

Grayson County Amateur Radio Club
January 21, 2025 Meeting Minutes
Secretary Cynthia VanSlogteren K5EKA

President Michael Higgins KI5ZIQ started the meeting at 7:00 and welcomed everyone. After the Pledge of Allegiance, we went around the room and introduced ourselves.

Vice President, James Shiplet KI5BMN gave the Vice President's report. Trailer report: walls are insulated and re-paneled with the original wood. Need to put in shelves for bins. At Winter Field Day, we will have the trailer there -- Do we want to operate out of it or work on it? Need to get the table in. See Shiplet after the meeting, please, to volunteer. The trailer is stored at Joe Hayes' KI5BFD house. Christopher Toon is donating a wheeled A/C and Heater. Needs vent. Michael thanked all of us who have been working on the trailer and especially Joe for housing it.

We had the Secretary Report by Cynthia VanSlogteren K5EKA which is posted on the website. Talked about the snafu with hamclubonline emails repeating the Christmas Party info. She mentioned the Main Trading Company in Paris, TX -- touted their generosity: discount, freebies (including Tek... power supply, hats, T-shirts, business cards). There is a thank you note in the back for everyone to sign.

We voted new members in: Gary Keller KI5 MAE, and the two who passed their test tonight: Richard Diaz and Jimmy Richards.

Michael Higgins KI5ZIQ gave the Treasurer's Report which is also posted on our website. Growth rate -- 60% from last year. The budget has been adjusted to account for growth. We discussed the budget as follows:

The Trailer is covered under the insurance of the driver when it is out. Otherwise, for when it is stationary, insurance is too expensive. We should cover it for liability and theft. ARRL has a policy for 5% of replacement value. It was recommended that the club get a blanket policy for liability. ARRL has a policy that is reasonable. McKinney created an insurance reserve out of their budget so they are self-insured for all club equipment. They put money in that reserve at the beginning of each year.

Also it needs to show the income and outgo for Christmas Party room -- \$1500

Eisenhower's cabin for WFD was donated this year. Thank you Michael Coffman AB5MC

We voted on the budget and it passed -- contingent upon researching and adding insurance and making the adjustment for the Christmas Party.

Marvin Schiavone KG5GMA gave the ARES Training report.

SkyWarn Training will be -- February 24 at 6 p.m. at the Center for Workplace Development, Grayson College, Denison. Be there early as it will fill up fast.

Saturday all the planets will be aligned -- and tonight six are.

WinLink Wednesday is tomorrow. We need participants. We were right behind Tarrant county last time.

To be ARES certified you must take the free classes online -- done by FEMA.

QSL -- event coordinating team still needed -- Coffman will handle it and POTA for WFD. Lee pointed out that while he did all that we had delineated last month, it was because he wanted to. The new team can run it as they want.

GCARC Net — Net controls are needed for January, February, etc. for 2025. We might have a Net Control practice hour with Tamara for those who would like it.

For our February meeting (the 18th) the Education will be Spring Weather Prep by Roy Reed AF5VA.

The Board Of Directors meeting will be Feb 4 and Higgins' house.

Winter Field Day, headed up by Michael Coffman AB5MC is this weekend: January 25 and 26, 2025 at Eisenhower State Park.

Some are camping Friday night to be ready to start Saturday at 10:00. Get your daypass early as they may reach capacity.

We will operate until noon on Sunday even though the official day continues through until 4.

Outdoor operation, up to 4 radios. There is a sign-up sheet by band and time of day for working the radios.

You will learn more at field day from all the expertise in the club than you can learn at home on your own.

There will be a WinLink set-up help session and a directional antenna build for fox hunts. Mike is bringing materials but you can bring your own.

The Chili Cook-Off is Saturday night -- judging starts at 4:30.

Mike met with the park officials and they love having us out there. Reminded us about parking -- stay on pavement and no double parking in front of shelters.

Deer Haven restroom and shower is being remodeled so there will be port-a-potties.

Mike Mitchell NZ5K gave us a little history and more information on WFD.

Local Boy Scout troops have been invited.

The Press has been invited. They were asked to come between 1 and 4 on Saturday.

The Herald Democrat put it in the paper.

We will have signs pointing to our location.

Round Table Common Sense

We divided into 6 groups and discussed prompts to help us determine the direction we'd like the club to go this year.

Everyone is encouraged to attend our Board Meetings.

The ticket winners tonight were: the 50/50 drawing was won by David Turner and he donated it to the club. The door prize was a hat won by Gordon Wyatt KQ4ZO, our new member . The Antenna, which was a door prize left out of the Christmas Party by mistake, was won by Christopher Toon KI5DLF.

The meeting was adjourned — 8:34

Attendance: 35

K5EKA Cynthia J. VanSlogteren
KG5GMA Marvin D Schiavone
KI5ZIP Tamara L Higgins
KI5ZIQ Michael A Higgins
KG5FDT Ricky Jessen
KG5SKM Andrew Bentley
AK4TX Christin Umsted
KG5SJY James A Johnson
KI5BMN James R Shiplet
KW5CW James J Frank
AA5KK Donnie M Phipps
N3HT Butch Todd
KD0ZWV Gregory G Stratton
N5SLY Lee Sly
W5DRT David R Turner
AB5MC Michael A Coffman
KI5MRK Mark Poweski
KG5GFI Cody Williams
KC5NK Steven Ollman
KI5TWM David Older
David Paige
KD0VGO John Cash
KI5DLF Christopher Toon
KJ5HFA Mike DeHaven
KJ5HTD Matt McClellan
AF5VA Roy Reed
K5TPK Thoma Kraemer
KC5OLH Jimmy Patterson
KJ5EHC Michael Gaffney
KI6LES Leslie Key
K5EEN David Piekarski
NZ5K Mike Mitchell
WW5GRW Glen Willie

New Members:

KI5MAE Gary Keller
KQ4ZO Gordon Wyatt