



# SATERN MEETING MINUTES

*Date | time 2/2/17 | 7:00pm Meeting called to order by Chris Striebel*

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## In Attendance

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Bob Dennis, Martha June, David Johnson, Paul Bodnar, Paul Jackson, Chris Striebel

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## Approval of Minutes

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No Minutes were read from previous meeting

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## Communication Vehicle

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Purchasing the Icom ID 4100 DStar to replace the Icom 880 DStar and move that unit to the communication center was discussed and unanimously accepted.

Chris Striebel posed why we would not place new unit in the command center instead of removing the 880. The answer is the 4100 does not need to be reprogrammed based on location and is much simpler to use. The 880 would have to be programmed based on location for nearby repeaters. The 880 would be a great stationary radio and the 4100 a great mobile radio.

We discussed the plan to add DMR onto the Comm Truck and what the best method is for that. The TYT MD-9600 Dual Band VHF/UHF radio \$279.00 was proposed.

Paul Bodnar stated that there have been numerous reports of issues with this unit.

Bob Dennis reported that a tech friend of his has also had the same issues Paul stated but that TYT has released a patch to correct many of those errors.

Chris Striebel asked that Bob and Paul ask around and see if we can get some more conclusive evidence that this is in fact a good fit for us.

Bob and Paul B. also mentioned the use of an open spot which uses a DMR HT to transmit. It does not rely on a local repeater to function but does require internet access. The open spot system \$239- \$300 is a formidable alternative to purchasing a DMR Radio.

Chris Striebel proposed we research further and come up with a plan for which system is the best option for DMR.

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## Radio Room / Canteen Unit

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A lighting storm last year causing some electrical damage to various items in the building. One of which was the Yaesu 8900 Dual Band VHF/UHF radio in the communication center. Insurance has covered the cost to replace that radio \$372.60. The proposal was put forward to purchase the Icom 4100 dstar place that in the communication truck and move the icom 880 dstar both dual band VHF/UHF radios. Also the Canteen Yaesu 8900 dual band radio faceplate has had a nob broken off. The radio from the canteen and the faceplate from com center can be combined to make one working radio in the communication center to function as the main UHF/VHF radio and the Icom 880 will be primarily for Dstar. It was suggested that we remove the Yaesu from

the Canteen as a permanent radio and use the deployable mobile vhf units we have when we need mobile communication for the canteen.

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## DStar Presentation

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Bob Dennis did a presentation on the benefits of DStar and a quick tutorial on the operation of Dstar.

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## 2018 Recruitment / Club Presentations

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Chris Striebel proposed establishing a plan for recruiting for 2018.

Recruitment strategies proposed:

- Ham Fest involvement
  - Communication Truck display
  - Booth or table for interaction
    - Kalamazoo Crossroads hamfest 3/17/18
    - IRA Hamfest 6/2/18
    - GRARA 9/18
    - Kalamazoo Hamfest TBD
    - Cadiillac Hamfest TBD
    - Lowell Hamfest TBD
    - HAMVENTION TBD
- Field Day Involvement of the COW
- Saturday “open house”/ event / exercise
  - Take place 2 times per year
- Traveling COW show to local area clubs and events & exercises
  - Holland Club
  - GRARA
  - Spark in the Park
  - National Weather Service
  - Other interested clubs
  - Local Municipalities for events
- Invite a friend to a meeting
- Use the growing Wednesday night net to voice our meetings, events, and updates.

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## Other

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Paul Jackson inquired as to when the name badges would be available. Chris Striebel replied that he would look to see if they can be completed by the next meeting.

Enter Announcements

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## Next Meeting

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2/6/18 General membership meeting 5:30pm SATERN Meeting following 7pm.

Dickinson Park, 1632 Linden Grand Rapids, MI 49507