

# **KCRA Newsletter**

**Keweenaw County Repeater Association**

**Vol. 33, No. 4**

***In memory of Gary Hansen, K8YSZ***

**Meeting minutes — Saturday, July 8, 2023**

**Call to order at 11:54 a.m.**

**Roll call of officers, all present:**

President/Treasurer Bill LaBell, KD8JAM

Vice President Don Lafreniere, W8PSP

Secretary Dave Gonigam, AG8NT

**Also in attendance:**

Jeff Stricker, W9GY; Stan LaMuth, WB8QJZ; Janet LaMuth; Joe Dowd, KE8DUP; Kelly Dowd; Chuck Young, KF8TI; George Thurner, W8FWG; Antonia Burich, KE8SMB; Vance Nelson, KC8RGO; Winnie Nelson, KE8HWS; Logan Johnson, KD8VRD, Heliena Hammond, KR8VEN; Amina Lafreniere.

**Engineer's report:**

The old controller that was working with the old Motorola MSR-2000 repeater is now working with the new Yaesu DR-2X repeater. So far, so good — once again we have a voice ID with the time of day, a courtesy beep and autopatch capability.

At the end of May, however, the repeater's output power was noticeably reduced. On-site inspection revealed bad coax on the indoor portion of the transmit line, which was replaced.

Everything connected to the repeater has battery backup now except the VOIP analog phone adapter.

Discussion then turns to a possible replacement for the omnidirectional receive antenna — a 3-element Yagi aimed down the spine of the Keweenaw. Jeff says the Yagi could deliver up to 6 dB of additional gain. Vance moves to spend up to \$200; Logan seconds. The motion carries by acclamation.

**Treasurer's report:**

Balance in the treasury is \$4,463.23, not including approximately \$50 in the PayPal account.

**Secretary's report:**

See the May 2023 minutes. No changes.

**Old business:**

**Exams:** Two candidates took part in the July 1 session, both successfully. One upgraded from Technician to General and one upgraded from General to Amateur Extra.

**Field Day:** All told, 21 contacts — many of them by Danny Miller, KB8W via CW. Several participants made their first HF contacts, including Heliena. Heliena expresses interest in stepping up to organize something more ambitious for Field Day next year.

**UP Ham Directory:** George is awaiting an update from Erik Lee, KE8RBC about where things stand with converting the database information into something suitable for print.

**Thanks as always** to [pasty.net](http://pasty.net) for covering the club's telephone and electric costs.

**New business:**

Brief discussion of whether the repeater's output power is sufficient. The consensus is that it is, even in the absence of a wattmeter reading.

**Adjournment:**

Stan moves to adjourn, Jeff seconds. The meeting adjourns at 12:15, followed by lunch.

**Next meeting:**

Saturday October 14 at 11:30 a.m. at Loading Zone II in Lake Linden.