

Western Tidewater Radio Association
Minutes for meeting August 11, 2008

- 1) On Monday, August 11, 2008, the Western Tidewater Radio Association convened for a quarterly club meeting at the residence of W4PRO in Smithfield, Virginia.
- 2) Call to order - -8:20 p.m.: Club President, N4KIT (Chris)
- 3) Dispensed with introductions from all members and guests. Attendance - 19 members and guests
- 4) Announcements
 - a) New Members
 - i) KF4RYN – Herb Bevan
 - ii) KJ4FEX – Ray Haring
 - b) Sept 20-21, 2008 – VEC VA Beach Hamfest
 - c) Re-registration of ARES Membership is required to assume liability coverage under the new insurance policy. Coverage now similar to state employees.
 - d) Quarter Century Wireless Association Convention in VA Beach in Oct. See W4PRO for more information.
- 5) Approval of the Minutes: The minutes of the meeting of May 12, 2008 were distributed via email to the club membership prior to the meeting. Motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes and accept as presented – W4RBH (Dick); Second by N4IVP (Ken). Motion passed unanimously.
- 6) Standing committee reports
 - a) Treasurer report: Treasurer, W4RBH (Dick) reported on club membership and club funds. Motion to accept the Treasurers report as presented N4IVP (Ken); Second by W4PRO (Jim). Motion passed unanimously.
 - b) Repeater report: W4RBH (Dick) reported everything is working.
 - c) Vice Pres - W4PRO (Jim) – None
- 7) Old Business
 - a) Field Day: Report of Field Day Activities from KI4WKT (Lyle) and N4KIT (Chris).
- 8) New Business
 - a) Skywarn – W4RBH (Dick) – Repeater has Skywarn mode that is used during bad weather. The intent is to advise amateur radio operators of the situation and elicit weather reports to the local NOAA station but activity is lacking. NOAA will now establish Assistant Amateur Radio Coordinators (AARC) to create a management hierarchy. See W4RBH (Dick) if interested. If there is no interest in the AARC position, we will offer the use of the repeater.
 - b) ARES/RACES – Isle of Wight County is trying to get EAP approved. Last year we had a training exercise. The next exercise is scheduled in Oct. The exercises are needed to validate the plan. Isle of Wight has spent a considerable amount of money on communications. Amateur Radio operators will need training on new equipment. KG4GFM (Bruce) is coordinating.
 - c) W4RRH – Ron is finding it difficult to find time for newsletter and the next newsletter will be his last. If you are interested in taking over the newsletter, send email to N4KIT (Chris) stating your interest. The newsletter writer can expect to spend ~8 hrs per month putting the letter together. The most difficult task is getting articles from club members to publish.

- d) KJ4AHW Eagle Project – KJ4AHW (Chas) has begun work on his Boy Scout Eagle Project. He will be making improvements to a local horse stable that is spearheading an effort to save the endangered Corolla Island Spanish Mustangs. Club members can assist by contributing to his fund raising or assisting with the actual build.
- 9) Business concluded –Motion to adjourn - W4RBH (Dick); Second by N4IVP (Ken). Motion carried unanimously.
- 10) Program: W4PRO (Jim) presented a video on a DXpedition to Scarborough Reef. Though this entity has spent considerable time on the top of the DX list, considerable obstacles stand in the way of transmitting from these rocks in the middle of the South China Sea not the least of which is the continuing controversy about whether Scarborough Reef should even be listed as a DX entity.
- 11) Next Meeting: Scheduled for the second Monday of the second month in the next quarter. November 10, 2008. Place and time TBD

Respectfully Submitted

Lyle D. Hornbaker – KI4WKT
WTRA Secretary