

Benton Amateur Radio Society

Meeting Minutes

March 4th, 2008

The Benton Amateur Radio Society met March 4th, 2008 at the Salem Volunteer Fire Department fire hall. There were 17 members and 2 visitors present for a total attendance of 19.

President WB5VEV, Jim, called the meeting to order at 7:33 P.M., welcomed everyone to the meeting and then had Secretary-Treasurer N2JAS, Fred, read the October 2nd, 2007 meeting minutes followed by the treasurer's report. A motion to accept the minutes and treasurer's report as read was made by K5BKT Peg, was seconded by WA5LOC Jerry, and the vote passed unanimously.

Old Business:

1. The BARS Club did not have a formal business meeting in December 2007 but 11 members and 3 visitors did meet at the home of WB5VEV, Jim for a time of fellowship and Christmas party enjoying a large assortment of finger food.
2. To finalize elections for 2008, nominations to fill the expired term ending 12/31/2007 of WD5C, Larry Porterfield for Board Position #1 were made. Nominees for the term of 1/1/2008-12/31/2010 were N5GMR Jewel Crowson and N5HSF Dennis Hughes. The election was by paper ballot with 15 members voting, resulting in electing N5GMR Jewel Crowson for Board Position #1.

New business:

AE5SP Steve Porter, the new Saline County Emergency Coordinator discussed upcoming CSEPP event and was looking for radio operators to help man positions for a decontamination exercise scheduled for 8:00 AM – noon March 26th. AE5SP also had ARES forms for any interested BARS members to register for ARES membership. Had an additional discussion, even though there are abundant cell phones, during periods of prolonged outages, ham radio can provide essential communications when commercial telecommunication systems are down. KC5UUL Mike provided extended discussion on CSEPP, its purpose, the potential danger of the stockpiled military chemical weapons near Pine Bluff, the responsibilities of local fire departments, training and drills, etc. Also KC5UUL provided a high level look at the Incident Command system for Fire Departments.

N5GMR Jewel Crowson reported that the Mills Park Field Day site is reserved 8:00 AM Saturday thru 3:00 PM Sunday, June 28-29th. A short discussion followed concerning operating as a 2A category station for FD 2008 if enough operators and equipment are available and will be a topic for the June 3rd meeting.

It was reported that Floyd Bumpus's (former member now in the Round Rock, TX area) wife is in very poor health. Also that K5JTA Ted Carter is in poor mental health and his wife Sylvia was buried today March 4th.

WB5VEV, Jim commented on how the Sunday & Monday night Bauxite 10-10 Chapter Net has had good attendance and participation, and occasionally have a distant check-in when propagation cooperates.

A motion to adjourn was made by K5EBI, Eldon, seconded by WB5ARI, Jackie, and the vote carried unanimously, closing the meeting at 8:12 P.M.