



# BEDFORD COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

PO Box 26, Everett, PA 15537

[http:// www.bcars.org](http://www.bcars.org)

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Meetings take place at 7:30PM on the 1st Thursday of each month at the Bedford County Courthouse, 200 Juliana St, Bedford, PA.

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## MEETING MINUTES

### Thursday, October 6th, 2022

A meeting of the Bedford County Amateur Radio Society was called to order at **1935** hours in **Bedford County Courthouse room 303** by **President Zachary Pepple** and a quorum was declared.

In attendance were (14): **KB3DFZ, W3DRW, KC3NAF, KC3UQH, KC3KHK, KC3QOD, KA3UDR, KE3ZT, WB3JEK, KC3DNB, K3SCM, N3EYF, KC3HKZ, N2XRE**

**President Zachary Pepple** requested that **KB3DFZ** read **September** minutes. Motion to approve was made by **W3DRW** and seconded by **KE3ZT** Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report** presented by **KC3DNB**. **Steve** discussed various checks received, checks issued and cash deposits. The ending balances are:

Petty Cash	\$0.00
Checking Account	\$2,066.43
Savings Account	\$3,821.47
Total	\$5,887.90

A motion to approve was made by **KA3UDR**, seconded by **KC3HKZ**. Motion carried. The full treasurer's report is on file.

## OLD BUSINESS

**Bike Bedford PA** - Members reviewed the clubs handling of Bike Bedford PA. BCARS was able to overcome having incomplete information and provide an accurate count of riders through the three courses. Unlike a race, this is considered a "community ride". The event organizers provide route maps and aid stations, but riders are ultimately responsible for their own safety. While most of the course was workable with portable radios, some locations can benefit from having an external antenna for the handheld to drive, or in setting up some simplex relays.

**Repeaters** - the Kinton Knob 145.490 antenna is still awaiting replacement. Once replaced, KB3DFZ will switch us over to the new Tait repeater and establish an Allstar Link. The new antenna will be a 4-bay folded dipole.

**Holiday Dinner at the Legion** - KB3DFZ reviewed the responses received so far. We are still waiting for a full headcount to turn into the Legion. The dinner will be December 1st @ 6PM at the Legion. Cost will be \$20-\$30 per person. The more that can attend, the lower the cost per person.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**WPA Set Exercise** - BCARS participated in the ARRL Western PA ARES Simulated Emergency Test on October 1st, simulating a severe winter storm. KA3UDR and KB3DFZ made contacts to operators in neighboring counties. KE3ZT checked into the designated HF nets and sent radiogram messages to our SEC and to the Pittsburgh Red Cross. KC3NAF took simulated spotter reports and relayed them to NWS STC over the 146.790 repeater. There were several discussions on how to improve for future events - having some pre-prepared frequency lists of neighboring repeaters, more SkyWarn training, and clearer communication on which repeater to use for weather reports.

**BCARS VAN** - WB3JEK/Kenny has repaired the van's turn signal and submitted expenses for replacement parts. KB3DFZ also submitted expenses for van diesel fuel.

**DMR Repeater and spending** - KB3DFZ/John reports that N3YFO would like to know if BCARS is willing to purchase the Hytera UHF DMR repeater originally loaned to us, as they would like to sell it to fund other projects. The price is \$1,000. KB3DFZ is in favor of the club purchasing the repeater in order to expand the clubs capabilities, and that the DMR capability had proven useful during the Lost Turkey Trails to speak with Trailhead from Chapelle field. KC3NAF/Ed disagreed, pointing out that the club had recently spent a lot of money on the 6M repeater, which now get very little use. Additionally, the 145.490 repeater is still waiting to be replaced and linked into Allstar. Spending on new equipment should be paused until the 145.490 repeater is fully operational. After much discussion, all other spending decisions were tabled. KB3DFZ motioned for BCARS to purchase the Hytera, seconded by KE3ZT. Motion carried.

**Simplex Exercise** - KE3ZT/Steve went over the planned simplex exercise. The exercise would start on the 145.490 repeater, then members would switch to 145.490 SIMPLEX, also called "talkaround mode". Since all members would be listening to the 145.490 frequency, they would be able to hear when net control switched back to the repeater. Normal simplex activity would not take place on a repeater output. Steve will send out emails to see who is going to participate and if they would prefer Saturday the 22nd or Tuesday the 25th.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at **2100** hours.

Respectfully Submitted,

*John Hogenmiller*

John Hogenmiller, KB3DFZ

BCARS Secretary