

# Minutes of the Butte Radio Club – September 7, 2024

Location: Butte Library

Time: 10:45 AM

## **In Attendance:**

Rob Sisson (KE7IYU), Erik Bodenberger (KA7JMH), Lily Shigaki (K2LIL) and her son Grant Shigaki (Grant was a guest), Rick DuPrey (KDOTSC), Rodney Pewitt (N7TRG), Tom Hoffman (KZ7T), Jack Hook (KK7IZN), Shane Smart and his son Ayden Smart (guests), and Steve Shannon (presiding and recording secretary).

## **Treasurer's Report:**

The balance at the beginning of July was \$426. Since then the club received \$25 in dues and \$259.50 in donations. The club also had expenses, \$39.52 in supplies (check blanks), \$34.90 to NorthWestern Energy, and \$231.00 for our new insurance policy. This leaves us with a balance, before this meeting, of \$405.08.

## **Motion to Approve Treasurer's Report:**

**Motion Made:** Erik Bodenberger

**Seconded:** Rick DuPrey

**Vote**

**Aye:** Unanimous

**Nay:**

**Abstain:**

## **Reading of the Minutes:**

Steve read the July 6 minutes.

## **Any Corrections?**

None noted.

## **Motion to Approve the Minutes of the Last Meeting with noted corrections**

**Motion Made:** Jack Hook

**Seconded:** Rodney Pewitt

**Vote**

**Aye:** Unanimous

**Nay:**

**Abstain:**

### **Old Business:**

**The following items must still be done. If they are completed they will be removed from the list:**

1. Fix our trustee licenses (FCC): Steve fixed the FRN. **Steve gave the necessary documents to Rob Sisson and Rodney Pewitt to help them see if they could edit the trustee licenses. If this doesn't work Steve will work with both of them and ARRL to get the licenses changed.**
2. Transfer the title of the trailer from Butte Amateur Radio Club to Butte Radio Club: **We must figure out who has the title first. Steve will look in the filing cabinet at the old hospital. Rodney thought maybe it was in the President's book.**
3. Fundraising: **We need someone to lead.**
  - a. Lily asked about getting a copy of the fundraising letter. She doesn't have the time to lead, but she's interested in doing some stuff to promote us in Sheridan and Twin Bridges. It all helps!
  - b. Jack mentioned the idea of having some field exercises, except instead of being out in the wilderness, having them in parking lots where the public can see what we do. This may attract donations and new hams alike! Erik will talk to the manager of the Ace to see if we can do one there. Other places to try: Walmart parking lot, Murdoch's parking lot, maybe the Butte Plaza Mall? People who were interested were: Jack, Steve, Tom, Rodney, and Rob. Most expressed that it would all depend on when and what conflicts they have at the time. Also, some expressed they wouldn't be able to do an entire day, but maybe we could work in hour or two hour shifts.
  - c. Rodney is still looking into federal grants for emergency operations and how such a grant might help fund a replacement repeater. Rodney would like a copy of the fund solicitation letter. He also said he thinks he might need help from Steve in wordsmithing a request. Steve agreed to help.
4. **File for the 1023EZ by August 4, 2026.** Leave this here as a reminder.
5. **Tom and Steve need to get together to do the website.**

### **New Business:**

The repeaters are down. USFS had a power failure that resulted in rewiring their service. Because reconnecting our service the way it had been before would have put us in violation of the National Electrical Code, the USFS guy (Rob Morris) disconnected

us. Also, we discovered that our USFS agreement had been cancelled by the USFS in 2010 for reasons for which no documentation exists. Steve and James have been working hard to put together a new agreement. Steve turned in all of the applications Thursday, September 5, 2024. Mandy will look them over. She has assured us that the applications will almost certainly be approved.

In the meantime, Rob Morris has suggested offered to bore a hole in the wall and run an extension cord to get us going temporarily. He wanted to wait to do that until we turn in our applications, which we have done now. Then we'll have a licensed electrician run two 20 amp circuits for us (one primary and one backup). These circuits will come off the service panel for USFS rather than being metered by NorthWestern Energy. This should save us some money.

Also, Steve filled out an application for a new insurance policy under the Butte Radio Club name. We have received the proof of insurance, but it still had the old address. Steve has written the insurance person to get that straightened out.

**Any other business for the good of the order:**

Tom mentioned that he has some of the better (usable) club equipment. He wondered if he should still keep it at his house. Steve suggested that maybe it could go back into our room at the old hospital now that we have cleaned it out.

Lily asked if we have the ability to accept online donations. Jack agreed to talk to our bank to see what they could do.

**Motion to Adjourn:**

**Motion Made:** Jack Hook

**Seconded:** Rodney Pewitt