



PATOKA VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB MEETING MINUTES

March 17, 2026 – 6:00pm EST Jasper Public Library – Jasper, IN

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by President Mike Vogler. Ron Hickman offered a prayer, and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Attendance – 16 members and 1 guest (Ned Goins)

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

SECRETARY/TREASURER

Secretary/Treasurer Mike Goodpaster read the February minutes with no corrections needed. Mike read both the January and February Treasurer’s Reports with the balance at the end of January being \$902.48 and the balance at the end of February was \$1,032.48.

Lee Ferrell made a motion to accept the minutes and treasurer reports. It was seconded by Garry Smith and passed without opposition.

VICE-PRESIDENT

Vice-President John Kaltenbacher informed the members that he has been working with our club Facebook page. He has turned down a few potential posts recently as they were not “ham radio” related. John said that if you are attempting to make a post on our Facebook page that it is not something that happens instantly because it must first be approved.

NEW BUSINESS

President Vogler informed the members that he was absent from our last meeting due to being under the weather. However, he is feeling much better now, and we are stuck with him 😊.

Mike stated that November 18, 2015 was the first meeting of the Patoka Valley Amateur Radio Club with the following people in attendance: Mike Vogler, John Butler, George McCormick, Joe Buechlein, Mike Maffenbeier, Phil Smith, Bud Mann, Bernie Thewes, and Mark Hunefeld. Today our club still has seven of the original nine members from eleven years ago.

President Vogler then started a presentation and thanked Ron Hickman, Mike Goodpaster, Gary Fritz, John Kaltenbacher, Bud Mann, and Stephen Goins for helping in different aspects within the club. He then broke-down our mission statement - "To recruit, foster, educate, and mentor amateur radio". Mike talked about each point in the mission statement and how we can all reach out and help others in ham radio. "Plan your work and work your plan". Mike said our club is full of great members in different levels of ham radio experience and that our club has inspired other clubs to organize.

There was discussion about possibly hosting an event where local Boy Scout troops could be invited to learn about ham radio and work on different items for their ham radio merit badge. Events such as Field Day or a Parks on the Air activation were suggested.

Mike Goodpaster informed the club that he is still waiting to hear back from the commissioner of the Indiana BMV in reference to the BMV allowing amateur radio operators to have their callsign on the new Blackout license plates. He also informed the club that the new Indiana Amateur Radio license plate is now available.

Garry Smith said that the Martin County Amateur Radio Club helped in getting the Shoals Jug Rock to be a POTA site. He stated that the area is very small and is basically just around the Jug Rock itself. They are also working on getting Hindostan Falls approved as a POTA site as well.

The members congratulated Calvin Mitchem, KE8ICE, on upgrading to an Amateur Extra.

Vice-President John Kaltenbacher stated that he hoped that the club members could work some POTA events this year at parks that are farther away than Southwest Indiana.

DONATIONS

\$53 was collected for the 50/50 prize with \$26.50 going to the winner. Gary Fritz was the winner, and he donated the winnings back to the club treasury. Thank you Gary.

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn at 7:07 PM by Steve Hemmer and seconded by Bud Mann. The motion passed without opposition.