

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Socorro Amateur Radio Association on November 8, 2017 . The meeting was called to order at 7:31 PM by President Jim Boswell, in the Emergency Management conference room in the County Annex, 198 Neel Avenue, Socorro, New Mexico.

Program: Jim Boswell, slide show of his ham shack.

Agenda adopted on a motion by Jim Lommen, seconded and passed.  
Minutes approved on a motion by Jon Spargo, seconded and passed.

#### Reports:

Treasury, Luis Aguilar:

ARES, Al Braun: four regular Wednesday evening nets, plus the Tri-County net on Thursdays.

Charter School, Jon Spargo: Classes are going well. Finishing chapter on antennas and propagation. On Tuesday November 28, they will be building 2-meter ground plane antennas, 3 PM in the Activity Building.

TARA: not present, no report.

Repeater: no report on the .68 machine.

D-Star: Ten people logged in since September 30. There are plans afoot to upgrade the computer eventually. Ed James' offer to help administer the D-Star is OK by consensus of those assembled (and he is a member).

Hamfest: Jim Lommen: We are in the black from the dinner; Sofia's did a good job.

Made \$33 on coffee and donuts. We had eighteen tables and nine tailgaters. The Silent Auction took in \$344, and the donation sales table \$482. Mailing costs were \$736 for postage, \$33 for labels, and \$360 for printing. We will get \$1000 back from Lodgers Tax. We have asked for \$1200 for the past several years. We had eight exam takers, of whom five passed. Our total net from the Hamfest was \$1275. Boswell noted that people wanted coffee after the dinner.

#### Old Business:

Brad: Reroofing the Garden Shack. Dave Johnson provided precut ProPanel; we secured it in place. Have added some pressure-treated wood to stabilize the roof.

More work is needed on the roof structure. GFCI outlet replaced but no power; needs attention paid to the breaker box. We have new antennas for the digipeaters, courtesy of Paul Choc.

Holiday party: Will be at Bear's house in San Antonio, 6 PM on December 13.

Lab Night will be November 29th ; subject matter to be determined.

#### New Business:

Jim Lommen opened discussion on membership (call sign) badges: We decided a while back to provide badges to new members, although the cost of the badge slightly exceeds the membership fee. Discussion ensued. Jim Lommen was appointed Chairman of a Badge Committee. Brad Smith and Jon Spargo volunteered for the committee.

D-Star 1.2 GHz needs cable and antenna installation. Estimating 50 feet; need to measure. Jim Boswell might be able to get some discarded hard line, and other possible sources need to be checked out.

There was no further business, and a motion to adjourn was made by Jon Spargo, seconded and passed. Adjournment was at 8:15 PM.