



Western Pennsylvania Repeater Council, Inc.

Meeting Report October 16th, 2016

1:00PM

The Masonic Lodge, 225 West Mahoning Street, Punxsutawney, PA

Host: Jim Knox N5NWC

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: Elmer (Bud) Plants N3TIR

Secretary: Thomas Brew K3WS ending 2016

Secretary: Paul Bidzila AB3PJ elected 2017 -2018

Assistant Secretary: Elaine Bailey K3EMM

Frequency Coordinator: Frank Bobro N3FB

Bylaws Committee Chairman: Jeff Blake N8PSU

Technical Committee Chair.: Kevin Custer W3KKC

Treasurer & Webmaster: Scott Zimmerman N3XCC

----- October 16th 2016 Election Meeting Report Highlights -----

The WPRC, Inc. Board of Directors would like to extend a “thank you” to the 22 people who gave of their time and attended the October 16th WPRC, Inc. at The Masonic Lodge.

It is only with your participation we can effectively do our jobs and serve you to the best of our abilities. With your strong attendance the past few years, we have positively affected forward thinking and continuous improvements in a very transparent environment.

Because of your cooperation and efficiency, this meeting was completed in 1 Hour and 22 minutes. There was a lot of very important discussions and around the room conversations which lead to some very important motions and decisions.

Kevin Custer W3KKC requested a round of applause for Tom Brew K3WS Secretary who has announced he will not be running in today’s election. Kevin mentioned that Tom K3WS is a motivator who can take an idea and a few people, while getting things done, and make it their idea.

Our October election meeting was completed in a very orderly fashion with the input and feedback of everyone in attendance. As always, there were very good discussions on a variety of topics form Income Tax filing status, committee reports, and an announcement that a Yaesu factory representative is coming to the WACOM Hamfest giving an hour presentation on fusion and other subjects. More information at <http://www.wacomarc.org/hamfest.html>

We are happy to announce the elections resulted in Bud Plants N3TIR retaining his current Vice Chairman Position for 2017 -2018 and Paul Bidzila AB3PJ being elected as Secretary 2017 – 2018. Congratulations to both.

2017 meeting locations were voted on and decided, as you will see in the report.

Thank you to Tony K3PXY for the pastries and refreshments. We all got our sugar rush, some of us more than others. Not to name names Lincoln..... Hi Hi

Each person in attendance received a new soft copy of the ARRL Repeater Directory.

Please read last page for a final from Tom K3WS

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----- October 16th 2016 Election Meeting Report -----

Bud Plants N3TIR started with a prayer.

1) Meeting Called to Order

Paul W3PLP called the October Election Meeting of the Western Pennsylvania Repeater Council to order at 1:00 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 # 3985

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 # 3986. Paul asked to make sure everyone has checked in with the Secretary and signed the check in sheet.

3) New Members

Scott N3XCC noted only membership renewals to date. No new members to seat at this meeting. Scott N3XCC also announced that he is planning to produce a year end newsletter. It will be sent to the trustee database rather than just members giving greater distribution of information. All in attendance agreed.

As a reminder, your 2017 dues are due by the April 2017 meeting. With discussion around the room the dues amount will remain as is. Please attend the meetings and be part of the evolution of the WPRC, Inc.

4) Treasurer's Report Scott N3XCC Log# 3990

2016 Western PA Repeater Council - Treasurer's Report
October Election Meeting

Date	Description	Checking	Petty Cash
10/16/2016	Account Balance	\$9,925.21	\$126.75
	Membership Dues Deposits :	\$ 90.00	
	Interest Deposits (checking with interest):	\$0.50	
	Expense Frequency Coordinator Budget	-\$100.00	

Membership data update pending. And Scott will update the membership list and our website.

Motion to Approve: Bill N3BPB 2nd: Paul AB3PJ Vote: Unanimous

5) Frequency Coordinator Report - Frank N3FB

Since Last Meeting, the following items have been processed:

9 - Denials

7 – Final Coordination’s issued.

14 – Current Initial Coordinations.

59 – Requests from surrounding Coordination Bodies cross coordinations.

