

Benton Amateur Radio Society

Meeting Minutes

October 7, 2024

The Benton Amateur Radio Society met October 7, 2024 at the Bauxite City Hall. There were 12 members and 5 guests present.

President Phil, KE5KWO called the meeting to order at 2:42 P.M. This was followed by Secretary/Treasurer Alli, K5ALI, reading the minutes from the August 4, 2024 meeting and the current Treasurer's report. A motion was made by K5RAR, Bill, and seconded by WB5ARI, Jackie, to accept both as read. The motion passed.

Old Business:

K5ALI, Alli, reported that we now have an open bank account at First Security. She briefly presented the paperwork and a thank-you card she received from our representative at the bank and offered to pass the latter around if there was any interest.

KI5FGS, James, provided an update regarding the postcards he has been sending out to try and increase meeting attendance. He mailed out two rounds of postcards over the summer, the second of which went out a little over a week prior to the October meeting. Three of the five guests present were a direct result of this effort.

New Business:

Bill, N5HQ, announced that he discovered a feature that will allow text messages to be sent from the website. Those interested were instructed to contact Bill via email from their text messaging app to be added to the distribution list once he has written the program and launched it on the website. According to guest attendee Keith, KI5KKY, who works in technology, small carriers and those on prepaid accounts may not be eligible to receive these messages.

James, KI5FGS, provided a brief update on a situation that is occurring on the GMRS side of FCC communications. A repeater system in New York State was shut down by the FCC and how this has affected GMRS operations in Arkansas.

KI5FGS, James, reminded members that we need content for the website and encouraged club members to submit stories for the webmaster to upload. Bill, N5HQ, the webmaster, chimed in and added that he will occasionally add something but would like to see others contribute as well.

K5BKT, Peg, reminded everyone that our upcoming December meeting will consist of a short business meeting followed by a potluck and social gathering, and that families are welcome to attend. N5HQ, Bill, offered to open the building at 2:00 P.M. that day to allow people extra time to set up before the meeting begins.

Larry, WD5C, advised that the Board of Directors met at IHOP on October 3, 2024 to discuss their recommendations for officers and board positions for the 2025 calendar year. He presented their proposed slate of officers, which are as follows:

- President – James Hunt, KI5FGS
- Vice President – Lynn Denton-Jones, KI5AIT or Bob Kirtley, N5BOB
- Secretary/Treasurer – Alli Porterfield, K5ALI
- Board Position 2 – Tom Crow, N5TTI
- Board Position - Bobby Livingston, N5YLE

Neither Lynn nor Bob were present at the meeting, but Phil, KE5KWO spoke on behalf of Lynn and stated that she is not interested in holding any office at this time. K5BKT, Peg, stated that she would serve as the Vice President if necessary, but voiced concerns of having three members from the same family serving in an official capacity.

Larry, WD5C, shared that he ran across some anti-fraud legislation that might affect our club beginning January 1, 2025. Keith, KI5KKY, stated this was the Corporate Transparency Act, and James, KI5FGS, offered to look into it further. Alli, K5ALI, will try to find out what classification we are according to the IRS, which should help him determine how this affects B.A.R.S.

K5RAR, Bill, moved to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by N5HQ, Bill. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 3:30 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,
Alli Porterfield, K5ALI
Secretary/Treasurer