

President Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, was unable to attend the meeting due to work-related travel. In his absence, the meeting was chaired by Vice-President Josh Cash, KE8EAS.

Attendance

John Biddle, W8PG
Josh Cash, KE8EAS
Bob Curtis, KD8FRQ
Carl Denbow, N8VZ
Drew McDaniel, W8MHV
John Thomas, KC8JWZ
Joe Weber, KE8LRZ

Corrections/Additions to Minutes

The minutes of the April 16, 2019 meeting were distributed. An error found in the Jim Crouse Memorial Radio Station plaque wording—the words “Amateur Radio” were repeated. Drew McDaniel, W8MHV, moved that the amended minutes be accepted. John Thomas, KC8JRZ, seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Treasurer’s Report

Club Treasury

Treasurer Drew McDaniel, W8MHV, presented the Treasurer’s Report. As of meeting-time on the 21st, the treasury had \$6,745.31 in unencumbered funds plus \$520.15 in the Jim Crouse Memorial Fund.

Athens Hamfest

Drew presented the Athens Hamfest financial report. The 2019 Hamfest brought in a total of \$1,494, of which \$842.14 is profit. Drew does not have numbers for 2018 but a comparison of numbers for 2019 and the years between 2012 and 2017 indicate a decline in attendance and a decline in income. Drew suggests the club investigate new marketing methods in addition to or instead of paper postcards. A suggestion was made that we send complimentary tickets to local clubs to give to their members.

Carl Denbow, N8VZ, reported on a conversation he had had with the principals of Debco at Hamvention. Debco sees a good profit from the Athens Hamfest and

will continue to come to our event. They will not, however, continue to attend the Jackson Hamfest.

Josh Cash, KE8EAS, suggested attendance at the Hamfest might be down due to Jackson Hamfest falling the day prior to our event and our event being on a Sunday. He suggested some vendors and other participants might be unable to attend on a Sunday.

Carl reported on a conversation he had had with Roy Moore, KB8ZSG, who has noticed that hamfest that occur on one of the first two weekends of a month are more profitable than hamfests that occur on one of the last two weekends of the month. This difference could be due to individuals on a fixed income or others who receive their pay earlier in the month. Drew suggested the club might consider changing the date of the Hamfest to the first weekend in May.

501(c)(3)

Drew reported he continues to work to reinstate the club's 501(c)(3) status. He has spoken with three attorneys, none of which were willing to help. Drew also spoke to an accounting firm, who also was similarly unwilling to help. Drew did find FAAS Accounting, who has a specialist for non-profit organizations, and who is willing to help. Drew thinks our 501(c)(3) status will be re-instated by mid-summer.

Drew also reported that the ACARA has failed to file the required tax returns for the past three years. Drew will file the needed returns but suggested we will probably be required to pay penalties and back taxes.

Carl Denbow, N8VZ, made a motion that the Treasurer's Report be accepted. Bob Curtis, KD8FRQ, seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Old Business

VHF Repeater

VHF Repeater Trustee Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, reported via email that the repeater continues to operate as expected. He has attempted to contact J&M Wireless Services about our need for a climber but no reply has been received yet.

Carl Denbow, N8VZ, asked why digital-mode is not yet available on the 2m repeater.

UHF Repeater

UHF Repeater Trustee Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, was not present at the meeting.

Bob Curtis, KD8FRQ, reported he has tested the repeater and he has been able to bring it up from his house.

Proposed DMR Repeater

Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, was not present at the meeting; no report was provided.

Red Cross Radio Station / Jim Crouse Memorial Radio Station

Josh Cash, KE8EAS, reported he has sold the club's IC-718 transceiver to club-member Joe Weber, KE8LRZ; the proceeds from this sale will be applied to the Jim Crouse Memorial Fund and this will be reflected in next month's Treasurer's Report. Josh has listed the FL-53A CW filter on QRZ.com and will also list it on QTH.com.

Drew McDaniel, W8MHV, reported he had looked for an Elecraft K3 transceiver at Hamvention the previous weekend and had found two. One was being offered at "new" price of \$1,800. The other included the second receiver and a full set of filters and was being offered at a price over \$2,000. Both transceivers are out of the club's price-range at this time.

Drew again brought up the idea of providing solar-electric back-up power for the station. He suggested something as small as a 100-watt photovoltaic panel and a battery bank would be enough for an emergency situation. This discussion was tabled pending purchase of a new transceiver and re-instatement of the club's 501(c)(3) status.

Bob Curtis, KD8FRQ, suggests the wording on the station's plaque be more carefully considered before the plaque is ordered.

Club Construction Project – Copper 2m J-Pole Antenna

Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, was not present at the meeting and no update on the project was given.

Athens Gravel Challenge – Saturday, April 20, 2019

Organizer: Team Athens Cycling / Todd Acheson

<https://www.ohiogravelgrinders.com/events/2019/4/20/the-athens-gravel-challenge>

<https://www.bikereg.com/41236>

Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, was not present at the meeting and no report was given.

