

# TELLICO LAKE AMATUER RADIO CLUB

## Minutes of Meeting

March 21, 2018

1. The meeting was opened at 7:05 by V.P. Juan Lopez who was filling in for Pres. Sam Howard who wasn't present due to some medical issues. He will be having a medical procedure on Friday March 23 and Juan suggested we keep him in our thoughts and prayers for a speedy recovery. Juan welcomed everybody to the meeting followed by introductions of the 23 people in attendance.
2. **Minutes** of the February 21 meeting taken by acting Secretary Joyce Tarbell were approved following a motion by Mike Wagner and seconded by Mac McDermott.
3. **Treasurer's Report** Treasurer Joyce Tarbell reported a previous balance of \$640.03 and payments of dues totaling \$84 for a closing balance of \$724.03.
4. **V.P. Report** V.P. Juan Lopez reported on the project to see the costs and benefits of purchasing \$1,000,000 worth of liability insurance as protection during club sponsored activities. Juan will send out an email when the study is complete but basically so far, he hasn't found anybody willing to write a policy for one or 2 days which is typical of our events. They want to write the coverage for a year, and it is fairly expensive for that period of time.
5. Juan recommended that the 2018 budget be adopted at \$550. He pointed out that this is really a "guideline" for control of expenditures rather than a true budget. Mike Wagner made a motion to adopt this budget and it was seconded by Mike Foley. It passed.
6. There will be a testing session on April 14<sup>th</sup> and May 2<sup>nd</sup> at 9 a.m. at the Rec Center in the room across the hall from our regular meeting room. Joyce will send out an email about it. Testing will be available for new licenses and upgrades.
7. Due to a scheduling conflict, the next meeting on April 18<sup>th</sup> will be held in the large room near the entrance to the Rec Center.
8. Field Day is coming up on June 23 and 24<sup>th</sup>. Tim Montgomery is the chairman and Randy Kruszka has agreed to help him. Juan is working on the possibility of holding it at the Wellness Center. That location would provide some high visibility for our club and let residents know there would be alternative means of communication available if there was a failure of the normal system. We are going to have 3 transmitters going this year, 2 for the contests and a "Get on the air" (GOTA) set up for unlicensed people to have the experience of being on the air. The GOTA station won't be participating in the contests. Juan and David Weikert are looking into how TLARC and Loudon County ARES can work together as a way to earn more contest points.
9. Allan Tarbell related a story about his Chinese HT. It was dropped in the lake for 11 days and eventually fished out when the water cleared. After a good cleaning, Allan baked it

in the oven for 12 hours and when he took it out, everything worked but the mic. He contacted the company and they sent him a mic free.

10. Dave Schoenherr <sup>BEN</sup> asked if there was someone in the TLARC club who would volunteer to assist his theater group in repairing their communication devices used during theater productions. There are a variety of problems that need to be addressed.
11. The business meeting was adjourned at 7:38.

### **FirstNet Presentation**

The program for the evening was a presentation by Mr. Darek Wieczorek of **Mission Critical Partners, Inc.** His presentation covered the architecture and operation of the first nationwide net dedicated to the interoperability of a network to enable all emergency responders to exchange information on a nationwide basis. **FirstNet** is an independent authority within the U.S. Department of Commerce. Authorized by Congress in 2012, its mission is to develop, build and operate the nationwide broadband network that equips first responders to save lives and protect U.S. communities.

There was a nationwide bidding process and AT and T was the successful bidder to work on the project. They received 20 MHz of bandwidth and \$7 billion dollars to implement the network. They already had 40 MHz capacity on their network. Mr. Wieczorek went through a set of slides which he couldn't leave but many of which are available at their website which is **FirstNet.Gov/about** if you are interested in following up. My impression is that the original dates were very ambitious. The data portion of the project seems to be moving along but it sounded like the voice push to talk microphone part of the project is more challenging than anticipated.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

Brent Martin, K4BNN, Secretary

