



## Michigan Amateur Radio Alliance

Post Office Box 670  
Comstock Park, MI 49321-0670



The following are the tentative minutes of the March 9th, 2016 MARA meeting subject to correction and/or approval at the next meeting.

The March 9th, 2016 MARA meeting was called to order at 7:31pm. Introductions were given. The following were in attendance:

N8XQH, KD8NSU, KC8KVR, Peg, K9BOJ, K8PZ, N8GS, KN4CK, N8NIJ, KD8JB, KD8SZZ, W8MSK, W8DAY, KD8KZE

The President read the minutes of the previous meeting. Motion to approve by KD8JB. Second motion by K9BOJ - Passed.

### Treasurer's Report:

The previous balance was \$1,490.98. Deposit of \$125 from dues and \$38.00 from bulk cable sales. We paid out \$265.00 for insurance. New balance is \$1,388.98, motion to approve by N8GS. Second motion by KD8JB - Passed

KC8KVR presented an itemized list of expenses related to printing manuals for the repeater controller, and sending the Club's Henry amp out for troubleshooting and repair. KD8SZZ made a motion to reimburse Larry for these expenses. Second motion by N8GS - Passed.



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## Trustee's Report:

- KD8SZZ has updated the Controller firmware. This has eliminated the chopping of audio at the beginning of some transmissions, and has given better control of the squelch.
- AB8DT has been experimenting with Wires-X on a test. Lockups have occurred, but thankfully James Beech is usually monitoring the repeater 24/7.
- Corey has been creating macros for the controller. Schedulers have been the complicated part of the programming process.
- On 03/08, N8GS reduced output power to 20 watts. The Henry amp is out for repairs and will ship direct to Gale when it returns.
- KC8KVR has a business band radio that can be used to remote shutdown the repeater with DTMF tones, and an undisclosed frequency.

Motion to approve by W8DAY, Second motion by W8MSK - Passed.

## Committee Reports

### 2 Meter Net:

03/10 - KC8KVR  
03/17 - KD8SZZ  
03/24 - N8XQH  
03/31 - KD8JB  
04/07 - N8GS



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Membership: Absent

Newsletter: Hopefully this weekend.

Webmaster: Nothing

Fund Raising: A scheduling conflict at the Fifth Street Hall prompted consideration for moving the event from April 8th to April 22nd. N8GS made a motion, seconded by Paul K9BOJ - Passed.

Bereavement - None

Great Lakes & Club Awards:

- From a 2 Meter Net topic offered by KD8JB, a Special Event Station Titled, "Great Lakes Special Event" is being planned for November of 2016. Operators work their own stations. Two days of operation between the hours of 8:00am until 5:00pm both days.
- KC8KVR is looking for a count of members interested, and has already started on a certificate. (two dollar cost) Larry needs input, as it will have to post in QST in the first week of September.

Field Day/Special Events: K9BOJ is collecting ideas and lessons learned for this upcoming Field Day. Send your ideas and thoughts to [newsletter@w8usa.org](mailto:newsletter@w8usa.org)

### Old Business

None of the members present at the March meeting attended the Get Outta the Cabin Dinner

N8XQH emailed Dan Thompson on February 28th to verify his intended status with the club and the ARRL.



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### New Business

The Michigan QSO Party will be April 16th. A challenge to GRARA will be given on the Thursday Night Net and the 6 Meter Net as appropriate.

N8GS is looking for a successor to the Trustee for 2017. His upcoming plans to travel will have him away more often, and someone who can be locally available will be needed.

KN4CK suggested a Fox Hunt as a fun activity. Possibilities include the club hosting the event, or members would participate in an event already established.

N8GS made a motion, seconded by N8NIJ to close the March Meeting at 8:25pm - Passed

Submitted by Barton, N8XQH, MARA President, on behalf of the Office of the Secretary