



Western Pennsylvania Repeater Council, Inc.

Meeting Notes July 21, 2013 1:30PM

Latrobe, PA

W.P.R.C, Inc. 3000 Village Run Road, Unit 103 #173, Wexford Pa 15090-9244
W.P.R.C. E-Mail: wprc@wprcinfo.org --- W.P.R.C. Web Site: <http://www.wprcinfo.org>

Chairman: Paul Plants W3PLP
Vice Chairman & Chaplain: James Knox N5NWC
Secretary: Thomas Brew K3WS
Assistant Secretary: Elaine Bailey K3EMM
Treasurer: Charles Gessner W3ON

Frequency Coordinator: Frank Bobro N3FB
Bylaws Committee Chairman: Jeff Blake N8PSU
Technical Committee Chairman: Kevin Custer WJ8G
Publicity Chairman: Jim Knox N5NWC
Assistant Publicity Chairman: Scott Zimmerland N3XCC

Thank you to the 23 people in attendance at the July 21st WPRC, Inc. meeting at the Marguerite Fire Department in Latrobe, PA. It is only with your participation we can effectively do our jobs and serve you to the best of our abilities. The food was great!

A special thank you to Sam Sarraf KE3PO (Doc Sam) our host for this meeting. It was great to see Sam and enjoy the comfort of his spacious facility. Pictures have been posted on the WPRC, Inc. Facebook page (Photographer Terry W3GFD)

As everyone in attendance already knows Sam was the lucky winner of the \$25.00 gas card provided by Cambria Radio Club & Wide Area Network Repeater System. The WPRC, Inc. also raffled off 5 repeater directories. We hope to see more raffles at future meetings and other individuals and organizations are welcomed to provide items to giveaway. Please give us advanced notice for consideration and publication.

Several people provided food to share and I do not think anyone went home hungry. Pot Luck lunch seems to be a hit and will now be part of every meeting.

Jim Knox N5NWC started the meeting with a Prayer asking for the Lord's blessing in our efforts as a group working together. Jim also asked for the Lord's blessing of everyone serving in our armed forces.

1) Meeting Called to Order

Paul W3PLP called the Regular Meeting of the Western Pennsylvania Repeater Council to order at 1:37 PM. Paul announced that as with all meetings there is an audio recording that is kept on file for board of director access only. Paul also mentioned that if anyone was uncomfortable with the meeting being archived in audio format they were welcome to step out. Audio Log # 3557

2) Welcome and Introductions. We went around the room and introduced ourselves by name and call sign. Refer to attendance list at the end of this report. Log # 3556

Paul asked to make sure everyone has checked in with the Secretary and signed the check in sheet.

3) Approval of New Members - Chuck W3ON read off the list of new members pending approval.

Greater Pittsburgh VHF Society W3PGH

John Lindvay WB3IVD (A)

Floyd Titus WA3LCO

Chuck Englody N3LAD (A)

Westmoreland Emergency Amateur Radio Service WC3PS, W3CRC, W3LWW, KE3PO systems

Laurel Highlands VHF Society

Laurel Highlands Six Shooters

Wes Nicholas KD3IJ

Motion to Approve: Jeff N8PSU 2nd Scott N3XCC Vote: Only 1 Objection

Motion Passed All listed New Members Seated.

4) Reading of the Minutes of prior meeting.

Tom K3WS after pointing out the past meeting notes have been publicly published for 3 months and that he received some minor corrections by e-mail. Jeff N8PSU motioned to accept as published with noted modifications received by e-mail. Tom K3WS, reminded everyone that all meeting notes are published at wprcinfo.org shortly after each meeting and sent to each member by e-mail. Please make sure we have your correct e-mail address. We will not SPAM. We do not disclose your e-mail address in a CC line.

With some around the room discussion and a few questions and answers.

Motion to Approve: Jeff N8PSU 2nd Paul AB3PJ Vote: Only 1 Objection

Revised meeting notes will be submitted for publication on wprcinfo.org

5) Treasurer's Report

Date: July 21, 2013

Submitted by: Charles Gessner W3ON WPRC, Inc. Treasurer

Period: April 21, 2013 to July 21, 2013

Expenses:

Check #

1016	Franklin VFD	\$ 30.00	Hall Donation
1017	QTH.com	\$ 41.15	Web Domain Renewal
1018	Elaine Bailey	\$ 16.39	Postage/ supplies
1019	Elaine Bailey	\$ 23.00	Postage
1020	Breezeshooters	\$ 20.00	Hamfest Donation
1021	UPS Store	\$ 100.00	UPS Store Mail handling and forwarding
1022	Chuck W3ON	\$ 87.14	Postage and Breezeshooters Hamfest HT Prize
Total Expenses:		\$ 357.68	
Starting Balance:		\$6,142.15	(April 21, 2013)
Deposits:		\$ 275.29	(Cash/checks \$275.00 + Interest \$0.29)

Sub Total:	\$6164.60	
Total Expenses: -	-\$357.68	
Check Book Balance:	\$5,989.76	(July 21, 2013)

Cash On Hand:	\$ 105.00
Ending Balance:	\$6,094.76

Memberships (Paid)		Memberships (Not Paid)	
Regular	80	Regular	72
Associate	7	Associate	1
Rep Repeaters	133	Not Rep Repeaters	79

Motion to Approve: Scott N3XCC 2nd Larry K3LBP Vote: Unanimous

6) Correspondence report.

