

Central Michigan Amateur Radio Club

Secretary Report, Board of Directors, August 8th 2026

prepared by Gordy Smith (KE8JKS)

Meeting was called to order at 18:12

In Attendance: Gordy Smith, Kelly Fitzgerald, Russ Fitzgerald, Tom Rocheleau, Austin Burk, Gene Parker

Field Day Post-Mortem

The following topics were discussed and decided upon

a.) Volunteer Examiner session to start at Noon EST going forward. This will allow more set up time and allow people attending or new licensees to see or participate in actual operations rather than be there for just the set-up

b.) Portable Toilet will be contracted locally. Delivery, Set up and removal will be handled by the contracted company to eliminate problems in transportation logistics and remove the club from future work or problems.

c.) After calculating past field day costs, the use of the clubs "Field Day" savings account will be utilized to fund all future field day expenses. Discussion ensued on an amount to keep in that account. A motion was made by Tom R. to add \$1,300 to bring that account balance to a base of \$1,500. Kelly F. seconded the motion. A unanimous vote was obtained and the monies will be moved from the checking account.

NOTE: The following decision was based on three main factors: Food, \$400 - \$600, propane fuel for generator \$200 and the portable toilet \$200, plus some extras.

d.) In the future, the main 10kW generator for the event will only power the clubs communications trailer, food line, Star-link, IP network, Wi-Fi, laptops and radios. People who bring campers will have to supply their own power sources for air conditioners. The main generator will only be started at dusk on the first day to conserve fuel.

NOTE: Decision was based on fuel consumption and generator overload.

e.) A strict placement of station site campers, tents and shelters will be adhered to in the future to ensure that all the power infrastructure reaches where it needs to go.

f.) A hard cut-off date will be implemented for field day donations. The club would prefer cash rather than items.

g.) A state license will be applied for well in advance so we can hold some fundraising events and give out prizes. Our current wrist bands with serial numbers will be utilized for this and for access to the food line,

h.) Side walls will be put on the GOTA station canopy in future to eliminate congregations of people from distracting the operator and participants. This will eliminate people pulling up chairs and eliminate background chatter.

i.) discussion ensued on bringing back schedules for station operators. No clear-cut schedule is currently defined as to when an operators will be relieved or get a break. Other stations had to stop operating as there was no back-up person.

j.) A press release will be sent to the “news producer” of the major media organizations three weeks prior to field day with a follow up phone call to each one week out.

k.) The following actions and upgrades will be acted upon within the coming weeks, change the 10kW generators motor oil, install an 8-port data switch in the comm. trailer, rewire the internal computer to run on the 12 Volt battery source, look into a solar power trickle charger to the comm. trailers internal battery plant, measure existing signage for evaluation of updating the clubs logo, obtain tire and rim sizes and parameters for replacement of trailers tires and wheels.

l.) Club shirts are now available for prepay orders. Shirts have breast pockets with a small club logo and the back will have a big club logo. They will be available for order at the next club meeting. A discount will be in effect for the first order for all members. Cost will be \$18 each for small, medium, large and extra large. \$19.50 for 2X and \$21 for 3X. See Kelly Fitzgerald (N8FK) to fill out the order form.

m.) A clearer chain of command will be implemented as to who the station chairs are.

n.) an open mike forum will be used at the next meeting to get input from club members.

A motion was made and adopted to close the board meeting at 20:54

Respectfully Submitted,

Gordy Smith (KE8JKS)

Acting secretary