TAMAQUA WIRELESS ASSOCIATION INC.
PO Box 165 Tamaqua, PA 18252
Website: www.w3twa.org
E-Mail: tlesisko@ptd.net

July 20, 2018

OFFICERS:

President: Bill Dale WY3K (bdalejr@ptd.net)

Vice President: Tom Smith KC3CRS (tswizard@pa.metrocast.net)

Public Relations: Jim Munley KB3FET (jjmunley1@gmail.com)

Secretary: Tom Lesisko K3TE (tlesisko@ptd.net)

Treasurer: Kevin Marchetti K3VNN **(**k3vnn.73@gmail.com)

Trustee W3CMA: Jim Shellhamer KC3DXS (kc3dxs@ptd.net)

MISC. CONTACTS:

Website: Kevin Marchetti (k3vnn.73@gmail.com)

Website Graphics Editor: Frank D'Amato (kb2mxv@gmail.com)

Minutes of July 20, 2018 Meeting

The regular monthly meeting of TWA was held on July 20th, 2018 at the Schroeder's Family Farm 555 Tuscarora Mountain Drive, Barnesville. Presiding was WY3K. The meeting was called to order at 1900hrs.

The following members were present:

WY3K, KC3CRS, K3VNN, KB2MXV, K3TE, N3JWC, K3KAP, KB3FET, KC3LFP, N1HNM, WA3WIJ, N3HHH, and KA3FUL

Previous Meeting Minutes: WY3K

Members were emailed a copy of the minutes. A printed copy will be available to review for anyone who did not get an email. If you did not get the minutes, that's because I do not have a current email address…

Motion was made by:

1. KC3LFP
2. KC3CRS

To accept the minutes of the June 2018 meeting

Treasurer's Report: K3VNN

Dues for 2018-2019 are the same as last year, $15 for individual or $20 for multiple family members. Please contact Kevin K3VNN at 570-449-3190 to make arrangements to pay your dues. You could now use PayPal on our website, or you could mail your dues to:

Tamaqua Wireless Association
PO Box 165
Tamaqua, PA 18252

1. **Checking account: $306.47**
2. **Donations toward new repeater: $300.00**
3. **Grove maintenance: $197.00**
4. **Repeater fund: $888.69**
5. **Petty cash: $50.00**
6. **Dues collected: $15.00**
7. **50/50 collected:**
8. **(Expenses): ($176.31)**

Total: $1580.85

Motion was made by:

1: KB2MXV

2: KC3CRS

To accept the treasurers report

Committee Reports:

Antenna Crew: KA3FUL

Nothing to report

ARES County Emergency Coordinator: KC3CRS

See item #6 in "Old Business"

VE Session: WY3K

Our next VE test session is August 4th. An email will go out to the VE team shortly to see who is available; please reply so I could get an idea who is planning on attending.

Schuylkill County Emergency and Traffic Net Manager: KC3CRS

Nothing to report

Application for membership: K3TE

1. Karen Putt, K3KAP

Motion to approve Karen:

1. KB3FET 2. N3JWC

Roundtable Net: K3TE

See chart for check-ins

August NET Control operators are:

August 1st: K3TE, Tom

August 8th: K3VNN, Kevin

August 15th: KC3CRS, Tom

August 22nd: K3TE, Tom

August 29th: KC3LFP, Brian

If you cannot work your assigned date communicate!

Members are encouraged to check-in.

Repeater Frequencies and Location

- 449.775 (-5MHz) – Mountain Valley – 131.8
- 147.390 (+600KHz) – Hegins – 82.5
- 146.490 (+1MHz) – Tamaqua – 131.8
- 147.270 (+600KHz) – New Ringgold – 131.8
- EchoLink, anywhere there is internet coverage.