Tom – K3WS mentioned that we had received and logged a few items. Most of the items received were all resolved or replied to between meetings and nothing is requiring any further action in this meeting. One item, Log number 3553 July 19th 2013 from WW3S, makes clear the request of the Crawford Amateur Radio Society in which they state that Cynthia Rushton WB3CJN is NOT authorized to speak on their behalf. Tom also noted that there are currently 47 log items of new business in various stages of completion since the last meeting.

Motion to Approve: Jeff N8PSU 2nd Scott N3XCC Vote: Unanimous

7) Committee Reports

a) Technical Committee – Kevin WJ8G

Kevin WJ8G commented on the work-through of the back-log of items which still continues, but we are nearly up to date - working in near real time. The quickest turnaround time to be expected is 60 days, and we are currently close to that timeframe depending on how many other Councils' involvement are required. I helped Frank with two coordination disputes, two reports of interference, and their resolved. I am continuing to pre-screen the coordination applications for inaccuracies, and where necessary, contact the prospective trustee by phone or email to obtain correct data. I have been working on updating several web pages to make them easier to read and understand.

Another order of business covered by Kevin was to request the Chairman to consider appointing Tom 'Sparky' Orzetti WB3IGM to replace Joe McElhaney KR3P on the Technical Committee. Paul Plants W3PLP approved the action. This action did not require a vote however there were no noted objections from the room.

b) By Laws Committee – Jeff N8PSU

The By Laws Committee met from 12:15 to 1:15 prior to the regular meeting. This meeting was to predominately discuss language and conflicting language surrounding membership classifications and voting privileges. Attendance included Jeff Blake, committee chairman, Alan Carnes committee member, Paul Plants W3PLP, Jim Knox N5NWC, Chuck Gessner W3ON, Tom Brew K3WS, Kevin Custer WJ8G, Elaine Bailey K3EMM, Terry Carlson W3GFD, Frank Bobro N3FB.

In my report to the membership I acknowledged that we also received some correspondence from Cynthia Rushton who e-mailed some suggestions for content change (Log number 3554) that will be reviewed and acted upon as applicable through regular process. The meeting today allowed me to obtain feedback and ideas from the board and some general members.

Our primary goals continue to be to streamline language, eliminate contradictory language and provide the WPRC, Inc. with a more functional document, and to allow for the development of a business and

operational policy document to accompany the by-laws. Much of the impeded progress this year is a combination of my inability to effectively schedule a committee meeting over late spring and summer.

c) Public Relations Committee – Jim N5NWC and Scott N3XCC

Jim N5NWC mentioned that all of his communications since the last meeting have been on e-mail and with favorable results. Jim also mentioned he has received a few very positive comments about the opening prayer before the meeting.

Scott N3XCC, commented for those repeater owners who can't seem to get their machines back to operational status on their own, the WPRC may be able to help.

Restroom Break 2:00 pm – 2:15pm

During the break we held the raffle for the gas card and repeater directories.

Gas Card Winner KE3PO, Directory winners W3ON, N3FJU, N3XCC, N3XWM, WB3EQW

8) Old Business

a) Updates on coordination surveys returned (or not) since last meeting.

Frank N3FB reported:

Since the last meeting in April, we have sent out 6 Final Coordinations, 7 Initial Coordinations and have 2 applications pending approval from surrounding coordinating bodies. 5 applications were sent back for various problems. There were 9 requests from surrounding bodies that were approved. We had one complaint of interference from Western NY. That has been resolved. I am continuing to do substantial work on the database. I have made an entry that will track changes and access official log numbers. I believe that I have it worked out on how to export the data suitable for posting on the web. With the changes I have made to the database, I am finding it easier to work with and keep track of what I am changing. I hope that this will allow me to speed up my approval process as I am still running much slower than I would like.

The list of frequencies returned to the available pool:

(as voted on in the July meeting and subject for accuracy review)

Any reuse or coordination must go through the proper process of the WPRC, Inc. and the FC.

