

Minutes of the Twin State Radio Club Meeting held February 13, 2021

A meeting of Twin State Radio Club was held via Zoom on Saturday February 13, 2021. The meeting opened at 9:05 AM.

Officers present: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary and Trustee.

Old Business

President's Report:

Attendees, new and current, were introduced. Each attendee detailed their latest radio activities.

Vice President's Report:

The presentation option today is from Contest University on how HF propagation is affected by the new solar cycle.

Suggested future presentations:

- March – Dave N1HAC on VHF/UHF propagation and sporadic E.
- April - annual antenna forum. Dave N1HAC on multiband wire antennas.
- Joe Taylor – developer of low bandwidth, low noise, low bit rate modes. JT65, moon bounce propagation, WHISPR, FT8 and a talk about those modes.
- June – field day options.
- Sounding rocket mission report by Dave N1HAC if there is a launch.

The Vice President is soliciting presentation suggestions. Get in touch with Dave N1HAC either by email or the repeater.

There was discussion on the VLF antenna array in Maine.

Treasurer's Report:

- Checking – \$ 1,433.97. Some dues payments are to be added.
- Savings – \$ 47,417.24. No change.

A motion was called for to accept the Treasurer's Report. So moved by Ray WA1ORT, seconded by Clyde KA1BSZ. ***The motion passed unanimously.***

Secretary's Report:

Scott KC1LDI detailed the amendments to the submitted the January 9, 2020 minutes.

A motion was called for to accept the minutes as amended. So moved by Ed KC1FWS, seconded by Rich N1GNB. ***The motion passed unanimously.***

Trailer Report: Alan AE1H, Ed AB1XQ, Dave WA1ZCN

Trailers are snowed in, no new activity. New cabinets are being considered (cogitated).

Repeater Committee: Dave N1HAC, Dave WA1ZCN

There was discussion about the TangerineSDR HamSCI joint project for a general purpose XCVR for propagation research.

A standalone Kenwood repeater has been installed at Strafford. It is reported to be a little deaf.

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The Moose Mtn. 220 link radio is off, having been set so because of the propagation issue with CT. It will be turned on, also PL set. Top of the hour message is reported to be missing sometimes. Winds are always reported calm because the anemometer was damaged by ice and the programming needs to be changed.

The E. Corinth repeater is up and linked.

Education committee: Ray WA1ORT

Working heavily with scouts. There are parents that want licenses. Merit badge work is being done. Planning for SOTA and possibly to do this at a camp Unity. Want scouts to do Field Day with a GOTA station.

A VE session at the Village Market in Lebanon is proposed for March 13th at 1:00 PM. The venue has 10,000 square feet for distancing. If this doesn't work out will plan for April. Will also plan for a session in May.

Events in the works:

- Sled Dog Race was canceled.
- The communications trailer was not pulled out for Winter Field Day; there were no sign ups to use. Extreme cold.
- Inventory – need a label maker, take a step back to plan. Martin AC1FT offered input on a label maker.
- Pico balloon budget was posted; same as was proposed in November.

New Business

Dave WA1ZCN reported on the talk with Burden family about the Strafford repeater. He discussed the sale of the property and outlined some of the clubs options.

The Pico balloon project needs assembly coordination and selection of a launch site. Website *donprice.com* has details on this plus web links.

A motion was called for to authorize spending, not to exceed \$300.00, for putting the Pico balloon project together. So moved by Dave N1HAC, seconded by Dave WA1ZCN. ***The motion passed unanimously.***

A proposal was made to approach the family of Bill Burden to allow, as a memorial tribute, the club to use his call sign. Discussion followed. The call sign would be a second one for the club and the Burden family can approve this. Other tributes to Bill Burden were proposed including a favorite of his: traffic light activation.

Dave WA1ZCN reported that 220 Alincos have been discontinued and that the prices of remaining units are increasing. He has bought two (2) units. He proposed the club buy the Alinco units from him and also purchase a repair part for another Alinco unit held by Dave N1HAC. Three (3) Alinco units would then be available to the club.

A motion was called for to reimburse Dave WA1ZCN \$479.90, the cost of two (2) Alinco DR-235 mobile radios including shipping. So moved by Clyde KA1BSZ, seconded by Ed KC1FWS. ***The motion passed unanimously.***

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A motion was called for to authorize spending not to exceed \$100.00 to purchase a repair part for an Alinco unit held by Dave N1HAC. So moved by Ray WA1ORT, seconded by Clyde KA1BSZ. ***The motion passed unanimously.***

With no further business to address a motion to adjourn called for. So moved by Clyde KA1BSZ, seconded by Ed KC1FWS. ***The motion passed unanimously.***

The meeting concluded at 10:20 AM. Presentation followed.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Scott KC1LDI.