



P.O. Box 764  
Alpena, Michigan 49707  
Thunder Bay Amateur Radio Club  
May 26, 2026  
Minutes

**Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance** -at 6:58pm 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 other members and 1 guest, giving a total of 8 voting members.

**Announcements – none**

**Approval of minutes of April's meeting. Please Review from TBARC web site.)**

Moved by Wayne, K9QBZ; Seconded by Jim Ohlich, K8MVT, and Passed with no objections.

**Financial report and approval**

Treasurer's Report May 26, 2026

Share Accounts

Type	Account	Available Balance	Actual Balance	Accrued Dividends
000	SPECIAL	\$146.68	\$151.68	\$0.06
020	SAVINGS	\$2,395.41	\$2,395.41	\$0.72
022	MEMORIAL FUND	\$20.38	\$20.38	\$0.00
040	CHECKING	\$110.94	\$110.94	\$0.00
041	V.E.	\$123.60	\$123.60	\$0.00
	Account Totals:	\$2,797.01	\$2,802.01	\$0.78

**Account Activity Deposits - dues \$50.00**

**Expenses - no expenses**

**No changes to funds from NMARC - see April 28, 2026 minutes.**

**Total = \$249.02**

Moved by Steve Kieliszewski, KE8APZ; Seconded by Wayne Huggler, K8QBZ; and Passed with edit header no objections.

### Old Business

1. Fox Hunt - discussion held, and decided to table it until July
2. ARRL Summer field Day – as there has been difficulty obtaining a suitable site, it was moved by Ron Shumaker, N8XKX; seconded by Wayne Huggler, K8QBZ; and passed without objections to participate as a group of individual site operations. Mike Witt, KE8FSR will disseminate rules and instructions.

### New Business

Election of Officers – There were no nominations from the floor. The existing officers agreed to continue in office for the next two years. Motion made by Steve Kieliszewski, KE8APZ; seconded by Jim Ohlrich, K8MVT; and passed without objections.

Membership certificates – It was moved by Ron Shumaker, N8XKX; seconded by Don Stephens, KD8DAG and passed without objections to make the certificates in a pdf file, and those members that want one can print their own certificate.

Membership wallet cards – those that would like a card are to contact the secretary and he will supply them with one.

### Education:

Mesh Networks or LORA systems are a 900MHz (old cordless phone bands) low power line-of-sight systems. Usual range is  $\frac{1}{4}$  -  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile in urban areas and 3-5 miles in rural areas. These make the LORA good for backpacking and other excursions into areas where cell service is not available. Other units that are turned on may function as a repeater node which may allow messages to go around obstacles and/or extend range of service. These nodes are automatic receive and re-transmit signals. There are several types of Mesh systems that are used for text; data; or pictures. These systems may be public or private. There is an open channel that anyone may use; or by arrangement there are specific channels that will limit exposure. The common channel is often used for 'community announcement boards' Mesh systems can be tied into your cell phone for communication. This is limited by the range of the Bluetooth utilized. Mesh systems are often called textie-talkie systems (ala walkie-talkie).

Some advantages of Mesh systems include:

No infrastructure needed. (so if cell towers go down, Mesh still works.)

There are two types of Mesh system. One is a civilian system with no guidelines; and the other is amateur radio system that is bound by the FCC regulations.

No license is required

You can expand Mesh systems by tying it to you cell phone.

**Other comments for the good of the organization:** We need to consider our summer picnic. ??Perhaps an excursion on the glass bottom boat??

**Adjournment** Moved by Wayne Huggler K8QBZ; Seconded by Jim Ohlrich, K8MVT; and Passed **without objection**.