



NHARC Minutes of the March 26, 2010 Meeting

The March meeting of the Northern Hills Amateur Radio Club was called to order by Vice President Chris Stallkamp, WØADZ, with eleven members present at 19:30 at the Sturgis Fire Hall. Those present were KØNLE, WØADZ, KØRXC, KCØZDA, KCØCCB, N7MOG, KCØFNE, KGØGG, WAØMFZ, KBØNRB, and KBØWCF.

The February 2010 Minutes was read by Secretary Bruce, KØNLE, and approved with Carol's, KCØZDA, call sign corrected. The Treasurer's Report was given by Treasurer Jerry, KGØGG. After a bill was paid and a deposit made, the NHARC has a \$954.00 balance in the checking account. The Report was approved.

The various upcoming Public Service events were discussed. There were not any changes made to Events Calendar.

The Skywarn Training Schedule was presented by the Rapid City Weather Bureau for the Northern Hills area. For other ARES projects, Carol, KCØZDA, reported that a list of areas that do not have radio communication during the winter season due to snow cover, is being compiled.

The various upcoming ham fests and conventions were noted for the local area this year.

The inventory of the club property will be updated when the club meets at the Lead Fire Hall. Bruce, KØNLE, has the two antennas stored temporarily at his home. The updated inventory list will be made available to members.

The Bear Mountain antenna status on the old tower was unknown. The plan is to move the old antenna and cable from the old tower to the new tower location and use them for APRS.

Plans are to install 220 control links on the four repeaters in the Black Hill region for control when conditions will not permit access to the repeater site. Chris WØADZ is working on that project.

Bill, N7MOG, presented plans for a possible Field Day event in Sturgis. Chris, WØADZ, and Bill will determine the location. In preparation for the event, Bill, N7MOG, was given the permission to purchase banner for the event and club use. Motion was made to allow \$100 for the banner and seconded, approved.

Bill, N7MOG, has tentative set a class on license instruction at Spearfish followed by VE testing. It will depend on interest that can be generated on Field Day. Information on Field Day will be put in the local paper.

The Hermosa ARES meeting location will be determined with a tentative date of April 17th and April 24th as an alternate. Marge, KBØWCF, will work on the location for the meeting.

Mike, KCØFNE, encouraged trying 2 meter SSB and trying contacts to the Colorado group. Frequency is 144.220 on Monday between 20:00 and 20:20.

A lengthy discussion was held on the linking of the State Link to the Black Hills repeaters. The consensus was that it should be linked mainly for emergencies and for net use. The main concern was the practice of linking the two systems together and not properly IDing by who did it and then again IDing when the link was taken down. Also, if someone would bring up the cross tie, then that person should be able to take it down, for instance, a mobile must not travel out of the coverage area and try to take it down from another system.

The Black Hills system should also not be used for a "Information Broadcast". Suggestions will be offered for protocol to be included when the Wednesday evening Net Controller gives their script. Nothing was to be inferred that incidental linking to make contact with people on the other side of the state would be restricted as the use of the systems are encouraged. Proper link connection and disconnection should be IDed so people using either system would know the linked status. The proper protocol will be determined by Chris, WØADZ, Harry, WAØMFZ, Jerry, KGØGG, along with others from eastern South Dakota.

The next meeting will be at the Sturgis Fire Hall.

Meeting adjourned at 20:43.

Bruce Conlee, KØNLE, NHARC Secretary