Bob Curtis, KD8FRQ, noted that the event organizers thanked the radio operators by providing Eclipse Company Store burgers and beer after the event.

Athens Hamfest – Sunday, April 28, 2019

Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, provided the following report via email:

“Thank you” to all the volunteers who worked to make the hamfest a success.

Clyde Baker, N8CCM, donated new-old-stock antennas and sundries to the club which we tried to sell at the hamfest. Not many of these items sold. Those that didn't sell are available to club members. Eric has set aside several 2m-capable NMO-mount mobile antennas (w/o mount) and a 2m-capable vertical base-station antenna for members in need of antennas; contact Eric.

The club sold the following items from the KC8OVB estate for Jim's son, Mark Crouse: ICOM IC-756 Pro II, ICOM IC-7000 plus LDG AT-7000, J-38 key, J-45 key, and sundries. A check in the amount of \$1,439 was given to Mark.

Treasurer Drew McDaniel's financial report on the Hamfest was included in his Treasurer's Report—see above.

Thunderbunny 50k – Saturday, May 11, 2019

Organizer: Southeastern Ohio Trail Runners / Michael Owen

<https://www.thunderbunny50k.com/>

Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, was not present at the meeting and no report was given.

Lake Hope Bicycle Race – Sunday, June 2, 2019

Organizer: Team Athens Cycling / Todd Acheson

Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, reported via email that the event has a new date: Sunday, June 2, 2019.

ACARA June Picnic – Tuesday, June 18, 2019

Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, reported via email that Treasurer Drew McDaniel, W8MHV, has reserved the shelter house at Dairy Lane for the picnic.

The question came up as to whether the club will again provide the burgers and hotdogs as well as what time the picnic starts. These questions will be presented to the President; watch for an update via email.

ARRL Field Day – Saturday-Sunday, June 22-23, 2019

<http://www.arrl.org/field-day>

Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, reported the following via email:

Drew McDaniel, W8MHV, will be in town this year for Field Day and he has given the club permission to use his callsign for Field Day.

The ACARA Field Day has been added to the online ARRL Field Day Locator.

If a better HF transceiver is not yet available, Eric will provide his Elecraft KX3 transceiver and Drew will provide his KXP100 amplifier.

Eric has arranged for use of the Athens County 9-1-1 Center's 50' mobile crank-up tower.

Eric has signed the contract with the Fair Board for use of the fairgrounds.

John McCutcheon, N8XWO, has confirmed he will serve as VHF captain and will provide the 6m station.

Andy Young, KD8WVX, has agreed to serve as Social Media Captain for the 100-point Social Media Bonus.

Andy Young, KD8WVX, has agreed to serve as Safety Officer for the 100-point Safety Officer Bonus.

Josh Cash, KE8EAS, has agreed to generate and distribute the press release for the 100-point Media Publicity Bonus.

Carl Denbow, N8VZ, has agreed to invite the Mayor of Athens to the ACARA Field Day operation for the 100-point Site Visitation by an Elected Official Bonus.

Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, has agreed to ask the Mayor of Athens and the Athens County Commissioners to make Amateur Radio Appreciation Days proclamations and to invite them to visit the ACARA Field Day operation for the 100-point Site Visitation by an Elected Official Bonus.

Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, has agreed to invite a representative of the Red Cross to attend the ACARA Field Day operation for the 100-point Site Visitation by a Representative of a Served Agency Bonus.

We still need a volunteer to develop and present an educational activity for the 100-point Educational Activity Bonus.

A volunteer for the Educational Activity Bonus was not identified.

Buckeye Trail Marathon / Run for the Blue Blazes – Saturday, October 5

Organizer: Buckeye Trail Association / Herb Hullis

<http://www.buckeyetrail.org/run4blue.php>

<https://runsignup.com/Race/OH/Shawnee/RunForBlueBlazes>

Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, reported via email the date of the event: Saturday, October 5, 2019.

Komen Southeast Ohio MORE THAN PINK Walk – Sunday, October 6

Organizer: Susan G. Komen, Columbus Affiliate / Kaki Scala

<https://ww5.komen.org/RaceForTheCure/>

Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, reported via email the date of the event: Sunday, October 6, 2019.

Bobcat Trail Marathon – Saturday, November 9, 2019

Organizer: Western Reserve Racing / Joe Jurczyk

<https://www.westernreserveracing.com/events/bobcat-trail-marathon/>

Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, reported via email the date of the event:
Saturday, November 9, 2019.

New Business

Athens Marathon 2020 – Sunday, April 19, 2020

Organizer: Athens Marathon Committee / Lisa Simons

<http://www.athensohiomarathon.com/>

Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, announced the date of the 2020 running of the
Athens Marathon: Sunday, April 19, 2020.

Following a motion by Drew McDaniel, W8MHV, and a second by Bob Curtis, KD8FRQ,
the meeting was adjourned at 8:12pm.

Respectfully submitted by President and Secretary Eric McFadden, WD8RIF.