

VCARC MINUTES

January 8, 2025

Attendees

Kyle Ruesch AB9AX, Bob Barnum KC9RF, Ray Bob Heuer KD9DDE, Kirby Giampa W8DCD, Mike Erstad K9BBN, Dave Stott N9DBS, Marie Beckholt KD9VUB

ZOOM Attendees

Ray Protich WB9OCO, Jeff Hammer N9NIC, Dennis Hammer KC9SKA, Rick Hoekstra W9RAH, KC KG9JP, Joel K

- Meeting was called to order by President Kyle Ruesch AB9AX at 6:00 PM
 - All Rose for the Pledge of Allegiance
 - Introductions were made.
 - Minutes were read, and the Treasurers Report was read.
- Acceptance of Treasurers Report and Minutes was moved, seconded and accepted by all.

Treasurers Report

The Beginning Balance for December is: \$5945.41

The Ending Balance for December is: \$5945.41

Old Business

- The UPC battery is an 11 amp hour battery, which would barely last 1 ½ hours for receiving and transmitting and adding an extra battery is not recommended.
- If anyone has a use for the UPC for a backup for their computer, they would have to buy a new battery for it, but the club is willing to let them use it.
- LiPo, Gel Cell or even a Lead Acid battery, along with Power Gate, which is made by West Mountain Radio is a possibility with the Land O'Lakes repeater, also.
- Ray Bob will be finding out whether the Eagle River repeater has backup power, as it is where the ambulance is kept, if so, would the club would to use it.
- Recap on the clubs activities this past year along with activities that are coming up this year.

New Business

- Winter Field Day is on January 26 – 27, Saturday and Sunday.
- There is a QSO Party in March that coincides with Daylight Savings. It starts about 6 or 7 pm for about 6 hours.
- In June there is the Ride For Research, The Sayner Bike Ride, Field Day, along with the Peter Association, which runs quite a few of these events.
- The Rhinelander Club also runs the ARES and RACES events.
- Emails will be sent in advance of these events, with much more information. Participation is encouraged.
- To help promote this club, an article will be submitted to the Vilas County News Review. It will be about helping those that may need some help, coaching and/or training with Ham Radio.

Tech Talk

Tech Talk was done by Mike Erstad K9BBN.

Mike really AMPED it up with the video and everyone got a real CHARGE out of it!

- Tech Talk was about batteries and building them.
- There was a video presentation and a building of a battery.
- The video is on YouTube:

Lead is Dead! \$229 LFP Siekon 12V 100Ah w/150A BMS and Low Temp Charging?! by Will Prowse

- When batteries are new, they should show that they are over their Amp hour rating.
- Batteries should not be very bloated at all.
- Batteries can be compressed, which helps for the extra gas to escape, but not a real tight compression.
- Charging temps for batteries is: 33 degrees to 120 degrees Fahrenheit.
- Discharging temps for batteries is: -4 degrees to 140 degrees Fahrenheit.
- Batteries can be charged while in use.

Motion to adjourn was accepted by all at 7:30 PM