I have been looking at a database program that is in use in by the WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION OF REPEATERS and written by their coordinator, Dave Karr KA9FUR. It is interesting and I may use it for some things. It does a great job of checking spacing requirements for new machine requests. What I really like about what I have running is the ability to take notes on each entry. Dave's program does not do that.

I have been verifying the ARRL database with ours. I have found some errors. Eastern PA machines have been placed on our list and I assume that something similar has happened on our machines. I plan to check the entries machine by machine.

As always a special thank you to Kevin W3KKC for all of the behind the scenes work that he does.

6) Committee Reports

a) Technical Committee – Kevin W3KKC

In Kevin's year end report he proudly reflected on the proposed and accepted UHF band plan change that took place about a year ago. Frank N3FB continues to impress me every day he always performs to the realm of perfection. As we are set for another 2 years the one thing that saddens me is the loss of Tom K3WS. Tom is a motivator who can take an idea and a few people, getting a lot of things done, and make it their ideas. Several people have applied for some of the 125 open UHF pairs that were opened up by the revised UHF band plan. There is a sense of pride when a proposal of this complexity can be efficiently proposed, discussed, and accepted by the organization and implemented so easily. This is a true sign of progress of the WPRC, Inc over the past few years. It sure makes the job worth doing.

Note: Kevin W3KKC deals with most of the technical issues presented to this organization prior to them going to Frank N3FB, and in most cases, even settles most of the inquires or disputes before they even become official business.

7) Old Business

a) Scott N3XCC brought 501c3 status for WPRC, Inc. Do we need 501c3 status? - Non-profit organization, or Non-profit charitable organization -Which should apply to the WPRC, Inc.? - We have filed articles of incorporation with PA as a non-profit organization, by default, we don't have to file anything. Bill - N3BPB -- cautions us to be careful what is said here regarding IRS and bylaws etc. Nothing is in writing and the research is ongoing.

- results -

I am serious as I Tom K3WS officially document this as a matter of record that there was a great deal of around the room discussion by everyone in attendance. This topic brought up a lot of assumptions and facts to consider. Trust me and in short, there was a motion made by Kevin W3KKC to Hire a CPA, to review our organization and help us to decide the best way to proceed with any relevant filing status, and provide a certified letter stating our liability one way or the other while deciding our filing status and any other obligations. There was simply too much data to type it all out here. It is on line in the meeting audio file for Board review at anytime. However Tom W3SF very openly agreed with this action as being a great rout to take.

Motion to hire a CPA as above: Kevin W3KKC 2nd: Joe W3BC Vote: Unanimous

8) New Business

- a) We have issued in excess 92 items of new business since January 1, 2016
- b) Frank N3FB made mention of an email sent to us by Ronald Thompson that owner of the

N3FQG has passed away who happens to be the trustee and back up trustee of the 444.775 repeater. Frank N3FB also noted that he searched and found an obituary. Kevin has agreed to contact the sender and see if there is a clear path to a successor and suggests we vote what action to take at the next meeting.

c) Frank N3FB received an email noting that the 146.760 & 146.970 have moved and have been taken over by N3XUA. Kevin W3KKC knows that they both lost their space at the Warren County tower sites in Warren County, and Dave who reported this is not the trustee but is the club technical guru may have additional information. Kevin W3KKC will contact both trustees and find out what is going on and work with them for a release or other action if even needed. Kevin W3KKC knows for sure they are they are no longer in PA. Kevin W3KKC will bring this up in the next meeting.

9) Good of the Council:

a) Bill N3BPB announced that Repeater Association W3EXW has absorbed Greater Pittsburgh VHF Society W3PGH. Bill N3BPB will be working with others correcting any issues or coordination concerns as well as any new trustee announcements.

b) Bill N3BPB asked that each of us take and complete a provided letter supporting H.R. 1301, The Amateur Radio Parity Act.

c) Bud N3TIR Mentioned that after the VE session at the WACOM Hamfest <http://www.wacomarc.org/hamfest.html> that Yaesu factory representative will be giving about an hour long presentation on fusion and some other subject matters.

