

## Western Tidewater Radio Association Minutes for meeting - August 10, 2009

1. On Monday, August 10, 2009 the Western Tidewater Radio Association convened for a quarterly club meeting at Cowlings Restaurant in Smithfield, Virginia.
2. In the absence of the Club President, N4KIT (Chris Peters), KI4WKT (Lyle Hornbaker) called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.
3. There was an introduction of guests. There were 19 members and 4 visitors present. Visitors introduced were Rusty Chase, Ted Martin, Steve Crow and Carl Kersey.
4. Announcements were as follows:
  - a. Virginia Beach Ham Fest.
  - b. It was stated that having the Bronco Club Meeting is in question for next year.
5. The minutes of the May 11, 2009 club meeting had been distributed via email to the club membership prior to this meeting. A motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes and accept the minutes as presented was made by W4PRO (Jim Wise). The motion was seconded by WA4JUO (Stu Tyler). The motion passed unanimously.
6. Standing committee reports:
  - a. Treasurer - W4RBH (Dick Harrell) – The treasurer's report had been submitted to the club by email. KD4FN (Jim Jackson) made a motion to accept the treasurer's report that had been submitted. The motion was seconded by WA4JUO (Stu Tyler). Dick stated that we now have 53 WTRA Club members.
  - b. Repeater - W4RBH (Dick Harrell) reported the following:
    - 1) The repeater is working normal
    - 2) The output power of the repeater is sliding a little. It is 13 years old.
    - 3) The remote base is working fine.
    - 4) WT4RA-7 is used for Packet.
    - 5) W4IOW (Ray Haring) - discussed profiles and stated that it looks like Surry County (Edwards) is coming around to Amateur Radio.
    - 6) W4RBH (Dick) discussed cross band remote. We do not want a short squelch tail.
  - c. Vice Pres, - KI4WKT (Lyle) – We need a program for the November 9 Club Meeting. W4PRO (Jim Wise) stated that he can always come up with a program, if needed.
  - d. VE Team - N4KIT (Chris) - KI4WKT (Lyle) stated that:
    - 1) The last testing was done at the Bronco Club. One person was tested, but he did not pass the test.
    - 2) We need a VE session this fall. We get \$7 for each person taking an exam.
  - e. Newsletter - N4KIT (Chris) – The newsletter has not been issued for two months. Its existence is in limbo now. A quarterly newsletter was considered, but no decision was made.
7. Old Business -
  - a. VOPEX - W4IOW (Ray Haring) stated that the drill went well. Rusty Chase stated that redundancy in communications came in well at the drill. The drill had 0 errors and was successful. IOW was praised for participating in the drill. He thanked the Ham Radio operators for their help.

W4RBH (Dick) reiterated that everything went well. We also need to get back to Virginia Power and let them know the history about the equipment the county owns, we operate, and was purchased by Virginia Power for \$4000.

A motion was made to get VOPEX information together (Press Release) and send it to Virginia Power and QST to tell them what their \$4000 is doing. The motion was not enacted.

- b. There is a possibility of having 2 M at Virginia Power.
  - c. Field day had quite a few operators. Thanks to the Committee for making field day a success.
8. New Business –
- a. Setting policies of the club – A rough draft has been provided to the club by N4TJI (Ron Primer).
  - b. Isle of Wight County Fair – W4IOW (Ray Haring) questioned interest in having a special event station celebrating the 375<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Sheriff's Department. Ray requested that anyone interested in helping in the station on Saturday and Sunday email him by Friday August 14<sup>th</sup> at [W4IOW@WT4RA.ORG](mailto:W4IOW@WT4RA.ORG).
9. A Motion to close Business Meeting was made by KG4NUH (Jack Dragseth) and seconded by N7PRO (Linda Wise). All approved.
9. Program –
- a. KG4PEQ (Steve Crow) and KJ4HGN (Carl Kersey) presented a program on SKYWARN.
10. The next WTRA Club Meeting will be November 9, 2009. (Time and place TBA.)

Respectfully Submitted  
Ron Harvey - W4RRH  
WT4RA Secretary