K0IRO Member Meeting Minutes

Date and Time: 9/2/2025 - 7pm

Location: Discord

Leadership

Calvin Jutting (KN0CTJ) - President

Jason Knapton (KE0EJS) - Vice President

Jason Loehr (KDØMUB) - Treasurer & Secratary

Ben Jutting (K0BJJ) - Marketing & Communications

Business

Membership

- Discussed starting formal membership.
- A signup form will be posted on the website and discord soon.
- No dues will be charged initially; long-term dues projected at \$10–20 annually.
- Focus on transparency and ensuring dues benefit members statewide.
- Short-term expenses may include hamfest tables, flyers, and signage.

Repeater Contest

- Announced August contest winner: Jim (W6GRE). Close competition with Clint (K0GR) and others.
- Emphasized importance of logging contacts to increase participation.
- Discussion on linking repeaters via All-Star and EchoLink; current rule remains RF into a repeater required.

- Consideration for expanding contest rules to allow more access for rural operators.
- Flyers to be distributed at upcoming hamfests for promotion.

Encouraging New Hams

- Agreed outreach to new Technician licensees is critical to build activity on VHF/UHF.
- Discord and repeater challenge seen as positive entry points.
- Club intends to fill gaps where local clubs may not be as welcoming.
- Luncheon meetups and informal gatherings encouraged for mentoring and networking.

Hamfests and Events

- General support for attending and supporting lowa hamfests.
- Discussed possibility of assisting struggling events such as Boone (3900 Club).
- Consideration of hosting a statewide K0IRO get-together, possibly POTA style with camping and operating.
- Encouragement to use Discord's For Sale/Trade channel in addition to physical flea markets.

Repeaters

- Members discussed inactive or underused repeaters in lowa.
- Proposal to track "inactive repeaters" alongside the active list to share with the lowa Repeater Council.
- Guidance provided for members interested in setting up repeaters, including cost, coordination process, and options to adopt existing repeaters.

Closing Thoughts

- Members expressed appreciation for the community, with recognition of the value of Discord in connecting hams across the state.
- Acknowledged rapid growth: over 350 members, representing ~5% of lowa hams.
- Reinforced vision of K0IRO as a welcoming, statewide resource for all radio operators (Amateur, GMRS, CB, etc.).

Action Items

- Publish membership signup form on K0IRO website.
- Leadership to revisit dues structure and transparency guidelines.
- Continue to promote Repeater Contest and explore rule adjustments for inclusivity.
- Distribute flyers at Sioux City hamfest and others.
- Create Discord channel to track inactive repeaters.
- Explore opportunities to assist struggling hamfests and plan for a statewide K0IRO get-together.

Attendance

alex_wrjg958

James - WB0FFE

JerryP

Jim - W6GRE / WSFL398

Joe KF0UNW

John KC0RAM

johnny2k - Waterloo

KDØMUB - Jason

KE0VPA - John

Matt N3AR

N0GIK-Matt-Ade1, IA

Minutes Prepared by: KD0MUB, Jason Loehr