As a result of the 10 year survey and an exhaustive effort on the part of Frank and the WPRC, Inc. members to reach out and help contact anyone involved in any un-returned survey this is the final list that has now been voted back in to the pool. Refer back to the meeting notes as seen at wprcinfo.org

Non-Returned 10 Year Coordination Surveys List voted Returned to Pool

	OUTPUT	Input	LOCATION	CALL	SPONSOR	County	TRUSTEE	BU	WPRC_#
L	145.5300		Aliquippa (RB)	N3IRI	W3UJT	Beaver	W3UJT		NA
L	223.7000		Monroeville	K3FZF	K3FZF	Westmoreland	K3FZF	NONE	C05-029
L	433.6750	433.6750	Irwin	W3LWW	Foothills	Westmoreland	N3FLR	K3TB	C02-292
L	433.7500	433.7500	Greensburg	W3LWW	Foothills	Westmoreland	N3FLR	K3TB	C02-001
L	445.6000		Erie	WB3DWL	Gannon U.	Erie	KZ3E		C02-240
L	445.6000		Erie	W3GV	RAErie	Erie	NI3Q	KB3A	C02-382
L	445.6750		Sandy Lake	WA3NSM	WA3NSM	Mercer	WA3NSM		C08-013
L	445.7000		Erie	W3GV	RAErie	McKean	NI3Q	KB3A	C02-377
L	446.0500		PACKET-MAIL FWD	KA3NVP		WPA	KA3NVP		C02-263
L	446.8125	52.9200	Albion	WA3USH		Erie	WA3USH	K8SGX	C02-222
R	51.7200	51.2200	New Galilee	KE3ED	KE3ED	Beaver	KE3ED	None	C98-151
R	53.1500	52.1500	Pleasantville	N3YEX		Venango	N3YEX		C11-017
R	145.1900	144.5900	Lewistown	W3MCC	W3MCC	Mifflin	K3KDK	NONE	C04-055
R	147.1800	147.7800	Emporium (hold)	WA3WPS	CCARC	Cameron	N3SNN	N3FYD	C05-038
R	223.8800	222.2800	Beaver Falls	W3UJT	W3UJT	Beaver	W3UJT		C02-113
R	224.0400	222.4400	New Castle	KA3UEX	KA3UEX	Lawrence	KA3UEX	NONE	C03-082
R	224.7200	223.1200	New Brighton	N3ALL	N3ALL	Beaver	N3ALL	None	C03-006
R	224.8000	223.2000	New Castle	NO3I	NO3I	Lawrence	NO3I	None	C02-127
R	442.3250	447.3250	Cherry Valley	KC8PHW	KC8PHW	Washington	KC8PHW	NONE	C04-038
R	442.6750	447.6750	Evans City	N3XCD	N3XCD	Butler	N3XCD	N3YTD	C00-015
R	443.5500	448.5500	Reedsville	KA3ANJ	JMRA	Mifflin	KA3ANJ	KD3VN	C02-198
R	443.8250	448.8250	Rochester	KA3RFA	KA3RFA	Beaver	KA3RFA	W3EJS	C94-019
R	444.0250	449.0250	New Castle	KA3UEX	KA3UEX	Lawrence	KA3UEX	NONE	C03-083
R	444.5250	449.5250	Pgh/W Mifflin	KA3IDK	GtwyFM	Allegheny	KA3IDK	KA3VJL	C02-196

Update: 147.180, has a note we received July 23rd which needs to be dealt with before return to pool.

Motion to Approve return to the pool: Scott N3XCC 2nd Paul AB3PJ Vote: Unanimous

9) New Business

a) Tom K3WS, We have issued log numbers 3503 – 3550 since the January meeting. (47 items)

b) 6m band plan. With a lot of around the room discussion and consideration the WPRC, Inc. has decided to adopt the ARRC's 6m band plan and we will work with our 2 or 3 active machines to help them comply or suggest they become grandfathered. Please see wprcinfo.org for band plan.

Motion to Approve: Terry W3GFD 2nd Sam W3CYO Vote: Unanimous

c) Paper Repeaters:

Introduced as an idea for the board to consider by Elaine K3EMM, is the matter of "Paper Repeaters". This may be considered a touchy subject by those holding on to a frequency coordination just to have one, but to the individual or organization wishing to truly host and operate a machine it is a great nuisance.

After a lot of around the room discussion and a history lesson on the subject by W3ON, this is now a subject of action for the WPRC, Inc. and the technical committee. Soon there will be procedural changes proposed which will help define the handling of this haunting issue. We do welcome your suggestions now and will consider all options. Many of you may even know how others handle this issue. We simply want to see everyone interested in actually going through the cost and responsibility of hosting a machine, allowed the chance to do so. Please send us your comments. sec@wprcinfo.org

Scott N3XCC added: For those repeater owners who can't seem to get their machines back to operational status on their own, the WPRC, Inc. may be able to help. Our technical committee can help with advice on most repeater hardware. There are LOTS of talented folks within the WPRC, Inc. membership. As such, we may be able to help you get in touch with other folks in your area that can lend you a hand if needed.

