

KCRA Minutes

Keweenaw County Repeater Association
Vol. 35, No. 4
Fourth quarter 2025

In memory of Gary Hansen, K8YSZ and George Thurner, W8FWG

Saturday, October 11, 2025

Call to order at 11:47 a.m.

Roll call of officers, all present:

President/Treasurer Bill LaBell, KD8JAM
Vice President Don Lafreniere, W8PSP
Secretary Dave Gonigam, AG8NT

Also present:

Logan Johnson, KD8VRD; Lienna Johnson, KR8VEN; Bob Wareham, KF8DDV; Betty Antilla; Karen LaBell, KE8TXB; Simon Lafreniere, KE8TXD; Joe Dowd, KE8DUP; Kelly Dowd; Jeff Stricker, W9GY; Mike Hicks, KL2YE; Jim Bastian, N8KWC; Antonia Burich, KE8SMB, Tim Peters, W3TLP; Stuart Kauppila, W8EEK.

Engineer's report

To help investigate the ongoing receive issues on the .315, Todd from pasty.net climbed the tower a few days earlier. Turns out the coax is fine — the trouble is with the receive antenna. For the time being, the transmit antenna has been reconnected with no duplexer while the packet antenna is being used for receive. Users report less noise, longer range. Bill will look into insurance coverage for the failing receive antenna, and a replacement.

Treasurer's report

Balance in the treasury at the end of September: \$5378.96. Balance as of the meeting date: \$6059.27.

After the October 4 hamfest in Baraga (see below), the CCRAA and BCRA each will get \$102.51 for food/admission. Income from estates/donations totaled \$594. Thanks to Kelly for once again organizing food and Karen for aiding in the kitchen.

Secretary's report

No changes or corrections to the July minutes.

Old business/recent events:

International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend, August 16. Good turnout at the Eagle Harbor Lighthouse.

U.S. Islands QSO Party, August 30. Good turnout for this event at Agassiz Park in Calumet, which doubled as a POTA activation. The POTA log has been uploaded; the IOTA log is still in the works. Discussion followed about a follow-up event next year with additional signage and a location more visible from the street, but with an operating position somewhat isolated from the noise of the farmers market.

Copper Country Hamfest, October 4. About 50 attendees. Exams were administered to 11 candidates: Eight earned their Technician license, one upgraded to General and one upgraded to Amateur Extra. However, all new licenses and upgrades are on hold pending a resolution to the partial government shutdown.

Thanks as always to pasty.net for covering the club's telephone and electric costs.

Thanks also to Franklin Township Supervisor Mary Sears, KE8FEU, for the use of the Franklin Township Hall as our meeting/potluck venue.

Reminder: The Copper Country HF net is up and running on 75m phone every Saturday at 9:00 a.m. on 3812 kHz LSB.

New business/upcoming events:

CopperDog, February 27-March 1: Volunteers from past years can expect an update about the 2026 event shortly after the first of the year.

The rededication of the sign commemorating Calumet's sister-city relationship with the Cornish town of Camborne, originally scheduled for August 15, has been rescheduled to June 12, 2027. Antonia will continue to look into setting up a sked for a Calumet-Camborne ham radio contact.

Adjournment

Antonia moves, Tim seconds. The meeting adjourns at 11:56. p.m., immediately followed by a bountiful potluck. Thanks to all for the eats!

Next meeting

TBA