

Bald Eagle Repeater Assoc.Inc.
Meeting minutes (DRAFT)
May 19, 2026
County Farm Complex – Chapel

Meeting was called to order at 1901 hours by President Seltzer

LIST OF LICENSED ATTENDEES BY CALL SIGN

AC3EU, K3LPX, K3RBH, K3RJS, K3TEG, KB3AWQ, KB3KIT, KB3KJB, KB3LCF, KB3OXJ, KC3HMY, KC3JEV, KC3KRU, KC3M, , KC3UFQ, KC3UHG, KC3WOZ, KC3ZND, KC3ZUM, KD3AJ0 ,KE0TTL, KF0AMA, N3MGI, N3NXC, N3RPB, N3ZIO, W3EDF, W3TKB, W3TMB, W3ZR, WA3VUE, WJ3OM

LIST OF UNLICENSED ATTENDEES

Bri Dion (American Red Cross), Caleb Line (WSMN888 – GMRS License – tested and passed tech license at BERA exam session prior to meeting), Davaughn Williams,

APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES

N3RPB (B. Brown) acting Secretary due to absence of KC3UWB (D. Brown) reported previous minutes were provided via email prior to the meeting. Brown related that minutes will be provided to WJ3OM (J. Mummert) to be posted to the Club web site. A motion was made by N3ZIO (Brendle), second by AC3EU (Cliff Allen) to waive reading & accept minutes of March meeting. No objections, Motion carried

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer (D. Stroble) indicated checking account balance of \$ 4,741.53 motion to accept treasurer report by KC3ZUM (M. Strunk) second by AC3EU (C. Allen). No objections, motion carried

OLD BUSINESS

An update and lengthy discussion was held regarding refurbish / replacement of current Repeater site vs obtaining a new site on the mountain.

KB3AWQ (J. Springman) – Spoke to DCNR re: our options

1. Replace / rehab building & tower at current site

Pros: current lease is \$50 / year

Cons: Building requires major repair (floor sagging) – or replacement,
Building currently on rock supports but not level.
Tower not above tree line and in need of work.

2. Coexist with another site – We could try to find space on a current site and tower.

Pros: None noted

Cons: We would be at the mercy of the lease owner

3. Move to vacant site. DCNR currently not allowing development of new sites at this time

Pros: If the correct site is found, may be less expensive.

New site may also allow better repeater coverage.

Cons: Unknown costs

Lease costs will increase an Undetermined amount but more than current location.

Will have to remove building / tower at current site and plant trees so that site is

natural – DCNR requirement. Cost TBD (to be determined)
Electricity at new site?
Rehab of new site building / tower (if needed).

if we move locations, we must remove the building and tower and replant trees for mother nature to fully reclaim the site. Also, the DCNR lease will increase to approx. \$200 - 250 / yr from the current \$50 / year

Springman related that. He found a Microwave Site no longer in use. This site is registered to Penn Service Microwave (Danville, PA), but that company appears to have been acquired by Service Electric. They are interested in getting the site off of their inventory. This site is approximately 1/2 mile east of our current lease site. It is located on higher ground. The site comes with a metal approximately 12' x 12' building on a poured concrete base as well as a free standing 85' tower. The tower currently has 4 microwave antennas that may need to be removed at some point. Site has three utility poles that also can hold antennas. There is at least one 'Station master' type antenna on the telephone poles. The metal building needs to be painted and the current door is held closed by a hasp / padlock. Springman noted that a new door and lock should be installed. The interior has paneling on the walls and there are a number of racks with some containing microwave equipment. The floor appears to be in good shape.

Springman noted that the location would improve the dead zone in the Montoursville to Muncy area that is a result of our current repeater location. This site is approximately 1/2 mile east of our current lease site. It is located on higher ground. The site comes with a metal approximately 12' x 12' building on a poured concrete base as well as a free standing 85' tower. The tower currently has 4 microwave antennas that may need to be removed at some point. Site has three utility poles that also can hold antennas. There is at least one 'Station master' type antenna on the telephone poles. The metal building needs to be painted and the current door is held closed by a hasp / padlock. Springman noted that a new door and lock should be installed. The interior has paneling on the walls and there are a number of racks with some containing microwave equipment. The floor appears to be in good shape.

