



PATOKA VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB MEETING MINUTES

July 21, 2026 – 6:05 pm EST Jasper Public Library – Jasper, IN

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

Attendance – 16 members and 1 guest; Noah Fritchley

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

SECRETARY/TREASURER

Secretary/Treasurer Mike Goodpaster read the June minutes with no corrections needed. Mike also read the June Treasurer’s Report with the balance at the end of June being \$610.71.

NOTE: Mike let the club know that he would purchase all of the food items that he had purchased for field which would in turn reimburse the club back 100% and that would show up on the July treasurer’s report.

Lee Ferrell made a motion to accept the minutes and the treasurer’s report. It was seconded by John Kaltenbacher and passed without opposition.

PARKS ON THE AIR

President Vogler asked John Kaltenbacher if he had anything. John said in reference to doing a club POTA activation that he would prefer it be a little cooler. Mike Goodpaster noted that the club POTA & Fox Hunt that was discussed at last month’s meeting was on September 12th at the Ferdinand State Forest and that the shelter house had already been paid for. President Vogler then suggested having a club simplex net to have more club activity.

PRESENTATION

Bud Mann, N9NAU, gave a presentation on the 2026 Hamvention. Bud showed several pictures of

the Hamvention buildings, tables, and equipment. Different photos showed the flea market of the grounds with several items for sale. He also sat in on a few Hamvention Forums that included logging software, Parks on the Air, and MFJ suppliers. Bud mentioned one of the forums got real interesting when that started talking about a documentary on Martin F. Jue (K5FLU) who was the founder of MFJ Enterprises. It became even more interesting when they showed a slide of Mr. Jue with Dan Mitchell (N9APA) who was the owner of The Ham Station in Evansville. Bud attended with his son Adam and both had a good time.

FIELD DAY

President Vogler said he called Gary Fritz the morning of Field Day and asked him what the probability of rain was for the rest of the day. He said that Gary told him that there would be three storms roll through that day. He then consulted Steven & Bud and they made the decision to cancel for safety reasons. President Vogler said he didn't want someone's antenna to get hit by lightning. Stephen said that some didn't like the decision. Mike Goodpaster made the comment that he was one of the ones that didn't like that it was cancelled. Mike said he was about a mile from the shelter house when he received the text that it was cancelled. Mike said it was aggravating to him because when he was headed up to the Martin County Field Day event there were several yard sales in Huntingburg and kids were out riding their bikes. Mike said going forward that we need to look for another location. One that has side walls on their shelter house such as the Holland Park that would have a little more protection from the rain. A few members operated from home for Field Day.

The Martin County guys said their Field Day was a huge success. They set up at the Martin County State Forest. They said the food was great and they made several contacts.

INCORPORATION

President Vogler said that since the club's inception that have talked about incorporation. Gary Fritz investigated having the club incorporated to help protect the club officers and its members from possible lawsuits. By incorporating it protects everyone from losing their personal assets including their own personal finances and even their home. The club went through the INBIZ process to incorporate, and we are now The Patoka Valley Amateur Radio Club, Inc. Thank you, Gary, for taking the time to investigate this for all our members.

HAMS HELPING HAMS

Paul McFeaters, W9PRM, informed the club members that he has moved to another home in Martin County. He has a conundrum which is where to put up his antennas. He has invited some club members to his new place to help in the deciding of where the best locations would be for his antennas and possibly how to design his shack. He is currently off of the air when it comes to HF operating. Obviously, he cannot accommodate the entire club, but he would like approximately 6-8

members that are good at locating antenna sites and have no issues climbing steps to help give him some ideas. He stated that if our group included a good “drone pilot” that it would be very beneficial. He will get some dates to us in the near future.

MCARC MONTHLY BREAKFASTNET

Garry Smith, KD9WVS, invited the club members to Martin County Amateur Radio Club’s monthly breakfast. It takes place on the first Saturday of each month at Stoll Lakeview restaurant and starts at 8:00 a.m.

DONATIONS

\$45 was collected for the 50/50 prize with \$22.50 going to the winner. John Kaltenbacher was the winner and he donated his winnings back to the club. Thank you, John.

Bud Mann brought two Yaesu hats back from Hamvention to raffle off. President Vogler and Steven Hemmer were the winners. Thank you, Bud, for the hats.

John Kaltenbacher said he is thinking of driving down to Huntsville, AL to see the new Gigaparts store if anyone wants to join him.

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn at 7:20 PM by Paul McFeaters and seconded by John Kaltenbacher. The motion passed without opposition.