

BLACK RIVER AMATEUR RADIO CLUB MEETING MINUTES

Call to Order – President Dean Weurding, KE8TVR

Date: July 14, 2026

Time: 6:30 PM

Meeting Location: VBISD Conference Center, Lawrence, MI

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Members Present: 11 members present

Secretary's Report

- The club secretary Ed Alderman, KI8Z, was absent. Vice President, Aaron Wiedbrauk, KE8ZEX took the meeting notes. It was agreed the May 2026 meetings would wait to be approved by the board at the August meeting when Ed, KI8Z, would be back.

Treasurer's Report – Jim Cady N8JVC

- Jim, N8JVC, reported that the General Liability coverage went up \$20.00 per year. Jim, N8JVC was also notified by the post office that the price to maintain the BRARC Post Office Box would be increasing. At the time the Post Office was not able to tell Jim how much the cost would go up, just that there was going to be an increase.

Technical Committee Report – Aaron Wiedbrauk KE8ZEX

- Aaron, KE8ZEX, reported that the new equipment purchased for Field Day (Triplexer) worked well during summer Field Day. Aaron asked if anyone had recommendations on any improvements to Field Day or the Emergency Communications Trailer to email him so that the Tech Committee could look at those recommendations to see if they would be helpful and if the recommendations could be implemented.

ARES/RACES/SKYWARN – Mike Greis, KD8GTX

- Mike, KD8GTX, June 2026 there were 27 Nets activated and 2 SKYWARN activations for a total of 66 hours of operation. Dean, KE8TVR, asked Mike how the SKYWARN activations were going and if any improvements needed to be made. Mike said that the SKYWARN nets were working out well. Mike wanted to remind operators to keep traffic to a minimum on the radio and only report severe weather observations to Net Control (tornados, funnel clouds, hail, and wind over 45 mph).

Old Business

- The BRARC participated in Field Day, and it was held at Lawton High School. We had good weather, and had several people stop out to participate in Field Day. The club made a total of 633 QSOs, which was more than was made last year during Field Day.

- Dean, KE8TVR, mentioned that there was some interest in conducting an After-Action Review of Field Day to report on things that went well, and things that did not go so well. The AAR would be used to help recommend improvements to next year's Summer Field Day.
 - Dean asked if there was anyone interested in participating in planning the 2027 Summer Field Day. Stay tuned for more information in the future about planning for 2027 Field Day. If you are interested in helping plan next years Field Day please reach out to Dean.

New Business

- Jason, KE8VRW, has organized a Club POTA Activation on Saturday, July 25, 2026. The POTA will be held at the trailhead of the Van Buren Trail inside the Van Buren State Park. Wayne, N8UC, and Jason, KE8VRW, will be there to set up the trailer at 10:30 AM.
- Dean, KE8TVR, gave a presentation on "Portable Power".
- The next BRARC Club Breakfast will be Saturday, July 25, 2026, at 8:30 AM at the Wagon Wheel Restaurant just west of Paw Paw on Red Arrow Hwy.

Next Meeting

- Tuesday August 11, 2026, at 6:30 PM at the VBISD Conference Center in Lawrence at 409 S Paw Paw Street.

CLOSING The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 PM