

## UNION COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY Meeting Minutes for May 21, 2020

**Chris Whitaker, AE4WS** opened the regular meeting at 7:00 PM with 9 members and 1 guest present.

### Members in attendance:

Bill Turner, W4WNT

Alfred KoKoszczyński, KC2GZI

Mike Williams, K4IC

Christopher Whitaker II, KK4WJL

David Keever, KV4N

Paul Corso, KK4PIB

Ricardo Fisher, KM4QJO

Gordon Lyman, N4YTM

Chris Whitaker, AE4WS

Nate Kline, W4NDK (G)

1. Chris Whitaker (AE4WS) opened the meeting at 7:00 PM.
2. Chris announced that tonight's on-air meeting replaces the meeting at the Red Cross due to the pandemic.
3. Attendees were requested to check-in.
4. April's meeting was reviewed.
5. Treasurer's Report given by David K. Balance \$2,568.78
  - a. Noted tower was sold at JAARS.
6. Chris gave a Covid-19 Update:
  - a. Union County has 371 Reported Cases
  - b. 17 deaths
  - c. 194 Recovered Cases
  - d. Phase 2 becomes effective on Friday, May 22.
    - i. Restaurants may open at 50% capacity.
    - ii. Group size restrictions did not change (internal 10 people) (outside 25 people)
    - iii. Red Cross is on a lock down, we are unable to attend, meetings will continue the repeater until further notice.
    - iv. Phase 2 expected to last 5-6 weeks
    - v. Expect to meet at Fire Station #4 in Monroe after Phase 2.
7. Skywarn Training – Mailing was sent for Skywarn Spotter Training
  - a. Looking for a Skywarn Manager for the Club, that can create training, drills and coordinate the program.
  - b. If interested contact Chris, AE4WS.
8. Chris announced a new UCARS Digital net that meets on Wednesday evenings at 8:00 PM on 145.390.
  - a. Digital format is C4FM (Fusion)
9. Field Day Update
  - a. No definitive plan currently due to restrictions from COVID-19
  - b. Was waiting on Phase 2 restrictions now that they are known.
  - c. Looking for input from members and their feelings and concerns.
  - d. Other clubs are looking at working from home.
  - e. We can sum all our scores from home stations to obtain a total to determine how we would have fared had in a group setting.
  - f. ARRL may publish your entry as part of a Club (unconfirmed at this time)
  - g. Chris will send out information about Field and a questionnaire to see how members feel about Field day.
  - h. David K. gave report of responses received from other clubs in the area how they are handling Field Day. Most report at this time they have not made a final decision and on their agenda in the next week. Mecklenburg in their last meeting is leaning toward "Home" operation.

- i. Paul Corso commented that with the 25 limitation outdoors no reason that we could not hold the Field day normally. He is asking consideration that Field Day be held at church. We have tentative approval for the location after last year's event.
  - j. Chris responded that yes, it could be possible, we would have to implement restrictions, we could not invite public, masks (not sure), keeping distance creates an issue in operation.
  - k. Alfred KoKo reported that he has two club canopies at his house, we have one that the club purchased and one that Bill Foust donated. They can be used if the Club elects to do an outdoor Field Day at the Church.
  - l. Gordon Lyman reported that he does not plan to attend outdoor event and will work from home with battery and solar power.
  - m. Chris reported that the Covis-19 case numbers in North Carolina unfortunately have been increasing and mostly from rest homes.
10. Nate Kline, W4NDK reported he is member of W4CQ but not aware of W4CQ's Field day Play, is to talk to WA4YWC and will report back.
  11. Chris announced all upcoming Nets and meetings.
  12. Chris announced he has no knowledge of status of Shelby Hamfest.
  13. Bill Turner, W4WNT announced that 6 meters has become active and there are VHF contests upcoming in June and July.
  14. David K. announced Firecracker Hamfest in Salisbury in July, David to find out if it is cancelled or not.
  15. June's meeting will be held on the repeater.
  16. Chris closed the meeting at 7:40 PM