

Choctaw Amateur Radio Club Minutes from February 15, 2010

Members Present:

Dave Downing	WD5G		
Eric Spiegel	K3UUF		CORA Director
Bill Wilburn	N5NUK	CARC Secretary	CORA Officer/President
Ron Earnest	W5RGT		
Don McDown	N5ENQ	CARC Vice President	CORA Director
Bill Crossland	N9SQV	CARC President	CORA Alternate
David Huntz	NH6SM	CARC Treasurer	CORA Director

Visitor:

Allen Kolodziej "KJ" KB5YVA

The meeting was Called to Order at 7:00pm.

Old Business:

Controller issue is still on the table. **Dave WD5G** reported we have options regarding the controller. He and **Don N5ENQ** had discussions about possibilities, and Dave was going to follow up on something that Don seemed to think had happened which was that the regulation to have an out of band control signal had been changed, whether it's a phone line or a signal from the 220Mh or 440Mh bands, and that now a signal from 2 meters was acceptable.

The scanner idea would take some work, because one of the things needed is a COR signal from the radio to key the controller so that the controller knows to listen to command signals. Dave would check Ebay to see if there was an old Motorola radio with PL capability, and with some programming material, use a frequency from the 440Mh band.

Another option that **Dave WD5G** would follow up on is the idea of using a throw away cell phone, but the question of time expiration of the phone needs to be explored. Others at the meeting seemed to think these were good for a year before expiring. The most appealing option is the Motorola idea.

The working condition of the 440Mh radios **Ron W5RGT** has in his possession from **Larry K5VVD** is questionable. They were modified and used for the packet system.

David NH6SM suggested putting a request on the Swap & Shop to see if anyone had one they would simply give to us. **Dave WD5G** thought they would be only about \$20 on Ebay. **Ron W5RGT** has a commercial 440Mh crystal controlled receiver he would donate to the cause.

Dave WD5G suggested getting with **Ron W5RGT** the following Saturday to move forward on the project which would eliminate the phone line and save the club in excess of \$30 per month.

It was agreed that collecting one (\$1) dollar per month for the Food Pantry would take place at club meetings. The issue of how long the collection would be held before turning it over to the Food Pantry was raised. It was decided to consult the Food Pantry to see what was best for them.

The issue of Citizen Corps is still open.

CORA Report:

Bill N5NUK gave a report regarding Ham Holiday. The venue will be the Biltmore Hotel located at I-40 & Meridian. Details coming, check the website www.hamholiday.org

Other:

Bill N9SQV passed around some FEMA updates and also passed out an information sheet showing how to read bar codes in order to discover where in the world products are manufactured.

Dave WD5G reminded everyone about the Green Country hamfest March 12/13. Other state hamfests were commented on, and Ham Comm in the Dallas area and Dayton were also mentioned.

Anyone interested in going to Dayton should contact **Dave Duskin NE5S**.

No other business was conducted and a general rag-chewing session ensued. The meeting was adjourned at 7:51pm.

Next meeting would be March 15, 2010.