PATOKA VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB MEETING MINUTES

June 16, 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

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

SECRETARY/TREASURER

Secretary/Treasurer Mike Goodpaster read the May minutes with no corrections needed. Mike also read the May Treasurer's Report with the balance at the end of May being the same that it was at the end of April because he had not been in Dubois County to go to the bank. He did inform the members that there were no expenses during the month of May.

Ron Sharp made a motion to accept the minutes and treasurer reports and it was seconded by Mike Maffenbeier. When asked for a vote, everyone voted aye with the exception of Calvin Mitcham who voted no.

PRESENTATION

Ron Hickman (KD9KNB) gave the meeting presentation which was about his introduction into the world of ham radio as well as a tour of his station. Ron explained all aspects of his home station and antennas as well as his portable station and equipment. His interest in amateur radio started when his uncle gave him a Hallicrafters receiver in the early 60's. He passed his novice license in 1967, however shortly after he went away to school he made less and less contacts. Life kicked in full swing for Ron and his license soon expired. He retired in 2015 and decided to get back into the hobby. After speaking with Mike Vogler he found out that he could do it for a cost of just $39.95! Ron took the extra exam and received his license in April of 2019. He likes to operate mobile & portable and designed and build a radio cart for his "Patio on the Air" station. He likes to participate in contests and Parks on the Air. Ron went on to thank several members of the club for helping him along the way. He gave an excellent

presentation of his radios, antennas, portable equipment, and his shack as a whole. Good job, Ron and thank you for giving us a tour.

NET CONTROL OPERATORS

President Vogler once again asked the club members to help with our nets in being a Net Control Operator. Mike said it is approximately once every couple of months. Ron Sharp (W9TII) stepped up and said he would become an NCO for the group. Thank you, Ron.

FOX HUNT

President Vogler asked Mike Goodpaster if there were any plans for a Fox Hunt. Mike said that it was his opinion that if we were to have a Fox Hunt that it should be held in conjunction with a club POTA activation. This way, not only would it save time, but club members could participate in both activities if they choose to do so. It was discussed to go back to the shelter house at the Ferdinand State Forest. Mike had three dates available: July 25, August 1, and Sept. 12. August 1st was ruled out as that is the same time as the Jasper Strassenfest. July 25 was coming up too quickly and September 12th was the same day as the Louisville Hamfest. President Vogler said to just pick a date and go with it. Mike said since John Kaltenbacher was wanting to do a club POTA activation that he would get in touch with John to see if he was available and also contact the Ferdinand State Forest to reserve a shelter house.

FIELD DAY

Stephen Goings updated the club members that we should arrive around 9:00 a.m. His thoughts was to get pizza for lunch on Saturday while setting up. Mike Goodpaster will bring his 36" Blackstone and will do all of the cooking for the weekend. He will pick-up burgers, hot dogs, buns, sides and all of the fixings. Stephen asked members to bring extra supplies like paracord, duct tape, zip ties, rope, tarps, surge protectors, and trash bags. Stephen said our club will be a Class A with four operators. Any members operating from home will be considered a Class D. Stephen will have his Starlink hooked-up so everyone can have internet access and by using his laptop as a server we can create a network. This will inform each operator if there are any duplicate contacts. President Vogler said we will have a table set up with amateur radio and club information. Stephen went over different scenarios where our club could get more points. He asked Gary Fritz to have a short 30 minute presentation for educational purposes. This will enable the club to get more points via an educational bonus.

DONATIONS

$47 was collected for the 50/50 prize with $23.50 going to the winner. Gary Wendholt was the winner, and he donated all but five dollars back to the club. Thank you, Gary.

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn at 7:23 PM by Steve Hemmer and seconded by Adam Mann. The motion passed without opposition.