



P.O. Box 764
Alpena, Michigan 49707
Thunder Bay Amateur Radio Club
March 24, 2026
minutes

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance At 1900hrs by Mike Witt, KE8FSR

Roll Call of the Officers:

President – Mike Witt, KE8FSR - Present
Vice President – Wayne Huggler, K8QBZ - Present
Treasurer – Dick Wiitala, W1UP - absent
Secretary – Don Spaeth, W8DGS - Present

attending 5 members = 8 voting members

Announcements

- 1) Just a reminder that only active, licensed Ham operators are to use the repeater. If your license needs to be renewed, contact the FCC web site. If your license has expired, but you are in the grace period, it is not legal for you to transmit.
- 2) Repeater is up and functioning as of today.

Approval of minutes of February's meeting. As reviewed from TBARC web site.

Moved by Wayne, K8QBZ; Seconded by Glenn WK8P; and passed **unanimously**.

Financial report submitted by treasurer, Dick, W1UP, is below, and had no change from prior report. A motion to approve, by Hugh, WQ8TV, seconded by Wayne, K8QBZ, and passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report March 24th, 2026

Share Accounts

Type	Account	Available Balance	Actual Balance	Accrued Dividends
000	SPECIAL	\$146.59	\$151.59	\$0.08
020	SAVINGS	\$2,334.24	\$2,334.24	\$1.05
022	MEMORIAL FUND	\$20.38	\$20.38	\$0.00
040	CHECKING	\$60.94	\$60.94	\$0.00
041	V.E.	\$123.60	\$123.60	\$0.00
	Account Totals:	\$2,685.75	\$2,690.75	\$1.13

Account Activity - no activity

Deposits - no deposits

Expenses - no expenses

No changes to funds from NMARC

Funds from NMARC		Balance	\$249.02	See October 24th 2023
				under "New Business"
10/14/21	\$510.72	initial deposit		
09/26/23	-\$80.00	Paid to W1UP for 2 computers		
04/18/25	-\$58.54	Table for ARES		
04/18/25	-\$12.00	USB Sound Card Dongles		
04/24/25	-\$100.69	8010 150w end fed antenna for Airport		
05/27/25	-\$10.47	Ethernet cable		

Old Business

1. Fox Hunt Date is April 21, 2026 at 1700hrs and will start at the Tractor Supply parking lot. The fox may be active the week-end prior to allow testing of antennae.
2. MI QSO Party, Starts at 11am on April 18th and ends at midnight on April 19th. Web site is miq2p.org
NVIS will work well, and all bands (FT*, Morse code, hf, audio) can be utilized.
3. ARRL Summer field Day: Friday, June 26th will be set up day, with competition held from Saturday, June 27th to Sunday June 28th. Excel roosters will be available to choose time willing to operate; equipment willing to bring; items of food and number of people bringing. The BBQ & pot luck will be set for Friday dinner.

New Business

1. Discussion of frequencies to use in an emergency was done. Mike, KE8FSR will print cards containing instructions for emergency contacts. First step is to use the national simplex hailing/call frequency 146.520. Once contact is made, move to a open simplex frequency. The registered emergency frequency for Alpena County is 146.580 and the frequency for Alcona County is 146.535

Education: Mike, KE8FSR gave a presentation on Near vertical incidence skywave, or NVIS, Much discussion from group. NVIS was developed for communication between nearby stations, and to make location by triangulation difficult.

For DX the height of antenna should be 50% of the wavelength. For normal operation frequencies, it is 25%. For NVIS it is 10%. So for the 10m band, the height should be 3 feet. A ground wire (reflector) should be 5% longer than the antenna.

On You Tube look up: QST: Ask Dave April 2025 NVIS

Not addressed this month was 'How to triangulate radio signal source' May be considered for future meetings.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 2020hrs upon motion by Wayne, K8QBZ and seconded by Joseph, KF8FJD