Month 2018	Number of Weeks	Number of check-ins
January	5	63
February	4	32
March	3	21
April	4	25
May	5	41
June	4	43
July	3	21
August		
September		
October		
November		
December		
Total	28	246

Technical Committee Chairman: K3TE

1. Purchased ½" hardline, lightening suppressor and cable grounding kit from Tessco. Don Spivak installed the cable on Friday July 13th
2. Update on new Kenwood repeater cost- Jim Munley KB3FET, for a new TKR-D810 repeater from Frank Rakus it will cost about $1700. That's for an analog and DMR repeater. Tom Lesisko will contact Frank and get an updated price on this repeater.
3. Fundraising goal – June 1st 2019 – This was tabled until August.
4. Used Kenwood TKR-850 available for $450. This is a UHF repeater to replace Mountain Valley. There was no movement on this.
5. ATT Wireless internet, hardware costs $200. Would the county pay the monthly fee? Members did not think the county would pay the monthly bill. We do not need to add internet service with this repeater; members thought we should keep it analog for now.
6. PL tone 131.8 on announcements and Tamaqua changeover – Frank changed the PL tone on the Tamaqua repeater on Monday June 18th. Ed changed the PL on the EchoLink radio on Friday June 22nd. There was a few glitches but overall I think the changeover went smoothly.
7. The Tamaqua repeater has some audio issues with the link radio, we are looking into that.
8. Mountain Valley had some sensitivity issues. Frank and I checked the duplexer for proper tuning and the Kenwood repeater. The duplexer was fine; we tweaked the front end of the repeater on 7/19. Did some field tests and the repeater seem to be better?
9. Weather warning update – We would need to purchase a weather radio with audio out and alarm out, install a few wires to the controller and program it for an alarm. Members thought that with cell phone weather service notification we should drop this.
10. Net Control Operators – Cannot take too many pauses. When you come back on, sometimes I can't hear the first part
11. Emailed Nativity High School about repeater site in Pottsville on 7/9. Jim Munley has a contact at Nativity and will look into this.

12. Grounding guy wires. Sometime in the near future members will ground the guy wires for added protection against Lightening.

Current Events: KB2MXV

New pictures were added and PayPal is now on our website.

TWA Website: KB2MXV

Up to date

Club Archives: K3TE

Nothing to report

Old Business & Correspondence:

1. Christmas Party update, still looking for a location, how about a bulletin this year?
2. Insurance update – as per Kevin's email on 7/1/18 (K3VNN), see attachment #1. As of 7/1/18 MV is insured, the cost is $165.41
3. Nonprofit update – as per Bill's email on 6/20/18. TWA is now a nonprofit organization. See attachment #2
4. Moving Net to 8pm for the summer – after a discussion, members thought we should table this

5. Field Day wrap up: Thank you to all that made FD 2018 very successful, we had a lot of new people there trying out HF for the first time, The Times News was there, and the food was delicious, great time overall. A huge Thank You goes out to Frank KB2MXV for submitting our log.

	CW	Digital	Phone	Total Contact
2016	76	0	95	171
2017	27	12	124	163
2018	0	0	80	80
2019				
2020				

6. HF equipment email – I am still looking for volunteers to do a test on HF, sometime in early August. If you can, email Tom Lesisko – tlesisko@ptd.net and let him know what you can do. – After a discussion, members picked July 27th and 28th. We will use the repeater network to synchronize what band and frequency we will be using. Tom Lesisko will email everyone to remind them closer to the test.

7. HF committee? After a discussion, members thought we should table this idea.

8. Update on West Penn Lions: Bill Dale said August 15th at 6PM is the date and time. They are looking for a 15 minute presentation about our service. Jim WA3WIJ, Kevin K3VNN, and Bill WY3K volunteered to work this event.

New Business:

1. Prior to tonight's meeting there was an executive meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the letter from the IRS.

