



## PATOKA VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB MEETING MINUTES

January 21, 2025 – 6:00pm EST

Jasper Public Library – Jasper, IN

- The meeting was called to order at 6:04 PM by President Mike Vogler.
- Steve Hemmer offered a prayer, and the pledge of allegiance was recited.
- Attendance – 14 licensed members (sign-in sheet attached)

### OFFICER REPORTS

- President
  - Mike welcomed everyone and re-iterated our mission - “To recruit, foster, educate, and mentor amateur radio”. Mike presented a membership certificate to George McCormick, W9GMC.
- Secretary/Treasurer
  - The December 2024 meeting minutes were read. No corrections were noted.
  - The treasurer reported that the December 31 bank balance was \$1,313.69. Fifty dollars is still safe in the petty cash box. Ron Hickman made a motion to accept the minutes & treasurer’s report and it was seconded by George McCormick. The motion passed without opposition.

### MEETING PRESENTATION

- Gary Fritz gave a sneak-peek into the upcoming presentations for 2025. Gary mentioned possible presentations on VHF amplifiers, Cross Band Repeat, Software Defined Radios, as well as other topics.

### OLD BUSINESS

- Our panel discussion with the Dubois County Museum was on January 19<sup>th</sup>. There were seven members that showed up to participate. It lasted about an hour and a half and all participating members had a great time and learned a lot. Afterwards the club purchased lunch for the attending members at Wings & Rings. It was suggested that when the club participates again to hold it during a time of year with warmer weather, not have it on a Sunday or a day with lots of sports locally or on tv. It was also suggested to have food & fellowship after the presentation in order to draw a larger crowd.

## NEW BUSINESS

- President Vogler informed the club that the President, Vice-President, Secretary/Treasurer, and the Director of Presentations (DOP) met before the regular club meeting to discuss their responsibilities as club officers. Ron KD9KNB, our vice-president, will assume a role in non-technical presentations such as keeping the club members informed of local contests, POTA, 13 Colonies, etc... He will also assist the other officers as needed. Mike K9MLG, our sec-treasurer, will keep the meeting minutes, and assist the pres and vice-pres as needed. He will also be responsible for the club's bank account. Gary WB9LIB, our DOP, will continue his role developing technical presentations with input from club members and assist members with "Hams Helping Hams". Mike also mentioned to the club that Gary, WB9LIB, has estimated that he will spend approximately 250 volunteer hours for the club in 2025. Some of Gary's time will be spent creating presentations, server maintenance, updates, backups, and "Ham's Helping Ham's". Thank you, Gary.
- Bud Mann gave a quick update on the WinterHeat VHF simplex contest. Bud mentioned our club was at one time in 4<sup>th</sup> place, but averages around 6<sup>th</sup>. It was noted that if you contact a club member on the WinterHeat frequencies please make sure that you are signed-up for the contest as both operators receive more points by doing so.
- Due to various reasons both John Butler (K4PSE) and Ryan Bratton (KD9CJV) have had to discontinue their memberships. They will definitely be missed, and we hope they can renew their membership again in the future.
- John Butler, Ryan Bratton, and Mike Maffenbeier will no longer be net control operators. The club is looking for more members to be net control operators. Remember, the more people that are NCO's the less time each NCO must call the net.
- Winter field day is January 25 – 27.
- It was brought up that we should look at ordering club shirts through Bohnert Advertising. Mike mentioned that it's nice to see members wear their club shirts to the meetings.
- Stephen Goins is planning to host a VE testing day on Saturday, February 8<sup>th</sup>. Mike encouraged members to get their VE testing certifications.
- It was decided to continue with the club's Facebook page. Calvin will continue being the club's administrator for the page.

## QRM

- Questions that were asked of the panel at the Dubois County Museum were asked of the club members. Different questions were asked and answered, and a lot was learned about different members.
- It was mentioned that a presentation on sunspot activity and space weather would make for a great meeting presentation.
- January deposit was \$265.00 which included dues and 50/50 half-pot.

## DONATIONS

Of the above-mentioned \$265.00, \$10 was donated by Steve Hemmer to reimburse the club for his XYL's lunch after the Museum event. George McCormick was the winner of the half-pot and donated \$12 back to the club.