10) Upcoming Meeting Locations 2017

First: Scott N3XCC commended Frank N3FB for the WPXI meeting and tour during the last meeting. The kids got a kick out of seeing the studio they were standing in the next Monday morning.

After around the room discussion with everyone in attendance we came up with the following locations. Note: Come to the October 2017 meeting if you want to be part of the 2108 meeting locations representing your area if we have not been there yet.

April - Erie area Regular Spring Meeting – Kevin W3KKC will work on a location

July - Somerset Hamfest Regular Summer Meeting. Scott N3XCC will work on confirmation

October – Punxsutawney Election Meeting and Meeting Location Decision Meeting

Dates, Times, Locations, talk in and other detail will be posted on wprcinfo.org as they become available.

Motion to Accept: Paul AB3PJ 2nd: Kevin W3KKC Vote: Unanimous

Comment: Tom W3SF asked if Jack Brew KC3BGR will still be our official photographer.

11) Elections for Vice-Chairman and Secretary 2017 -2018

Kevin W3KKC Nominated Paul AB3PJ Scott N3XCC 2nd Vote: Unanimous
Paul W3PLP asked for any other nominations and with none closed nominations

Vice-Chairman Paul AB3PJ Nominated Bud N3TIR Elaine K3EMM 2nd Vote: Unanimous
Paul W3PLP asked for any other nominations and with none closed nominations

The Secretary Tom K3WS proclaims that both parties nominated and 2nd to be seated by unanimous vote on each position. Tom K3WS noted that he will finish out 2016 and help to transition to Paul AB3PJ what has been done to date and how Elaine K3EMM and I have worked together.

12) Adjournment at 1:22:03 PM

Motion to Adjourn: Sam W3CYO 2nd: Kevin W3KKC Vote: Unanimous

13) Attendance as copied from signed attendance Log Number: 3986 – 22 in attendance.

Paul Plants	W3PLP	Board of Directors – Chairman Re-elected
Elmer “Bud” Plants	N3TIR	Board of Directors – Vice-Chairman
Frank Bobro	N3FB	Board of Directors - Frequency Coordinator
Tom Brew	K3WS	Board of Directors - Secretary
Elaine Bailey	K3EMM	Board of Directors – Assistant Secretary
Kevin Custer	W3KKC	Board of Directors – Technical Committee Chairman
Scott Zimmerman	N3XCC	Board of Directors – Treasurer & Webmaster
William Kristoff Jr.	N3BPB	Member
Lori Bobro	KB3GMU	Member
Patty Marshall	N3XAR	Member
Paul Bidzilya	AB3PJ	Member
Sam Mayberry	W3CYO	Member
Jim Knox	N5NWC	Member
Bryan Simanic	WA3UFN	Member
Tony Rend	K3PXY	Associate Member
Joe Shupienis	W3BC	Member
Mike Errigo	WB3EQW	Member
Jack Brew	KC3BGR	Member & Photographer
Tom Cooney	W3SF	Member
Brian Fornwalt	N3QZY	Member
Richard Carns	N3FJU	Member
Lincoln Zimmerman	NC	Guest

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 in which we voluntarily serve.

Meeting Notes Log Number: 3984

Meeting Audio Log Number: 3985

Meeting Sign In Log Number: 3986

Tom K3WS for a final: I want to make a heart felt thank you for everyone who has attended each meeting since my term as Secretary, you have been one of the best groups I have ever worked with. I also want to make a very BIG BIG thank you to Elaine K3EMM for making my job even possible. Without Elaine we would not be in the great position we are as in the Secretary portion of this Great Board of Directors. Finally, I want to thank each and every Board member and Committee members for their tireless support of our efforts to promote continuous improvement. When I completed this announcement Elaine K3EMM made mention that, she thinks the Secretary and Frequency Coordinator both require Assistants as there is so much work for each position. Elaine K3EMM also made it clear she was not running for Secretary but would be willing to assist the new Secretary if he or she would want. Elaine K3EMM, my friend..... Thank you and best 73

Again I have enjoyed working with each and everyone of you and I consider you all my friends. As my health allows you will see Jack and I at future meetings. 73 Tom Brew K3WS

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