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Springman noted that Penn Service was in the process of obtaining bids for demolition and remediation of the site when contacted by Springman. He related that we may be able to take over the lease as opposed to having to purchase the site, saving a significant amount of money.

Following discussion., a Motion was made by N3ZIO (Brendle), second by KC3ZUM (Strunk) to have board continue negotiations to obtain better information on lease costs (DCNR), electrical service availability and any associated costs with taking over the lease. If time constraints require an agreement be reached prior to the scheduled July meeting, a special meeting be held to discuss and vote on the matter. No objections were noted.

Brown reported that as a result of the discussion at the March meeting, the Williamsport PO Box (3393) was closed and a new smaller box (3031) was rented. The new cost is \$98 / 6 months as opposed to \$125 / 6 months for the older larger box. The first 6 month cost was \$96 as we received a \$2 rebate upon returning the keys to the old box. Authorized members to pick up mail include N3RPB (B. Brown), KC3UWB (D. Brown – Secretary), KF0AMA (E.

Seltzer), WJ3OM (J. Mummert – Repeater trustee), KB3AWQ (J. Springman – Vice President), KC3UHG (D. Stroble (Treasurer).

NEW BUSINESS:

Seltzer spoke on HamClockOnline.com being terminated. Several replacements are currently available including:

Hamdash.App – Desktop type function

openhamclock.com – works well with Raspberry Pi or similar operating system

Tim Gelvin ((K3TEG) reported that the American Red Cross is requesting permission to utilize 147.090 for ARC nets. This will include a once monthly Saturday morning net (last Saturday, approximately 0900-1000) as well as any nets as a result of their activation as a group. They recognize that they will be a secondary user and any emergency net by BERA / Lycoming County ARES will take precedence. Gelvin also introduced Bri Dion from ARC who thanked BERA for inviting her to the meeting. BERA President Seltzer has volunteered to be a radio operator for the Lycoming County ARC unit, which is based at the County Farm complex.

A motion to allow ARC to utilize 147.090 was made by KC3ZND (Kashetta), second by KC3UHG (Stroble). No objections were noted.

President Seltzer issued a correction on the postcard that was mailed to amateurs with an invitation to the May meeting and ARRL Field Day. The correct ARRL Field Day date is Saturday 06/27/2026 1100 – 2200 at Indian Park – Pavilion #6 in Montoursville Borough.

N3RPB (Brown) related that Field Day preparations continue.) The following items will be provided by the following members:

meatballs, ice, fruit and paper products. KC3UMT (D. Taggart)

Buns - N3ZIO (D. Brendle)

Bottled water – N3RPB (B. Brown)

We are still looking for snacks & desserts. Please contact Brown with any questions or to report that you will be providing an item.

We are planning to have stations on multiple bands with both digital and analog voice. Members are requested to bring a band pass filter if you have one to try to eliminate interference. Brown to send email to try to track who is bringing food and radio equipment to help eliminate interference / duplication

Information on the following events was provided. All of these events require Amateur radio operators.

1. WEU (world's End Ultramarathon) Saturday 05/30/2026 0500-2359 hours.
2. ES-100 (Eastern States -100) Saturday 08/08/26 0500 hours -Sunday 08/09/2026 1800hours

Link to sign up for both can be found on the BERA site www.kb3hll.org

3. STPR (Susquehannock Trail Pro Rally) Tioga County 07/09-11/2026 -
Link: <https://www.stpr.org/volunteer-positions>

ARC will be conducting operations during the Little League Worlds Series (LLWS) August 18-30, 2026. Info to follow as it is finalized -

With no additional business to be conducted, a motion to adjourn was made by N3ZIO (Brendle), second by— N3RPB (Brown) 1948 hours

POST MEETING PRESENTATION

Immediately following the meeting, W3TMB (Travis best) presented information on Antennas & building antennas.

**** Due to a technical issue, neither the meeting or the presentation were digitally recorded.

Minutes by R. Brown N3RPB 05/24/2026