

**Grand Rapids Amateur Radio
Association**

Board Meeting Minutes

April 3, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 6:54PM.

President's Report

Thom shared that we need a new treasurer. Steven Haueisen KD8MEY Has agreed to be open to being voted on for the office of Treasurer. We will hold a vote at this coming Friday nights' general meeting.

Steven Provost reported on the Constitution and by-law proposed changes: change the membership period to a calendar year. January to December. We then had a general discussion on changing the age requirement and the different membership fees for different ages.

On May 11th, W8QZ is going to climb our tower. We're going to take down the antenna on top, which isn't working and put up Philips dipole. We're also going to put up a cross arm to put up an antenna for the digital radio we have. A motion was made to pay W8QZ \$250.00 to climb the tower (his normal fee). Rich k8jx made the motion, seconded by Steven KD8MEY. It passed. We'll need a list of what we need to do on the tower.

Thom wanted to know if we wanted to replace the 6 band Hustler with another antenna. Steven will come up with a list before the weekend of Dayton.

Red X: Jim said they're going to have another smoke alarm install program on May 10th, from 8 am to 5pm, in Kentwood. Goal is 200 installs. More details to follow. Meet at this building at 8am. Bring your H.T. To date: over 550 lives saved. Over 1.6 million smoke alarms installed. Over 670,000 households made safer. The Red Cross responded to Newaygo county floods with disaster assessment. Handed out water and clean up kits to persons who needed them. Followed up with case work. This event was declared a national event by the National Red Cross. We'll use the 147.260 repeater. Jim hopes we have a good turn out from the club.

Thom brought up the sheet of opportunities that the Red Cross has for volunteering.

Treasurer's Report

Steve is performing treasurers' duties till one can be appointed/ elected.

We had an ending balance As of February 2019. **\$3291.47**

As of March, 2019, we have an ending balance of **\$3742.02**

Steven said we have a Kenwood TS -850 for sale and Larry Dells of

Mara is interested in buying our Yaesu FT-920. We've covered the cost of the Yaesu FT 3000. We're now looking for ways to save up \$500.00 for Dayton.

Technical Report: We are having an internet problem. Thom had to recycle the router for it to work. Steve switched routers with his router, and there hasn't been any issues since. Steve also has noticed that the 146.760 repeater fades after he goes north beyond 5 mile road and Plainfield, till he gets to Plainfield and the East Beltline. He believes the present 4 bay antenna is beyond its service life. He's looking at replacing it with a dual band antenna, either a Comet or Diamond. Steve has also noted that the signal from the Moline site isn't what we desire. If we replace the radios, we'll need a UHF and VHF. We then had a general discussion on changing repeater locations, to better cover the North End. One suggestion was to move the transmitting antenna back to the Red Cross location. Motion made to order a GP-15, seconded by Thom. It passed. \$174.00. A motion was made to move the 147.260 transmitter from Moline to The Red Cross.

VE: We had 8 test takers that took 13 exams. That generated 3 new Generals, and a few technicians and extras. Steven will be out of town for the next test session and Philip and his wife will be assisting with the VE Exam.

Secretary: The Spring QRM is out.

On-Air-Director

Greg said he didn't think there would be any difference in our Field Day operation. The Michigan QSO party is on this month. We then had a planning session on what we will need to bring for Field Day and what power source we'll use.

We'll going to send out letters to get political people to visit us during FD.

Thom made a motion to adjourn: Seconded by Rich the meeting ended at 7:59 PM

Respectively submitted
Rich K8JX Grara secretary.