, W8PG.

In the absence of Secretary Hans Hake, KD8NLI, the minutes of the September 17, 2013 meeting were distributed by President Eric McFadden, WD8RIF. John McCutcheon, N8XWO, made a motion that the minutes be accepted; the motion was seconded by Drew McDaniel, W8MHV. The vote passed without dissent.

Treasurer Jim Crouse, KC8OVB, distributed the financial report. The club currently has \$1,221.35 in unencumbered funds. Jim reported that the club sent flowers to the hospital room of the husband of Connie Hamilton, N8IO, who was badly injured in a fall on October 9. Jim also reported that the invoice for Field Day catering by Constantine Faller’s Athens’ Own and that Jim has paid the \$68.70 bill. Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, thanked John McCutcheon, N8XWO, for his generous donation which allowed Athens’ Own to cater at Field Day. Carl Denbow, N8VZ, moved that the report be accepted; the motion was seconded by John McCutcheon, N8XWO. The vote was passed without dissent.

Old Business

ACARA 145.15 MHz Repeater

VHF Repeater Trustee Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, reported the repeater appears to be working well.

Old Business (cont'd)

ACARA Linked 440MHz Repeater at Athens 9-1-1 Site

In the absence of UHF Repeater Trustee Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, Eric McFadden reported that the 440 machine appears to have an intermittent receiver problem.

Run Like Hell 5K Costume Run for Cystic Fibrosis – Saturday, October 19

On behalf of Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, Eric McFadden reported that the ACARA will be providing communications support for the upcoming “Run Like Hell 5K Run for Cystic Fibrosis” on the evening of Saturday, October 19. Runner check-in starts at 7:30pm. The Run starts at 8:30 and should be finished by 9:30. The Run starts at the end of Mill Street and proceeds along the bike path. Communications will be on 146.400MHz simplex. Members should expect an email from Jeff with more details.

Eric distributed communications vests to those present who plan to participate in the event.

Bobcat Trail Marathon – Sunday, November 3, 2013

On behalf of Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, Eric McFadden reported that the ACARA will be providing communications support for the upcoming “Bobcat Trail Marathon” around Burr Oak Lake. The race begins at 7am; close-in operators need to be on-station by 6:30am or 6:45am. Communications will be on 146.400MHz simplex. Members should expect an email from Jeff with more details.

New Business

Athens Marathon – Sunday, April 13, 2014

Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, announced that the date of the 2014 running of the Athens Marathon has been set. The ACARA will again be providing communications support to this event.

New Business (cont'd)

Election of Officers for 2014

While the membership watched, Jim Crouse, KC8OVB, opened and counted the ballots. Eighteen ballots were received; no ballots contained write-ins.

Jim Crouse, KC8OVB, moved that the ballot count be accepted; John Biddle, W8PG, seconded the motion. The vote passed without dissent.

The following members were elected for officer positions for 2014:

President	Eric McFadden, WD8RIF
Vice-President	Drew McDaniel, W8MHV
Secretary	Jan Slattery, KD8PUJ
Treasurer	Jim Crouse, KC8OVB
Newsletter Editor	Hans Hake, KD8NLI
Webmaster	Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ
Packet Node Trustee	Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ
VHF Repeater Trustee	Eric McFadden, WD8RIF

Club Construction/Education Project

One ballot included a comment: "I'd like to have some construction projects that a number of us could do together. These construction projects should include learning the theory behind the circuits being worked on." The suggestion was met with approval from the assembled members and discussion ensued over possible projects. Drew McDaniel, W8MHV, suggested the president appoint a committee to come up with ideas to present to the club at a later meeting. President Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, asked Carl Denbow, N8VZ, and Drew McDaniel if they would serve on this committee; both agreed.

New Business (cont'd)

ACARA Holiday Dinner

Jim Crouse, KC8OVB, suggested it was time to determine a date and location for the ACARA Holiday Dinner. Jim reported that the 3rd Tuesday in December is the 17th which the assembled members agreed is probably a good date for the dinner.

Drew McDaniel, W8MHV, reported that Lui Lui has changed management. Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, will contact Lui Lui to see if the new management is interested in hosting the Holiday Dinner.

Drew McDaniel suggested Gigi's in The Plains might be willing to host the Holiday Dinner. He will contact them.

Eric McFadden reported that if neither Lui Lui nor Gigi's can host the Holiday Dinner, the Executive Committee will chose a venue and will notify the membership.

Repair of APRS Digipeater Radio

Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, reported that Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, had paid \$107.50 for the repair of the ailing ICOM IC-2100 that had been serving as the APRS and had submitted the bill to the club last month. Jeff had stated that if the club decided against reimbursing him for the repair, he'd be happy to keep the radio for his EMCOMM Go-Box.

Jim Crouse, KC8OVB, stated that the repair cost of the IC-2100 is over half the cost of purchasing a new IC-2300H.

Eric McFadden suggested four possible options:

1. Reimburse Jeff and club keeps radio; the club currently has three ICOM 2m mobile rigs in WD8RIF's garage.
2. Don't reimburse Jeff but sell him the "broken" radio at some nominal amount--\$30?
3. Reimburse Jeff and sell the repaired radio to a club member through a "silent auction" with the requirement that minimum bid be the cost of the repair.
4. Reimburse Jeff; give the radio away via random drawing after selling enough tickets to cover cost of repair. Eleven tickets at \$10/each would cover cost of the repair.

John McCutcheon, N8XWO, suggested a fifth option: sell the repaired radio at our hamfest.

New Business (cont'd)

Repair of APRS Digipeater Radio (cont'd)

After much discussion, Carl Denbow, N8VZ, made the following motion that was seconded by Robert Moore, KC8KSM:

- The club reimburse Jeff \$107.50 for the repair of the radio;
- sell raffle tickets to club members at the price of \$10 per ticket;
- provided at least eleven tickets have been sold, award the radio to a club member by random drawing at the ACARA Holiday Dinner; and
- the winner need not be present at the ACARA Holiday Dinner to win.

The vote passed without dissent.

Eric McFadden and Jim Crouse will work out the logistics of creating and making available the raffle tickets. Eric will inform the club membership of availability of tickets as soon as they are available. Treasurer Jim Crouse will reimburse Jeff for the repair of the radio.

Carl Denbow, N8VZ, moved to adjourn the meeting; the motion was seconded by John McCutcheon, N8XWO. The vote passed without dissent. The meeting was adjourned by President Eric McFadden, WD8RIF at 8:53pm.

Respectfully submitted by President Eric McFadden, WD8RIF.