

Thunder Bay Amateur Radio Club  
October 24, 2023  
Minutes

1. Meeting was Called to Order and Pledge of Allegiance led by Dick Wiitala, Pres. W1UP.

2. Roll Call of the Officers:

A. President – Dick Wiitala, W1UP

B. Vice President – Doug Dietz, WD8Z

C. Treasurer – Glenn Helwig, WK8P-Absent

D. Secretary – Don Spaeth, W8DGS

There were 11 members in attendance with 2 more via zoom as well as 3 guests via zoom

3. Announcements

A. Time change from DST to EST on November 5<sup>th</sup>. (Fall back one hour.)

B. .Frequency Measuring Test – November 17<sup>th</sup> at 0230 UTC (10:30 EST).(see [www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org) QST, November 2023 p. 83.)

C. Christmas Party – December TBD

4. Approval of minutes of September’s meeting as published was moved by Ron, N6XKX, seconded by Don, KE8TSH and passed with no objections.

5. Financial report

1. Financial Activity

a. Deposits

i. Dues.....\$ 20.00

ii. Sale of club’s items...\$ 975.00

**TOTAL DEPOSITS .....\$ 995.00**

b. Expenses

i. QTH web posting.....\$ 71.28

**TOTAL EXPENSES.....\$ 71.28**

2. Account balances as of 10-23-2023

000 SPECIAL \$ 150.78

020 SAVINGS \$ 4000.77

021 V.E. \$ 74.80

022 MEMORIAL FUND \$ 120.10

040 CHECKING \$ 39.01

**Accounts Total \$ 4385.26**

6. Old Business

A. Update report on ARES/RACES status - Wayne, K8QBZ was deferred until next meeting. Some discussion on stability and support of the EOM and County for the ARES program. It was requested by members that an ARES ID be provided for qualified members to enable participation in case of need.

B. Update on Repeater - Doug WD8Z.

i.. The 440 system has a high SWR. The climber canceled due to rain, and rescheduled for November 4<sup>th</sup>. Replacing the hardline should fix the 440 system.

ii. The VHF still has noise in the system. It has improved with the new antenna, but is still present. It seems worse with distant signals and appears to originate between the antenna and the receiver. The 440 Yeasu repeater will be reconfigured to replace the .76 repeater as a test of the problem.

iii. The Receiver, board, and amplifier are nearly 30 years old. Updating, or replacing these components maybe need to be done to enable analog, digital and phone capability for our system. A committee of Dick, W1UP, Doug, WD8Z, and Wayne, K8QBZ will review what other clubs have done and will estimate the cost to get our system functioning.

7. New business:

- A. Ares funds received from another club that disbanded have been placed in TBARC's savings account. It was moved by Don W8DGS, seconded by mike KE8FSR that the president as acting treasurer set up a sub account (050?) entitled ARES and the monies that had been received from the disbanded club be transferred from our savings account, into the new ARES account. The amount will be \$501.72 less the \$80 already spent for the computers at the ARES room at the airport. Any officer of TBARC after obtaining approval from at least one other officer of TBARC, may spend up to \$100.00 without prior approval. Amounts greater than \$100 should be presented to the TBARC at the monthly meeting for approval. Motion was passed with no objections.
- B. A report on the joint swap held in Gaylord on September 23rd was made by Don KE8TSH, the treasurer of the Tour of Michigan Amateur Radio Club (TOMARC). The net profit was \$829.89. This was divided between the two clubs and a check for \$414.95 was presented to TBARC. TBARC expressed thanks to the TOMARC for organizing the joint swap, and commit to joining them again in 2024. They will notify us of the date, which seems likely to be September 21<sup>st</sup> or September 28<sup>th</sup>. The TOMARC expressed appreciation and thanks for the help that TBARC provided. There was 33+ tables filled with items for sale, and at least 133 tickets were sold.
- C. TBARC has been able to sell all the equipment that it wanted to dispose of. The only equipment that TBARC now has is 2 antenna analyzers, a tube checker, and a dummy load.

8. Education: Due to equipment difficulties, the educational video was not fully presented. In summary, the video demonstrated how to make an antenna using copper wire foil and duct tape. The club members were encouraged to search You tube for 'duct tape antennas' to watch the full presentation. The address is <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d5itl1uWGtU>
9. Doug, WD8Z, moved to adjourn and the motion was seconded by Hugh, WQ8TV and passed with no objections at 8:05pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Don Spaeth W8DGS, secretary.