

# UNION COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY Meeting Minutes for November 19, 2020

**Chris Whitaker, AE4WS** opened the regular meeting at 7:03 PM with 13 members and 1 Guest present.

## Members in attendance:

Alfred KoKoszczyński, KC2GZI

Chris Whitaker, AE4WS

Steven Goins, KN4CJF

Jeff Weiss, K4EVT

Peter Gulish, K1NEM

David Keever, KV4N

Kevin Moderow, WA9VFD

Rick Lanier, N4RCL

Ricardo Fisher, KM4QJO

Russel Hughes, KO4IMU

Paul Corso, KK4PIB

Bill Turner, W4WNT

Gordon Lyman, N4YTM

John Griffin, KG4WAC

1. Chris Whitaker (AE4WS) opened the meeting at 7:03 PM.
2. Tonight's meeting is being held via ZOOM.
3. October's meeting notes were reviewed.
4. Gave results of Fox Hunt, Gordon found the Fox.
5. Treasurer's Report given. Balance \$2,239.42
  - a. Expenditure of 218.45 for repeater antenna.
  - b. 2021 dues will be \$30.00 and may be paid now. Dues are to be paid no later than January 1, 2021.
6. Reminded all the Echolink is up and working, Chris reported that he is seeing log ins during the day.
  - a. Want to find a central location
  - b. Red Cross building does not appear to be an option.
7. Future plans are for a Wires-X node.
8. Winter Field Day plans will be issued once updates are received of the rules.
9. Plan to have a December meeting this year on the 17<sup>th</sup>.
10. David requested from the membership ideas of subjects that they are interested to be presented during meetings. And if you want to present a subject let Chris or David know.
  - a. Kevin can give presentations on SOTA and Parks on the Air.
  - b. Chris asked for a presentation on the Chinese CAN antenna analyzer.
  - c. Gordon will provide a link to a presentation on the VNA.
11. Chris commented on the active storm year we have had, He would like to reactivate the Skywarn platform.
  - a. He requested someone to take ownership for the activity, to provide training, information and coordination for a "Skywarn" program.
12. David commented that he would like to show the UVARS repeaters, but a visit is not possible, but possibly give an overview of the operation of how the repeaters are interconnected, the control of digital and analog, what can be done.
13. Paul questioned the Priority and Emergency traffic at the beginning of the Net, How do we handle that?
  - a. Need to know what is Emergency and what is Priority traffic?
    - i. Priority traffic is traffic that needs to be handled first over the Net.
    - ii. Emergency traffic is a case like an accident and you need help immediately and have no other means of communications.
  - b. Emergency traffic information would be passed to 911 service.
  - c. Paul questioned if there is anything written down or formal guidelines.
  - d. Kevin was told to program FRS/GMRS frequencies in your radio for monitoring.
    - i. Discussion followed of what can and can not be done legally and limitations of some radios.
14. FCC has proposal a fee of \$50 for an Amateur Radio license, there is opposition by the ARRL.
  - a. Comments (2<sup>nd</sup> time) will expire on November 30<sup>th</sup>.

15. Bill Turner clarified that he Winter Field Day is not run by the ARRL but by the Winter Field Day Assn.
  - a. Rules can be found at [www.winterfield day.com](http://www.winterfield day.com).
  - b. Rules are being adjusted so that participants may operate from home and submit by club.
16. Kevin stated that the ARRL has nothing to do with the Winterfield Day as it is cold in Connecticut and warm in the summer.
17. Kevin made comments about the ZOOM platform and that it is being provided by the State.
  - a. Explained what can be done with ZOOM
  - b. The ZOOM can be streamed on Facebook.
18. Bill Turner announced his participation in Winter Field Day with the CDXA group and their high rating in the country.
  - a. They operated from Morrow Mtn.
  - b. Kevin announced there is a new Morrow Mtn location.
19. Questions about how to pay dues on Paypal were discussed.
20. Chris closed the meeting at 8:03 PM