

# Grand Rapids Amateur Radio Association

## Meeting Minutes

August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016

The meeting of the Grand Rapids Amateur Radio Association was called to order at 7:09pm by President, Tom Hansen.

### President's Report

Tom Hansen, N8DGD. Tom had us introduce ourselves. We had a guest, Walt Augustat WA8LT from Cadillac MI. Tom also outlined what he would be bringing up during the meeting. We skipped the Highway Cleanup due to weather. Tom also said he knows of a tower for sale.

### VP Report

John Streyle W8QZ: nothing to report.

**Secretary's Report:** Rich K8JX read last month's minutes: there were two corrections: The LARC isn't holding the swap, but the High School club is. Paul, WX8TOW gave a presentation at the end of the meeting on Yaesu's Fusion digital system. Motion to accept corrected: Jack NY8D and seconded by Frank KD8QXC.

### Treasurer's Report

Rich Douglas, KC8NKA: reported we now have a balance of \$4730.11. Motion to accept by Frank KD8QXC Seconded by Thom WI8W Motion passed.

### W8DC Trustee Report:

Tom Hansen: Nothing to report.

**On Air Director Report:** Nothing to report

**Off Air Director Report:** Nothing to report.

**Tech. Director Report:** Steve said we're still having problems with the controllers. He has been pricing them and there seems to be a wide range of prices. They have ordered an ALL STAR RTC interface which should provide many features we can use. Steve also called the Red Cross in Austin Tx to see what an antenna would cost for the RED X. \$380.00

We then had a discussion on the reliability of the repeaters. Joe WD8USA offered to let us try his 6 meter Ringo. Steve would like to meet with N8GS and see if he would use this quad copter to check out the tower and antenna. Tom N8DGD said we need to set a date for tower work and testing cables: We'll try 8-20-2016.

**Member-At-Large Report:** He wanted to thank Bob for mowing the grass at the repeater site.

**Red Cross Liaison Report:** The basement doors were open. We need to be sure they are locked. We also will be participating in providing support for the “smoke alarm “distribution coming up. We provide support for the service and also communications.

**Digital Rep. Report:** None

**Web Master Report:** Dave KF8QL wasn't here, but Rich, K8JX said Dave has updated the minutes on the web site and also brought the board members up to date.

**VE Team Report:** Rich had 3 people pass their exam last month.

### **Additional Reports**

**Public Information Office:** Jack NY8D said “Spark in the park” is coming up on August 20, 2016. LARC will hold their monthly meeting next week. LARC can still use help with the “MUD” Run.

**Old Business** Tom said it will cost \$200.00 to replace the Low noise pre-amp. Due to a newer design, they can't simply repair our unit, but will give us \$200.00 off a new unit. This pre-amp really helps the Loop antenna. Motion to purchase was made by Bob AC8ZX and seconded by Philip W8IPN. The motion passed.

We then had a general discussion on the upcoming swap. How to advertise, holding a postage stamp licking party and if we have enough tickets. It was decided that the vendors would use the double doors, and admission folks use the single doors.

**New Business** We just discussed Dayton moving the convention to a new location.

Frank KD8QXC made a motion to adjourn the meeting: seconded by Jack AB8DT.  
The meeting ended at 8:07PM

Respectively submitted by  
Rich K8JX

### **Attendance**

Name	Call Sign	Member
Tom Hansen	N8DGD	Yes
Walt Augustat	WA8LT	guest
Thom Durfee	WI8W	yes
Marc Veensman	W8SDG	yes
Jack Kunnen	AB8ND	yes
Jim Leys	K8CAN	yes
Bob Moe	AC8ZX	yes
Frank Thompson	KD8QXC	yes
Joe Bell	WD8USA	yes
Philip norcktrand	W8IPN	yes
Stephan Provos	AC8QE	yes
John Bradley	AB8WT	yes
An Ingersoll	KB8ZSX	yes
Jack Amelar	NY8D	yes
Rich Douglas	KC8NKA	yes
Richie Ranta	K8JX	GRARA