



Minutes for 7-13-2019

Meeting opened at 1125: By President Eddie Olivarez K5UEZ

Roll call: Sign-in-sheet was passed out. Welcomed new members Bill Gonzalez KG5HXX, Alfredo Trevino N5ZNB, Ernest Galvan who just passed his test and waiting on his call sign.

Minutes: Minutes from the July meeting are on the website for anyone to read.

Finance Report: We have approximately \$156.00 in our account.

Rio Link report: John Beardon advised that the new Yaesu repeater is not up yet but the current repeater is working with a few problems. The Los Fresnos repeater is not linked to our Riolink but is a stand alone repeater. Both are Yaesu Fusion Repeaters. He hopes to work on it this coming week. He also advised that the Los Fresnos repeater has a damaged coax and might need repairing. He advised that Alan Yoder might have a place for a repeater in La Feria and maybe he might allow us to place a repeater on his tower.

VEC Report: Dave Waldrige WA5MMY informed us that he has one person signed up for August testing.

District 3 ARES: Rene Lopez, Jr KF5KYL reported he attended the Austin Summerfest Ham Convention in Austin August 3rd. This is also when the South Texas ARES members meet and ARRL for our region report on national level. ARRL South Texas Section Manager Paul Gilbert advised that he has revamped the ARES program for our region. All DEC up to SEC will be appointed for 2 years then must reapply. They must show credentials that they have taken certain classes. AuxCom will be required as are FEMA courses ICS 100, 200, 700, 800 among others. He will also require a uniform of a Khaki shirt with ARES logo and Navy Blue pants, He is trying to make ARES a more professional looking organization in order for EOCs to take us seriously. He asked all ARES members to sign up at <http://www.arrlstx.org/>, then go to STX ARES then STX info depot.

Eddie Olivarez K5UEZ is our new RACES coordinator after Dr. David Woolweaver K5RAV retired.

Website Report: RGVARC.org is our website and a good source of information. Members are urged to check it periodically for updated information on minutes and events. Membership dues and donations can be done on the website utilizing PayPal.

OLD BUSINESS: President Eddie K5UEZ thanked Ed Warwas W5OE for running the net during Operation Lone Star. Ed W5OE advised he started on HF in which he contacted other Operation Lone Star cities and the State Operations Center (SOC) He then moved on the 2meter and DMR. Contacts were from Laredo, Austin and Corpus Christi.

Eddie K5UEZ also thanked those that attend the Starr County Emergency Preparedness Seminar sponsored by Jose Alejandro DPS Dist. 19 Disaster Coordinator.

NEW BUSINESS: President Eddie K5UEZ reminded all that our quarterly field day should be around October when the weather turns cooler. Keep in mind of locations like Brownsville, Weslcaco, Mission or even Zapata. Maybe we can do a Summit on the Air (SOTA) and a grid chase at Boca Chica Beach. We will discuss this when the time gets closer.

We must seriously think about a fundraiser. Padini Santiago KG5LTY mentioned a fun run which could bolster our bank account. He has worked several and he sees \$4000 to \$5000 raised by sponsoring organizations. It would require all members to help out. He will get us more details.

Meeting adjourned: at 1300.

President
Eddie Olivarez, K5UEZ

Secretary
Rene Lopez,Jr. KF5KYL