

# W7DP Minutes

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## **Attendance:**

### **Leadership:**

N7DJE Timber  
KC7USG Davena  
KB7POT Mikel  
N7ACW Keith

### **Members:**

KI7LGV Evan  
KC7WEZ Dave  
N7DMR Kun  
KC7PNE Mary  
KC7JIX Dave  
AL1Q Jeff  
KI7ICB Jason  
W7HJL Roy (Zoom)

### **Visitors:**

Rick (no license)

The meeting was called to order by President Timber Burton, N7DJE. There were 12 members and 1 visitor present.

## **Secretary's report:**

Mikel KB7POT read the minutes of the meeting of October 6th 2020. Minutes were accepted with minor corrections.

## **Treasurer's report:**

Keith N7ACW reports that there is \$1176.50 in the bank. There is an outstanding check of \$252.50 for liability insurance leaving \$964.00 total. We are expecting an income of \$275 for coax and connectors sold. We still have 140 ft of coax and 20 PL259 connectors for sale.

We received a letter from the ARRL reminding us that the W7DP club call sign needs to be renewed before February 26, 2021.

### **Building and Grounds:**

KC7JIX Dave reports that the sprinklers are turned off. The gas is out of the mower. Some leaves were collected. Please remember to turn off the water and

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crack the sink faucet when closing the clubhouse. A new lamp was installed in bathroom. There is 8 inches of oil in heater tank.

## **Repeater Report:**

Jeff AL1Q reports that the voice repeaters are in good condition. The noise problem from N7LZM seems to be gone. The Spout Springs packet radio has been replaced. The path from AL1Q-9 and WA7WWC-12 nodes is still unreliable. Jeff wants to put up another packet node at Weston Mt. that will have a good line of site with Spout Springs. Might get it up before winter, but might not.

Keith volunteered a 7 element yagi to be tested on the WA7WWC node.

Timber N7DJE read a letter from Lynn K7LW that gave thanks for those who helped setting up repeaters, gave a maintenance report, update, and plans for the the W7NEO repeater group. He also recommended reading the Pickle Barrel Review on the w7neo.com site.

Jeff AL1Q reports that the Spout Springs repeater has frequency conflict with a new Lewiston-Clarkston repeater. Both are co-ordinated and in the process of deconfliction.

## **Health and Welfare:**

Devin KJ7RXZ (a new ham) is in surgery from injuries due to horse accidents. He should be released soon. Listen for him on the air.

Cameron Spaulding N6YUT passed away on the 19th of October. (Timber's Neighbor)

## **ARES Report:**

AL1Q Jeff reported on the October 24 Flue Clinic held at the old General Hospital site. It seemed to work smoother than years past. The exercise was considered practice for a COVID 19 vaccination deployment. Given our current participation we would have issues sustaining help past one day.

Keith N7ACW reported on the hidden transmitter hunt held on the 25th of October. Three groups participated. In most cases it looks like a more specialized antenna would help. Sometime in the future we may need a good demonstration how to use our equipment for transmitter hunting.

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## **VE:**

Jeff AL1Q reported on VE testing held at the Walla Walla Valley Academy. Eight people tested resulting in seven new techs and one new general. Some participants have been set up with mentors. Steve Hutchings WM7X set up his RV as a test center for VE grading, and a 20M station. The new general class made his first HF contact on Steve's station.

Jeff AL1Q said he was looking to use the Clubhouse for the next VE session. N7ACW moved to grant permission to use the clubhouse for VE testing. The motion was seconded (not recorded) and passed.

The 3rd Sunday in January will be our next session.

Tri-cities area is starting online testing using ARRL tools. Jeff is on a team and will be attending the first test session on Wednesday.

## **Announcements:**

### **Misc:**

Dave KC7JIX received a letter with a QSL card from W7KPL of Scottsdale, AZ.

The club also received a QSL card from N1QY thanking W7DP for a contact during Salmon Run. Roy W7HJL participated in the Salmon Run contest using the club's all sign, and will handle the return QSL.

### **Old Business:**

### **New Business:**

Kun N7DMR donated the APRS antenna and feed line to the club.

Keith said that as a result of Kun's donation, and some other missed equipment, our liability insurance requires an amendment.

N7DJE thanked Kun for his work on the WA7WCC gateway and BBS. Kun was not present for his appreciation certificate last month.

N7DMR and AL1Q have tested VARA FM peer-to-peer on 6M. They are also going to test going through a voice repeater.

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Jeff reported on the Whisper Net project. We have good coverage in most directions. There are three gaps; to the North, towards Vancouver, and Montana. Not sure what causes them. Data needs further analysis.

Kun N7DMR Would like to place a digital voice repeater at the clubhouse for up to a year. It would share the APRS antenna. It will be on 70cm at 25 Watts. Keith estimates electricity might be around a dollar a month. KB7POT motioned that we let Kun go ahead with project provided it causes no interference with other club equipment. Seconded. Passed.

The club discussed sending the copier and old tables to the recycle center. Volunteers are needed.

Jeff AL1Q is looking at installing an equipment rack on bench for the new digital equipment: APRS and packet nodes.

## **Show and Tell:**

## **Education:**

Timber N7DJE and Evan KI7LGV showed a home built four element tape measure yagi. It cost about \$25 in parts.

## **Meeting adjourned:**

20:34

Respectfully Submitted by  
Mikel Potts, Secretary

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mikel D Potts". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first letters of each word being capitalized and prominent.