

Thibodaux Amateur Radio Club  
Bayou Region Amateur Radio Society  
MINUTES for General Business Meeting  
November 1, 2021

- I. Call to Order was made at 5:30 PM by President George Tippet, WB5PKK
- II. Pledge of Allegiance was led VP Don Bardwell, WA5PRI.
- III. Introduction of Members-12 Members present.
- IV. Minutes of June 2021 General Business Meeting was waived by motion made by Don Bardwell, WA5PRI, seconded by Bob Strada, KF5NSM passed unamously.
- V. Treasurer's Report-given by Francis Boudreaux, WD5CFM.
- VI. Committee Reports
  - a. Net Report - Mike Robichaux, KC50KP
  - b. Repeater Report - Mike Robichaux, KC50KP.
    1. 147.330 – CHABERT Hospital, functioning with some issues that need to be analyzed. K5RFO, Joel Ohmer, during the height of IDA reprogrammed the radios for the evacuation, the base was stuck on the 147.330 and needed to be tuned to the 147.300+114.8 PL, thanks for the assist Joel Ohmer, K5RFO.
    2. 147.390+Solar panels working-Francis Boudreaux, WD5CFM reported the Repeater stayed on the air during IDA with Battery Back up and afterwards with the solar power panels, the electricity was out at Water Plant Road until about September 23, the solar panels kept the batteries at 100%
    3. 147.30+Antenna was found bent into tower, probably need to make insurance claim but an anonymous benefactor wishes to set up the club with a Multi-mode repeater with an ATT hotspot. (NOTE: ATT is already at the site) To be discussed in greater detail at the BOD Meeting on Saturday, 6 NOV 2021. 10 AM.
    4. 444.500- To be reactivated at George's WB5PKK house.
  - c. Activity Report- Eatin' Meeting (Dinner Meeting) at the Coco's Mexican, Matthews, LA on Monday, November 15, 2021 at 6 PM. There is also a Hamfest in New Orleans on 13 November 2021 8 AM til 1 PM.
  - d. Field Day Committee:
    1. Field Day 2021 Report by George Tippet/WB5PKK
    2. Field Day 2021-Winter Field Day is Cancelled.
    3. We will regroup in 2022 for summer field day.
  - e. Fundraising Committee - Martin Wade, N5PZJ
    1. Grant Money available due to Hurricane Ida, will explore details.
- VII. Old Business (Announcements)
  1. Board Meeting on Saturday, November 6<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM at QTH of WB5PKK.
  2. A motion was made to accept the Money Offered on Repeater upgrade was made by Richard Barrett, N5OEQ, seconded by Tony Whitney, KG5VFG, passed unanimous.
- VIII. New Business
  1. Nominations of candidates by the nominating committee to run for 2022 officers and board at December 2021 General Business Meeting, the present officers have agreed to run with Joel Ohmer, K5RFO filling in the spot of John Hartley, KB7ZMD (SK), nominations are open.

PRES- GEORGE TIPPETT-- WB5PKK  
VP - DON BARDWELL-- WA5PRI  
SECT- MARTIN WADE -- N5PZJ  
TREAS- FRANCIS BOUDREAUX WD5CFM  
ACTIVITIES= JOEL OHMER -K5RFO  
RADIO OFFICER- MIKE ROBICHAUX KC50KP  
AT LARGE DIR- BOB STRADA KF5NSM

2. Ms. Meriam Barrett, KG5BNH, who was the ARES Coordinator for the Bayou Region and was present at the Terrebonne Parish EOC under the direction of Mr. Earl Hues, EM Terrebonne gave us a brief overview of Hurricane IDA's effect and activities on communications in our area. Loss of Electricity in the Afternoon, ATT and Firstnet died, at approximately 6 to 10 PM with PSAP (911) failure noted by lack of calls received and then LWIN lost interoperability with local nodes being isolated and not able to communicate outside the immediate area in default mode. Contact was made with Baton Rouge via the 147.390+ repeater with Jason at Lafourche EOC using the Repeater also. Conrad at St. James Parish EOC linked and used the 805/390 repeater for the Parishes of Lafourche and Terrebonne as to maintain links into State GOSHEP in the absence of LWIN/ATT/FIRSTNET. Basic Communication was restarted about 2 PM Monday with the arrival of the First COWS with continued outages afterward.

The takeaways to be improved upon:

- A. We need durable antennas and their replacements for HF 80/40 Meters due to distance from the Coastal Parishes to Baton Rouge.
- B. Proper use and deployment for Amateur Radio and Alternate Radio (CB/GMRS/MARINE) in the event of Localized Failure to allow messages to travel between different Jurisdictions and depts. Running messages by couriers wastes manpower.
- C. TRAINING ON EQUIPMENT. Unfamiliarity with equipment caused a few anxious moments between the hospital group.

IX. Half and Half -not held.

X. Adjournment at 7:10 by Bob Strada, KF5NSM, seconded by Mike Robichaux, KC5OKP.