2. October Heritage Day – I will stop in and see what is going on. I haven't received anything in the mail. Jim KB3FET volunteered to make barbeque, Tom K3TE volunteered to make the haluski, and Jeff N3JWC volunteered to make cookies.
3. Jim Munley - Operation "Get the Word Out" Talked to Jim on Monday 7/9 about strategy, also members discussed who should get a letter informing about TWA and nonprofit status
4. Tech Night update – Tech Night was tabled for his year. Members thought with our NET on Wednesday it would be difficult to run Tech Night on that night.
5. Retaining wall and pavers for Mountain Valley, if they allow us does anyone have any extra at home? We will try to work on this in the fall.
6. In March, the by-laws will be three years old. On a recommendation by Bill to review the by-laws.
    a. A motion by 1. KA3FUL and 2. KB2MXV to open the by-laws
    b. After a discussion, a committee was formed. **If anyone wants to join us** please contact Tom Lesisko via his email.
    c. Members that volunteered to review the by-laws: Jeff N3JWC, Jim KB3FET, Tom KC3CRS, Kevin K3VNN, Bill WY3K, and Tom K3TE
7. Are we prepared as a club to provide emergency service in times of need?
    a. How are we contacting members in an emergency? Via… to assist with help.
    b. Who can bring what equipment?
    c. Bug-out boxes? What do members have?
    d. How quick can we be up and running? – should we schedule a practice run?
    e. Batteries-generator(s), gasoline, oh my!
    f. Wish List for possible grant money, example: portable generator(s), extension cords, radio equipment, etc. – There was a discussion on this topic; Tom Lesisko will get an ARES-RACES form out to members. The form can be filled out online. It will take you less than 5 minutes. Please return the form to Frank KB2MXV. This will also be on Augusts agenda
8. ARRL VHF QSO Party – September 8th to September 10th. Informational for now will be on Augusts agenda
9. PA QSO Party – October 13th to October 14th. Informational for now will be on Augusts agenda
10. Bob McClintock asked if he could bring Walt Jones to our September meeting. Walt is our ARRL Section Emergency Coordinator. He will be retiring in the fall. Email was sent inviting Walt Jones to the grove.
11. Letter from the IRS – See attachment #3 Bill, Tom, Kevin, and Jim Munley will meet with the accountant something in the coming days.
12. The flag and counter – on our homepage, it tells us how many visits and from where
13. Any interest in TWA being in the Tamaqua Halloween Parade and the Andreas Halloween parade with a float? – There was a discussion but nothing voted on at this time. This will be on the agenda for August.

Motion to adjourn at: 21:00hrs by:

1. K3KAP
2. N3JWC

Minutes prepared and submitted by – K3TE

Attachment #1

Insurance Cost for Mountain Valley Repeater.

Location of such Equipment Description Make Model # Serial # Equipment Value $

1. 1021 Brockton Mountain Dr, Barnesville, PA 18214 Repeater Kenwood TKR-840 $1,800.00
2. 1021 Brockton Mountain Dr, Barnesville, PA 18214 100W UHF Amplifier TPL PA6-1AE-RXRF 10022 $1,240.00
3. 1021 Brockton Mountain Dr, Barnesville, PA 18214 UHF Duplexer Decibel Products Inc DB4072 91933 $1,400.00
4. 1021 Brockton Mountain Dr, Barnesville, PA 18214 UHF link Radio Motorola CDM1250 $400.00
5. 1021 Brockton Mountain Dr, Barnesville, PA 18214 DuraComm Power Supply 36 Amp Power Supply RM-5012M CA65000253 $400.00
6. 1021 Brockton Mountain Dr, Barnesville, PA 18214 Repeater Controller Arcom Controller RC-210 - $350.00
7. 1021 Brockton Mountain Dr, Barnesville, PA 18214 Antenna Commander Technologies 455-5N - $900.00
8. 1021 Brockton Mountain Dr, Barnesville, PA 18214 Tower -45G 60 Foot Self Supporting Tower 45SR060 - $5,200.00
9. 1021 Brockton Mountain Dr, Barnesville, PA 18214 Hard line - 60 feet 1/2" Foam Heliax Cable - Black Jacket LDF4-50A - $125.00
10. 1021 Brockton Mountain Dr, Barnesville, PA 18214 Polyphaser Bulkhead Arrestor, N/F IS-B50HN-C0 - $60.00

Total $11,875.00
Insurance Cost $166.25

Attachment #2

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE
P. O. BOX 2508
CINCINNATI, OH 45201

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Date: JUN 12 2018

TAMAQUA WIRELESS ASSOCIATION INC
PO BOX 165
TAMAQUA, PA 18252-0000

Employer Identification Number:
27-0654511
DLN:
26053557001268
Contact Person:
CUSTOMER SERVICE ID# 31954
Contact Telephone Number:
(877) 829-5500
Accounting Period Ending:
December 31
Public Charity Status:
509(a)(2)
Form 990/990-EZ/990-N Required:
Yes
Effective Date of Exemption:
August 30, 2017
Contribution Deductibility:
Yes
Addendum Applies:
No

Dear Applicant:

We're pleased to tell you we determined you're exempt from federal income tax under Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 501(c)(3). Donors can deduct contributions they make to you under IRC Section 170. You're also qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under Section 2055, 2106, or 2522. This letter could help resolve questions on your exempt status. Please keep it for your records.

