

January 2018 Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:05pm with 30 members present.

The minutes for the December meeting, as previously emailed to the members, was approved unanimously.

Club Treasure Ken Kayser reported a January Operating Balance of \$8,998.49. Ken also spoke at length about the “Planned” and “Actual” columns on the budget in that we always try to spend the yearly “Planned” budget. It was suggested that we could always add a “Special Projects” column for things like, new shelters or solar panel stations, in case we need it. A vote was taken and it was approved unanimously to add said “Special Projects” column in the budget. He finished by adding that he paid the Propane bill today 1/2/18 that was just under \$500.00.

OLD BUSINESS

- Club President, Charlie Lasley announced that he would like to appoint Howard Bass as the Deputy Safety Officer along with serving as additional member At-Large. Charlie also appointed Chris Baker and Butch Pendergrass for continuation of service as Members At-Large. A vote was taken and all of Charlie’s appointments were approved unanimously.
- Club Vice President Michael Holbrook touched on some maintenance revisions and suggested changes to the club “By-Laws” that were on the table. A vote was taken and it was approved unanimously to continue and send the revised “By-Laws” out to the membership for final approval.
- Member at Large Butch Pendergrass spoke at length about the proposed Shelter project in that many different configurations were considered, 2-building vs. 3-building, concrete slab vs. simple rock, and that the highest dollar amount would be right around \$16,000.00 without the cost of a guttering system figured. He mentioned that while his offer to put up half of the cost as a 3-year loan to the club was still on the table, he also wanted to make the club aware that when looking at the overall club budget, that this would still wipe out all of the funds in the account leaving no room for anything else. A Motion was made and second to postpone any further discussion of the project until early next year. At that time, the club will revisit the possibility of new shelters with further discussion. Adding a line-item in the budget for the Shelter Project was approved unanimously.
- Howard Bass discussed at length about his and Ken Means research on the proposed “Solar Panel Charging Station.” He brought up several really good questions that should be asked, like, how many people would (or could) actually use the system.....how would we actually secure the batteries and panels? It was noted that a system strong enough to handle everybody’s needs at the field (including the large packs that Howard himself uses) would cost approximately \$5,500.00. It was also noted that a lot of serious electric members already have their own source for charging, like personal generators. A vote was taken and it was approved unanimously to hold off further discussions for a year.
- Butch Pendergrass mentioned that he did speak to the land owners about leasing the small field up above the main gate for only \$200.00. It was emphasized that this was actually a steal and that the FPV circle could really start to grow. James Miller spoke at length about how he foresees starting out very slow, by not spending any more than necessary by possibly leaning on volunteers to mow the field. He stated that they could have an event as early as March. Ken Blackford agreed to make up any signs that might be needed, both at the new site and down at the regular field. It was stated that the club could purchase another identical gate lock, keyed the same, so the same key would open both gates. Tom Dollenmayer also noted the possible need for 2-loads of road gravel, but it was reminded that a load cost approximately \$600.00+. It was also made clear that any of the FPV pilots could donate any funds and labor themselves to do whatever they see fit to help facilitate their needs at the new site. All present members appeared very much in favor of this new FPV site. A motion was made to provide the New FPV field \$500 in startup money. The Lease payment of \$200 will be included for a total commitment of \$500. The motion was second and the proposal was carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

- It was asked if the club should and or would consider doing anything to the existing shelters, like painting or fixing-up, that would spruce up the look of the shelters for the 2018 year. It was agreed that people should take note of what could be done and revisit the topic in March, before our first event.
- Mark Pfaff asked for the dates of June 22-24th for the Dragon Fly Helicopter Event. A vote was taken and the dates were approved unanimously.
- Butch Pendergrass asked for the dates of June 14-17th for the War Bird Event, as the last two years have really been a near wash-out. A vote was taken and the dates were approved unanimously.
- Charlie Lasley stated that Philip Grimes, "The Man", who so kindly mows our field will have different mowing times / days this season, as his job hours have changed. Charlie asked the club to be mindful of this and to plan accordingly. The tentative schedule is Tuesday and Friday evenings.

Ken Kayser stated that the new 2018 lock are now on the gate and locked together with the 2017 lock. He asked everyone present to please be mindful and be sure to lock the gate properly to avoid accidentally locking a farmer or land owner behind the gate.

Club Vice President Michael Holbrook spoke about how a long time running local club is experiencing financial hardship and that we should all feel very fortunate and proud of our RAMS Club. He mentioned it often may appear the Board is tight with club funds, but it is only because we want to make sure the club has good financial health.

The 50 / 50 was won by "Joe", from Little Italy, who netted \$42.00. But, he kindly split his half and donated \$21.00 back to the club.