



PATOKA VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB MEETING
MINUTES February 17, 2026 – 6:00pm EST
Jasper Public Library – Jasper, IN

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 PM by Vice-President John Kaltenbacher. John was acting president as President Mike Vogler was out. Ron Hickman offered a prayer which included compassion for member Calvin Mitcham whose wife had passed away. The Pledge of Allegiance was also recited.

Attendance – 13 members

John welcomed everyone and re-iterated our mission - “To recruit, foster, educate, and mentor amateur radio”.

SECRETARY/TREASURER

Secretary/Treasurer Mike Goodpaster informed the members that there was no change in the club’s January treasurer report from what it was the month prior. This is because he was not in attendance at the January meeting and was out of town. The January deposit was actually made in February and will be in the February treasurer’s report at the next meeting.

Mike read the minutes that President Vogler took at the January meeting and no changes were needed. Steve Hemmer made a motion to accept the minutes as read. It was seconded by Craig Vogler and passed without opposition.

OLD BUSINESS

VE Testing – The club held a testing session on February 7th and had one person participate. Mallory Libbert, Derek’s wife, passed her technician exam. Congratulations Mallory.

Winter Field Day – Our club ended up being 8th overall in the January contest. Members that participated were encouraged to send their Winter Heat certificates to Gary & John for uploading to our website and Facebook page.

Winter Field Day – A few members raised their hands stating that they participated at their home QTH. Paul McFeaters commented that he and the Martin County Amateur Radio Club

were set up at the Martin State Forest and operated in single-digit temperatures. He said it was very interesting because they found that some equipment didn't fare as well as other equipment due to the frigid temps.

NEW BUSINESS

Mike Goodpaster informed the club that he is still working on and has been in contact with the governor and the secretary of the Indiana BMV in an attempt to allow our callsigns to be put on the new Blackout license plates. According to the secretary it can be done, they just have to go through a lot of channels to get it accomplished. Mike told the members to stay tuned.

John Kaltenbacher handed out some information to the members about World Radio League (WRL) which is a subscription service for amateur radio operators. John graciously paid the first year of membership for the club and members can access the service by logging in with the username and password located on literature that was handed out. He also gave the members an alternative to Ham Clock. It's called Open Ham Clock and can be found at OpenHamClock.com. John said that it basically does everything the Ham Clock did, plus more. And, it is all web browser based and internet driven. John also provided members with information on it and how to access it.

The ARRL is promoting an amateur radio open house in April. John asked the members if they would be interested in participating. The club can do just about anything including setting up a station and making contacts to show how ham radio works, POTA, satellite work, etc.... This item was tabled until the next meeting.

DONATIONS

\$42 was collected for the 50/50 prize with \$21 going to the winner. Gary Fritz was the winner and he donated the winnings back to the club treasury.

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn at 6:56 PM by Mark Hunefeld and seconded by Steve Hemmer. The motion passed without opposition.