

## **DRA Meeting Minutes**

**April 18, 2017\***

The DRA meeting was called to order by Frank Filipkowski, AD3M at 7:03 P.M. held in the Community Room of the New Castle County Safety Building. The roll was called with the following people present: Frank AD3M, Bill W3DE, Wayne K3WHH, Paul K3PGM, Rob N3FJ, Chet WA3I, Dave KC3BEJ, Mark KA3JUU, John N3LUD, Jim KC3IUL, Bill N3EDO, Martin AA3A, and Lee W3LDG. The pledge of allegiance to the flag was led by Frank AD3M. There was a moment of silence for silent keys and fallen protectors of our country.

The business portion of the meeting was opened and Frank AD3M outlined the agenda for the meeting. Motion and second was made to approve the agenda and passed. Frank AD3M asked for a report from the officers. Frank AD3M stated that he was able to replace a transistor and the amplifier at the Newark site (VHF) is now working properly. He also reported on the Delmarva linking project which used the WIRES X-Box system was tested in March and seems to work well. Wayne K3WHH read the treasurer's report. Motion made by Lee W3LDG to accept the report as read, seconded by Bill N3EDO and passed. Wayne K3WHH then read the December 13, 2016 minutes. Motion was made by Lee W3LDG to accept the minutes as corrected and seconded by Paul K3PGM and the motion was passed. John N3LUD had no report. Bill W3DE reported on a leadership meeting he attended for the Delaware Repeater Association. And the recommendation was made to reach out to new hams and invite them to the club meetings. Lee W3LDG reported that he was planning to go to the Newark site to put up the messenger cable for the coax. He also stated that he would be taking the repeaters out to send back for repair and to update the firmware. The coax and connectors are already at the site for the new feed line. Paul K3PGM reported that he was able to install D-Star on the Brandywine repeater by putting a MESH node internet connection to Bill W3DE's house. It is being used and seems to be working well. Patrick Hennessey K3PEH has been working on the web site and Paul K3PGM was given permission to post ARDEN information on the web site.

Under new business, Dave KC3BEJ is attempting to compile a database for New Castle County to be used for ARES/RACES emergency events. John N3LUD Noted that the 444.400 repeater was listed as the main repeater on the New Castle County ARES/RACES list and that repeater was not the most adequate repeater for that purpose. The suggestion was made to allow these groups to designate the 146.730 repeater as the primary repeater on the Delaware state emergency response listing for New Castle County. Motion was made to allow this repeater to be designated as the primary repeater by Dave KC3BEJ, seconded by Lee W3LDG and passed.

Bill N3EDO gave a report on his go kit. Paul K3PGM suggested putting a MESH node on the Newark tower, but it would need some planning first.

Motion to adjourn was made by John N3LUD, seconded by Chet WA3I, and passed.

A tour of the Emergency response center and the 911 call center was then given by Dave KC3BEJ.

Respectfully submitted,

Wayne K3WHH

\*This meeting replaced the March meeting which had to be postponed due to extreme weather conditions.