Our goal as a council is not to de-coordinate machines, but rather to assist those with machines that are off-the-air, get them back on-the-air as best we can. Paper repeaters are of no help in emergency situations.

d) Elections:

The October meeting in Altoona, PA is an election meeting and we wanted to get the word out now and well in advance.

Please visit <http://wprcinfo.org/wprccons.htm> starting at Article IV for "official" detail on elections. This October we will be voting on The Chairman and Treasurer positions. We will publish all electronically or US Mail submitted nominations received on the web site and Facebook. Please send your electronic nominations to sec@wprcinfo.org.

e) John Salsgiver – KB3SVJ Representing the Fort Armstrong Wireless Association Armstrong County, informed the Council that the K3QY two meter repeater had been moved from it's site near Ford City, Pa. to a site further north. He asked what the status was concerning the coordination or the new site, to which he was told that the paper work was forwarded to other repeater coordinating bodies to determine if there were any issues by other repeater owners with an output frequency of 145.410 MHz. John was reminded that the coordination process for the repeater move is treated like a new coordination process; he understood and assured that his questions were answered. John mentioned that he was green regarding repeater upkeep and operation. He is open to comments and assistance from truly experienced repeater owners/operators etc. John can be reached via 724-763-4120, 724-954-1486 and kb3svj@gmail.com

10) Good of the Council

Cynthia WB3CNJ made a statement that she wanted on record. She said:

"Reference was made earlier to correspondence by this group and apparently some things were perhaps taken out of context and described to the intent behind the email that was sent. My intention and I am stating this for the record, on record, is not in any way, shape, manner, or form to cripple or destroy or even attempt to do that. Far from it, if anything, completely the opposite. As Jeff Blake mentioned though, there were some things that were said in the email that were on, on, that were some good points. I just want it known on record that my intent is not to harm, but instead, to contribute to the Council's improvement with the suggestions that were made in the proposal for the amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws. Whatever people may think is their opinion, I cannot take that away from them, but I will state that under no circumstances, for any reason at any time have I ever desired, or want to desire any harm to come to this Council. I would also like to ask one other thing. Since the annual meeting is in October and I believe nominations for the Chairman's position and the Treasurer's um,

position, are going to be sought, I would like to formally announce my intent to run for the Treasurer's position." (Notice: this quote was transcribed from the meeting audio recording for accuracy)

11) Next Meeting October, 20th Altoona, PA 1:30pm (Election of Officers)
Jeff, N8PSU will be our host point of contact.

Logan Twp Municipal Complex
100 Chief Logan Circle
Altoona Pa 16602 Ph 814 949 3359

GPS Location
W 78° 23' 55" N 40° 29' 39"
146.610 pl 123 HARC <http://harc1.org/>
442.100 pl 167.9

12) Adjournment at 3:24 PM

Motion to Adjourn: Sam W3CYO 2nd Scott N3XCC Vote: Unanimous

13) Attendance as copied from signed attendance Log Number: 3556 23 in attendance.

Paul Plants	W3PLP	Member – Chairman
Tom Brew	K3WS	Member – Secretary
Elaine Bailey	K3EMM	Member – Assistant Secretary
Kevin Custer	WJ8G	Member – Technical Committee Chairman
Frank Bobro	N3FB	Member – Frequency Coordinator
Jim Knox	N5NWC	Member – Vice-Chairman/Chaplain
Charles Gessner	W3ON	Member – Treasurer - 2nd Rep
Paul Bidzilya	AB3PJ	Member
Terry Carlson	W3GFD	Member
Gerald Bosak	WD3D	Member - 2nd Rep
John Salsgiver	KB3SVJ	Member
Lori Bobro	KB3GMU	Guest
Patty Marshall	N3XAR	Member
Sam Mayberry	W3CYO	Member
Cynthia Rushton	WB3CNJ	Member
Sam Sarraf	KE3PO	Member
Jeff Blake	N8PSU	Member
Alan Carnes	N3FJU	Member
Scott Zimmerman	N3XCC	Member
Alex Rushton	N3XWM	Guest
Mike Errigo	WB3EQW	Member
Larry O'Toole	K3LBP	Member
Michael Sakmar	N3SSD	Guest

Notes compiled by Tom Brew K3WS, with submissions from Frank Bobro N3FB, Kevin Custer WJ8G, Jeff Blake N8PSU, Scott Zimmerman N3XCC, and Elaine Bailey K3EMM with editing and formatting by Elaine Bailey K3EMM.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and Special Committees, Thank you to everyone for your continued support and assistance in the growth and continued success of the WPRC, Inc. providing effective coordination services to the amateur community.

Meeting Notes Log Number: 3558
Meeting Audio Log Number: 3557 (*on file in unmodified format*)
Meeting Sign In Log Number: 3556

See you all October in Altoona, PA.