

## **PALM BEACH PACKET GROUP**

### **MINUETS OF MEETING 10 JANUARY 2008**

The meeting was called to order by President Doug, WB4KGY. Those present introduced themselves. The following hams were present: Doug WB4KGY; Frank WA4PAM; Hugh AG4HC; Andy KF4ATC; John WB4MOZ; Tom W2TMT; Jamey KD4LXB; Gary WA8DAF; Joel N4JOA; David K4DLF; Jeff WA4AW; and BOB WD9ATN.

Frank WA4PAM gave the treasurers report and summary for 2007. This report was accepted. Frank further indicated those members who dues were about to or had expired. Frank again passed around a membership roster requesting that any necessary corrections be made.

The minuets of the November 2007 meeting have been posted on the web site. There were no additions or corrections. There was no meeting in December.

#### **Technical Report:**

Doug indicated that Ft. Pierce is becoming active and we should look for that to come on line shortly. Watch for W4SLC on the heard list.

John and Doug will be going to the Lake Harbor and Okeechobee sites where they will install 9600 baud equipment on the 220 mhz system and will also include that in the West Palm Beach site currently the Boca site is off and it is not know why. They will probably go down there next week and see if they can get it up and running again. The West Palm Site is working well, John put water in the batteries and all is working well. The coverage from this site is excellent since the antenna and a connector were replaced. The antenna is at the 300 foot level.

#### **Old Business:**

The tower company we have used has closed its WPB office. The foreman here has since opened his own company and indicates that he will be willing to do work for hams at a reduced rate. The telpac node at the Clewiston Hospital. is almost ready to go. Frank indicated that he just has to load the software. Everything else is ready to go. Gary has updated and improved the packet group web page and sent out a email to the membership with information and a quick link to the site. If anyone has anything they want to ;put on the site, send it to him. There is now a real time propagation page on the site.

#### **News and Information:**

There will be a license class at the Royal Palm Beach Fire Station on Tuesday nights starting on Feb 12th. Contact David K4DLF for additional information. Jeff WA4AW indicated that the South Florida Fair is coming up and volunteers are need there. Contact Jeff if you can help out at the ham radio sites there. There is a new "D Star" repeater in the Jupiter area. The new solar cycle has begun. Joel has been doing a lot of work on his packet site and now has a DX cluster and other improvements. Information on this will be posted on the web site. Doug mentioned a new web site - "hamsheck.com", it uses the goggle maps and overlays them with amateur repeater sites. Each site has a balloon which you can click on and get information about the repeater. Doug also indicated that southcars is going to include VOIP in its operations. The hams in Northwest were well prepared for

the recent floods using winlink and telpac The governor of Oregon gave the hams a 250,000.00 grant to further improve their systems.

New Business:

Elections. Doug indicated the positions for President and Secretary needed to be filled. Frank will continue as Treasurer and Jamey will continue as Vice President. The following nominations were accepted from the floor.

For President - John Green

For Secretary - Gary Wilson

Nominations were then closed. On a motion from Frank and seconded by Jeff, the secretary will cast one ballot for all unopposed offices. This was approved and accomplished.

The slate of officers for 2008 are:

President - John Green, WB4MOZ

Vice President - Jamey Timberrman, KD4LXB

Secretary - Gary Wilson, WA8DAF

Treasurer - Frank Harris, WA4PAM.

Doug WB4KGY was thanked for this long dedication and service to the Packet Group. A motion was made by Frank and seconded by Tom to grant Doug life membership in the Packet Group. This motion was approved by the membership.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 PM

Respectfully submitted

Tom Thompson W2TMT