Organizations exempt under IRC Section 501(c)(3) are further classified as either public charities or private foundations. We determined you're a public charity under the IRC Section listed at the top of this letter.

If we indicated at the top of this letter that you're required to file Form 990/990-EZ/990-N, our records show you're required to file an annual information return (Form 990 or Form 990-EZ) or electronic notice (Form 990-N, the e-Postcard). If you don't file a required return or notice for three consecutive years, your exempt status will be automatically revoked.

If we indicated at the top of this letter that an addendum applies, the enclosed addendum is an integral part of this letter.

For important information about your responsibilities as a tax-exempt organization, go to www.irs.gov/charities. Enter "4221-PC" in the search bar to view Publication 4221-PC, Compliance Guide for 501(c)(3) Public Charities, which describes your recordkeeping, reporting, and disclosure requirements.

Letter 947

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service
Ogden UT 84201-0038

Notice	CP299
Notice date	July 2, 2018
Employer ID number	27-0654511
To contact us	Phone 1-877-829-5500 FAX 1-855-214-7520

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TAMAQUA WIRELESS ASSOCIATION
PO BOX 165
TAMAQUA PA 18252-0165

099287

Message about Form 990-N (e-Postcard)

Your organization may be required to file a Form 990-N

Our records show that your organization may be required to file an annual electronic notice (e-Postcard), Form 990-N.

What you must do immediately

If your organization already filed its annual information return (Form 990, 990-PF, or 990-EZ) or e-Postcard, you don't need to do anything right now. You should continue to file a return or e-Postcard every year.

If your organization hasn't filed its annual information return or e-Postcard, it must file as soon as possible.

The annual information return or e-Postcard is due by the 15th day of the fifth month after the close of your tax period. For example, if your tax period ends December 31 and you are filing Form 990-N, your due date is May 15.

Who can file the e-Postcard Form 990-N?

- A tax-exempt organization other than a private foundation or political or foreign organization whose gross receipts are normally $50,000 or less
- A Section 509(a)(3) supporting organization of a religious organization whose gross receipts are normally $5,000 or less

All other supporting organizations generally must file Forms 990 or 990-EZ, even if gross receipts are normally $50,000 or less.

To e-file your organization's e-Postcard:

- Go to irs.gov/charities.
- Type 990-N in the search box.
- Click on the link for the Form 990-N.

Continued on back...

If we don't hear from you

Revocation for not filing an annual information return or e-Postcard

- If your organization doesn't file an annual return for three consecutive years, it will result in automatic revocation of its tax-exempt status as of the filing date of the third year the return or e-Postcard is due.
- If your organization's tax-exempt status is revoked and you want to have it reinstated, it must file an exemption application and pay the required user fee.
- If your organization had reasonable cause for not meeting its filing requirement, we can consider retroactive reinstatement.

Next Steps

What you need to file the e-Postcard

You must use your organization's employer identification number, EIN. Don't use another organization's EIN (for example, your parent organization, group ruling holder, or another affiliated organization's EIN) when you file your e-Postcard.

When you are ready to file the e-Postcard, have the following information available about your organization:

- Legal name
- Any other names the organization uses
- Mailing address
- Website address
- Employer identification number
- Name and address of principal officer
- Annual tax period
- Operating status (Are you still in business?)

You must also verify that the organization's annual gross receipts are normally $50,000 or less. For an explanation of what it means to have receipts that are "normally $50,000 or less":

- Go to www.irs.gov/charities.
- Type 990-N in the search box.
- Click on the link for the Form 990-N.
- Click on the highlighted text, "normally $50,000 or less."

Additional information

- Visit www.irs.gov/cp299
- For tax forms, instructions, and publications, visit www.irs.gov or call 1-800-TAX-FORM (1-800-829-3676).
- Keep this notice for your records.

If you need assistance, please don't hesitate to contact us.