

Pend Oreille County Radio Group Meeting Minutes December 17, 2022, Diamond Lake Fire House

- 1. Sign-in, Welcome, Pledge of Allegiance, Jack Davis KJ7YMO is setting for chairman in Dylan Brown's KK7BVX absence.
- Roll Call (sign-in sheet recorded)
 Approval of Minutes: I don't think we approved the November minutes. The minutes were cast to the monitor for viewing by those members present.

Finance and Treasurer Report - Dale Weathers

3. The POCRG account balance is \$400.00. The treasure is responsible for membership. Dale sent out emails to overdue members for dues. He received two responses of those; one member will not be renewing. Shannon Mossman motioned again for the group that membership dues are due annually once a year in February. All members paid or not in 2022 bring their membership current in Feb 2023. Membership dues are due annually in February, \$20.00 per individual. All present are in favor.

4. Old Business

Jack asked for a review of the old business and gave final comments to clean off the list for 2023.

5. 2m Ione Repeater, Project Duplexer cavity, is done. The current Kenwood 5-watt power is a setup for Gus's location. It's tuned now, with the capability of 16 tuners. It is suitable for installation, ready to identify the antenna and build a short coax with proper fitting for the unit. Jumpers are needed at 56 inches and can be made and tested by Jack; these fittings run about \$25.00 per end; an advantage is we can take apart and reuse these fittings if needed. Gus's location is excellent because there is no interference. The coax between the cavities should be ok for whatever its band is. Jack will put in LMR 400. Short coax is working fine—the longer ones from the repeater to the duplexer. Jack and Gus to connect and do some testing. Further discussion with Dylan, Gus, and Geoff.

6. New Business

- 7. Guest Karl Schumacher's was introduced today with greetings and introductions.
- 8. Guest Jonathan Minnich
- 9. Shannon motioned to investigate badges with logo cost for the next meeting. All present are in agreement. Saundra to bring pricing to the next meeting from Country Lane.

Saundra purchased a POCRG hat and vest from Country Lane and showed them to the Club Members at the meeting. Shannon made a motion to price name tags for members of POCRG members, and all who were present voted in favor. Saundra to get status on an oversized block hat and hat logo. Saundra to get name badge pricing information for the next meeting capturing name, callsign, and stamp from Country Lane.

- 10. Will Welker announced he, too, will entertain a net for Farm and Trade from the Priest River GMRS repeater. Pat M. proposed the question of using GMRS for trade and commercial use. Will W. responded that GMRS is legal for commercial use as long as you are not advertising. GMRS is different than HAM radio for commercial use. Commercial use is not permitted using HAM. An example of commercial use is getting on the radio advertising you are selling something and for how much is not allowed, but if you get on and say tomorrow can you bring eggs, this is permitted. Arrange the logistics for transportation and not advertising. Please join Farm and Trade in disseminating information for those who want to participate; contact Will Welker.
- 11. We all are to look ahead to fundraising and club events in the spring. We all are to bring a fundraising idea to the next meeting.
- 12. Parties wishing to use the Cooks Mountain repeater for Nets are to inquire at POCRG.org for authorization to secure their net date and time by the POCRG club leadership.
- 13. Jack suggests we identify who among the club members knows radio programming, who is happy with their programming, who has questions, and who understands the functions of their radio. Saundra to email club members to identify which members can program their radios.
- 14. Richard K. will get on the Sunday LDS net to find out the status of the 2-meter activity, if any, and report back next meeting.
- 15. We need Mike Stout's email if anyone can share this with Dale Weathers.
- 16. The POCRG.org website has a download for the Pend Oreille County Radio Group Frequency List (10/01/2021). Request to find radio programmers within our club membership.
- 17. **Training Session** with Rich Knoll presents WSPR (Weak Signal Propagation Reporter). Again, Richard delivered an engaging and informative training, this month's topic being WSPR. Richard provides a slide show with his presentation to the group. For a transcript of this training, please email Saundra or visit <u>WSPRnet | Welcome to the Weak Signal Propagation Reporter Network</u> for your exploration.

18. For the Good of the Club

- 19. A node is assigned to a place, so a repeater for all stars is a node. You can have a node in your car. A node belongs to a person, place, or thing. Rez Jim says it sounds like a noun. LOL Allstar is analog from radio to node, so you don't need a specific radio to talk like you do with D-Star, DMR, WSF, or digital to a node. Allstar allows one to speak to any analog, hits the node, digitizes, sends it out over the internet, takes return traffic, undigitized, and sends out analog and has better audio quality. It's a helpful toy.
- 20. Jack D. wants to address how many club members can program their radios. For instance, the GMRS Boafang radio can hold up to 141 frequencies; has multiple uses; these units can operate as a scanner and are valuable to one's safety; you can listen to fire and police. Jack would like to assure club members of the capabilities these radios and other radios have and remind club members if they cannot program their radio, the club can provide this service. Jack suggests building our programs into a computer or stand-alone device. He asks Saundra to ask our club members in the email if they are happy with their programming. An updated frequency list is available on the pocrg.org website.
- 21. We encourage club members to ask for mentoring when needed; the club will assist in finding "Elmer." Suggestion for 10-minute training at Audreys Wednesday for a social breakfast gathering.
- 22. Dale J. suggested coordination with Emergency Services, Fire, Police, and Rescue. We have resources within our club members for further discussion. What are we expecting from Emergency Sevices?
- 23. GMRS (General Mobile Radio Service) does not handle emergencies. As Elmers, we need to help new people identify what they want to do or how they can help within their community.
- 24. Cooks Repeater has a battery backup of 8 hours to a couple of days, depending on use. We have four-volt batteries. No generator, there is a generator, but it would need Sherrif's approval to charge our batteries generator. Repeater in Diamond Lake is both GMRS; no battery backup in Diamond Lake. Scott Caldwell's KK7DBC house is battery-backed up. GMRS is not battery-backed, but we could connect to Cooks Mountain. It would double the load. Carl indicates our units in Eastern Washington are backed up 80 percent by battery/CPU.
- 25. Meeting adjourned at 11:07 am