

February 2012 Minutes – 2/7/12

The meeting was open at approximately 7:00

Club Treasure, R. Stauffer reported an operating balance of \$3,648.99 in addition to \$1,000 for the "Electrical Power Fund and \$5,000.00 we still have in the future fund.

OLD BUSINESS

- Jeff Sharp reported getting a quote for more road gravel and for under the shelters. He stated that we could get size #57 rock for \$20.00 a ton. It was asked that he get another quote for size #67 rock. Everyone was still in large favor of spreading gravel under the shelters. It was mentioned that a load of rock is around 18 – 20 tons.
- It was reported that some siding still needs to be put up on the new mower shelter.
- Ken Blackford, club secretary, stated that ALL event pics, and pics in general, should go through him, as he would then make sure they get passed on to the webmaster and posted on the website. It was suggested that the club change the pics on the front page of the website from time to time. Ken stated that if someone is out at the field during a really great day and want to take some pictures, they should do so and that we would be more than glad to get them on the website.
- Ken Kayser reported that he had information on what it would take to run a hard power line down to the field. The cost would be over \$14,000.00 and it would require a 40 foot "right of way" path to run the poles and line. With this information, it was decided to seriously look at purchasing a generator. While lots of opinions were in the air, it was agreed to stay away from gas fuel and go with a diesel, military, style generator or propane version. It was also decided that it should be something that is on a trailer and not permanently mounted at the field. There were lots of concerns, that no matter how well we try to secure it to a slab, that it could still get vandalized and messed with if it was to permanently reside at the field. It was also agreed that only a select few would be allowed to operate the generator and that such people would be responsible for hauling it in and out of the field for events. Ed Wolfkamp agreed to look around at some military auctions in an effort to find something with prices starting around \$1,500.00.
- It was agreed to spend up to \$300.00 to finish the solar power project. The money would go towards (2) good batteries, the bunker box, and control panel. The intent was explained that anyone with a gate key could unlock the control panel and gain access to use any time.

NEW BUSINESS

- It was suggested that the club take advantage of programs like the AMA's "Youth Program" to help promote the hobby a little more and make surrounding people aware of the Rams Club in general, as a lot of members felt that a lot of people

don't even know such a club exist. It was suggested to have a day where the club bring in a cub scout or boy scout group down to the field, like had been done in the past, and expose them to the hobby. Ken Blackford mentioned he had already been asked from a co-worker, late last year, if our club would consider bringing the boys out to the field. It was also suggested to get a news crew down to the field and have a short spot on the news about our field and the hobby in general. It was quickly reminded that the club had already tried and tried to get some form of coverage like this in the past and that the news stations never seemed that interested. It was then suggested that the club make a short DVD video of the club and field as to server as a better tool to help sell ourselves and possibly get more interest from a local news channel. No firm plan of action was actually set in motion.

- It was also suggested that the club put up a permanent road sign at the corner of HWY 67 and Apperson Rd. (by Yummies) to make people aware that there is a RC flying field near-by. It was suggested that best possible option would be for someone to talk to Yummies and see if we could put it up on their side of the corner, as the other side might require getting in contact with the county and the actual land owners and people that mow and trim the other side of the corner. Everyone agreed this was a great idea. Ken Kayser volunteered to talk to Yummies to present our request.
- It was stated by a long time club member and contributor to the club that more people need to step up to the plate and volunteer, more so than the usual crew that always seems to get stuck with all the hard work at the field during events. It was noted that while the points system that was put in place last year is still in effect. The system gives you the opportunity to earn 5-pts for a half days work during an event and 10-pts for a full day event. It was noted that the system didn't seem to be drawing that many more volunteers last year as hoped for. It was mentioned that the club should give the usual guys that work and put on the events a break so they can actually participate during an event some time.
- Ken Blackford, club secretary, asked the club if they would be interested in having a Warbird event like the club had done in the past. Ken mentioned that the previous Warbird events where not always a big money maker, but it did always attract a lot of really great people and really nice planes. It was also suggested at the same time about having a basic Fun-Fly event again as well. Then someone suggested combining the two, having the WB on Saturday and the FF on Sunday. Everyone agreed that such a two-day event was a great idea and Ken agreed to be the Contest Director. After looking at the event dates for 2012, it was agreed that April 7th – 8th would be the best time to host this event.
- The club did announce the event dates for 2012. The dates are as follows:

Rams Warbird and Fun-Fly	- April 7th – 8th
Rams Yard Sale	- June 2nd
Dragon Fly Heli Event	- July 14th – 15th
Swap Meet	- August 4th

Randy Covington Electric Fly-In - August 23rd – 26th

Giant Scale - October 12th – 14th

50/50 was won by Jim Hardie , who netted \$47.00.

New members.....Paul Covington Jr., Bob Haybrock, Gustavo Herrera, Ron Rose, and Jeff Walker were voted in.....bringing the roster up to 64 members.

Kab

2-7-12