

Key City Amateur Radio Club Meeting Minutes

Minutes approved at the February 2024 meeting

KCARC Secretary Jacob Bachmeyer, **KE5WHG**

January 8, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 19:07 by David Andrews, **WB5VIH**.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by David Andrews, **WB5VIH**. The invocation was given by David Andrews, **WB5VIH**.

Members introduced themselves. There were 30 members and 2 guests present at the meeting.

Members:

WB5VIH	KE5WHG	KB5NLP	N5JZH
KC5ETW	WB5PGX	KF5ZQB	WB5DUQ
KJ5DMP	KC5JJQ	WB5YFW	W5JAP
KI5DHX	WS5EAB	KF5YYP	KI5QEU
KJ5CJL	KE5LGG	N5QNL	W5WNI
KJ5DX	KF5OAS	N7UXJ	KG7VB
KG8DSK	WZ5AB	KE5OVB	KF5BAB
K2WCS	W5CHS		

2 other guests and associate members were present

A motion to approve the minutes of the November meeting as published was made by John Doerschuk, **KE5OVB** and seconded by John Smith, **KG7VB**.

The motion was carried.

The Treasurer's report was presented by Tammy Harden, **KB5NLP** and filed for audit.

Old Business

Repeater Issues

Randy Robinson, **N5JZH** reported that he and Cody Brannon, **KE5LGG** had spent 2 days at the tower site preparing a location for the repeaters in the main equipment room. The new repeater location will be on the site's backup power system. Additional parts have been ordered for the installation, on which further work is delayed until the weather permits. David Andrews, **WB5VIH** reminded Cody Brannon, **KE5LGG** to present the receipts for reimbursement.

Technician-class License Study Course

Randy Robinson, **N5JZH** reported that the course has completed, but not all of the students have tested. A few have since passed the exam. David Andrews, **WB5VIH** reported considerable interest in the next session of the course.

Christmas Party

David Andrews, **WB5VIH** reported the ornament exchange and Christmas Party went well. He thanked Kendall Thomas, **W5WNI**, Druann Thomas, **N5QNL**, and Tammy Harden, **KB5NLP** for their work organizing the meal, and the Hamby VFD for hosting us.

SkyWARN

David Andrews, **WB5VIH** announced that annual SkyWARN training will be held on February 24th at 09:00 in the Hart auditorium at ACU. Bill Shaw, **KJ5DX** added that a breakfast is planned at the Highway 80 What-a-burger at 07:30.

David Andrews, **WB5VIH** encouraged all to attend and mentioned a tornado that occurred on May 11th, 1970 when he lived in Lubbock.

General-class License Study Course

Randy Robinson, **N5JZH** reported ongoing efforts by Louis Janis, **WB5YFW**, Nathan Howk, **AF5FJ**, and himself towards organizing a study course starting February 3rd at Cisco College and running 13:00 through 17:00 each Saturday to a test session at the start of April. Louis Janis, **WB5YFW** is planning to mail postcards announcing the course to local Technician-class operators. This will cost about \$120 for cards and postage.

2024 KCARC Activity Ideas

David Andrews, **WB5VIH** prompted for proposed club activities.

- Randy Robinson, **N5JZH** noted that there are Radio and Electronics Boy Scout merit badges. Efforts to arrange classes for the Radio merit badge would also require someone ready for an arranged QSO if needed.
- David Andrews, **WB5VIH** suggested organizing a “Santa on the Radio” event for Christmas.
- Ron Ashmore, **WB5DUQ** suggested another tailgate sale for early May.
- Cody Brannon, **KE5LGG** and Randy Robinson, **N5JZH** noted previous demonstrations set up in city parks.
- Randy Robinson, **N5JZH** suggested appointing an activities committee.
- Christopher Smith, **K2WCS** suggested project-building sessions.
- Lois Doerschuk, **KF5BAB** suggested a fox hunt.

New Business

Field Day

Kendall Thomas, **W5WNI** reported that electricity usage at the previous Field Day event was significant and there was a noticeable incremental cost on the electric bill. The issue was tabled for lack of detailed information at this time but will be considered when planning the next Field Day event.

ARES/RACES

David Andrews, **WB5VIH** announced that a statewide RACES exercise will be held at noon on Saturday, January 13th, and that he has picked up the local RACES go-kit, and it will be set up at his place of business as a relay for the exercise.

KCARC Information Net

David Andrews, **WB5VIH** called for more volunteers for net control for the KCARC Information Net each Thursday night at 20:00. Edwin Bumpass, **WS5EAB**

volunteered. Christopher Smith, **K2WCS** stated his intent to volunteer in the future. Randy Robinson, **N5JZH** also volunteered to take the net once monthly.

Extra-class License Study Program

Randy Robinson, **N5JZH** noted that the Extra-class license material is too broad to effectively teach in a classroom format and explained some past successes with study groups. Bill Shaw, **KJ5DX** recommended extensive use of online practice tests. Louis Janis, **WB5YFW** asked for a show of hands for interest, and 7 people raised their hands.

John Smith, **KG7VB** noted that a new Extra-class question pool will be effective on July 1st.

Louis Janis, **WB5YFW** started a sign-up sheet for a planned study group.

Miscellaneous

Lynn Bailey’s absence

David Andrews, **WB5VIH** reported that the reason Lynn Bailey, **K5AVJ** was not at the meeting was that he had tested positive for COVID-19 again.

Eat-and-Greet

Randy Robinson, **N5JZH** asked about continuing the “Eat-and-Greet” events. Consensus was to do so. David Andrews, **WB5VIH** also mentioned the group Saturday breakfast at 07:30 at the Rosa’s Cafe in south Abilene. Discussion led to consensus to eat at Potter’s Pizza at 18:00 on January 27th.

Winter Field Day

Mike Roche, **KF5ZQB** announced that Winter Field Day is January 27th through January 28th this year. While the Key City Amateur Radio Club does not organize an event, some members participate.

Having no further business, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Druann Thomas, **N5QNL** and seconded by John Smith, **KG7VB**.

With no objection, the motion was carried and the meeting adjourned at 20:02.