

THE PLATTSMOUTH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Communicator

April 2026

More Funds for NOAA Weather Radio?

(ARnewsline 3/27/26) Lawmakers in Washington, DC, have moved ahead with their commitment to invest \$100 million in improved antennas and transmitter equipment to expand coverage for the VHF weather radio service of NOAA. A bipartisan measure that authorizes the expense was passed recently by members of the House Committee on Science, Space and Technology.

An estimated 1,030 such weather stations hold licenses to operate on 162 MHz. The antenna and transmitter additions and upgrades focus on NOAA's radio service in remote areas of the US that have a higher risk of extreme weather. Beyond VHF improvements, the bill calls for NOAA to explore options on the microwave band to further strengthen the network's ability to communicate warnings about hazardous conditions. Other language in the bill directs NOAA to explore the possibility of satellite backup or partnerships with commercial providers.

The US lawmakers' measure moves next for a vote in the full House but is not yet on the calendar. The action on Capitol Hill comes almost a year after the White House announced that the administration was looking to cut NOAA's weather research centers, particularly those focused on understanding climate change.

<https://arnewsline.org>

Canada Ending Weather Radio

(ARnewsline 3/6/26) Canada's national weather centre is ending its Weatheradio service which has been available on VHF since 1976. In a decision driven by budget priorities and what the agency called declining usage, the forecasts are going silent on the 16th of March. Officials are instead encouraging the use of a free mobile app or an interactive weather map on their website.

Upgraded in 2004 to accommodate digitally encoded signals, the nationwide system has provided local and regional forecasts in English and French. The reports have been transmitted on the same frequencies used in the US by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Weather Radio, in the 162 MHz frequency range

Amateur radio operator Michael Iszak VE3HA, who is also a radiocommunications consultant, told the

Toronto Sun that he was concerned about the weather service's demise. He told the newspaper: "These stations are often used by people who travel to areas where there is no cell service, it's invaluable for getting updated weather forecasts."

Airlines to Update Onboard Transponders

(ARnewsline 3/20/26) The Federal Aviation Administration has ordered airlines flying Boeing 787 Dreamliners to inspect and repair faulty on-board transponders. According to a report at Aviation A-to-Z dot com, the move is expected to cost U.S. airlines nearly eight million dollars

United Airlines, American Airlines, and Alaska Airlines who operate from hubs including Chicago O'Hare and Los Angeles International Airports are among those affected by the FAA Airworthiness Directive. It states that certain Boeing 787 transponders can fail when they are exposed to continuous wave signals, including those generated by Morse code from military transmitters and amateur radio transmissions. Such signals, when encountered by the aircraft's Mode S transponder, may cause a failure to respond to radar interrogation. Air traffic control systems rely on those responses to track aircraft positions accurately. Without a correct reply from the transponder, controllers "may temporarily lose visibility on their radar displays".

Additionally, the onboard Traffic Collision Avoidance Systems "may not generate alerts correctly, reducing a critical safety safeguard designed to prevent mid-air collisions". Tests conducted by the FAA showed a near-90 percent failure rate of interrogation attempts in environments with CW interference, which prompted the corrective solution order.

The directive applies globally to Boeing 787 aircraft equipped with the affected transponder model. However, the FAA's financial assessment only covers aircraft registered in the U.S. Airlines have up to four years to complete the required inspections and modifications.

The directive has the support of Boeing and the Air Line Pilots Association; however, operational concerns were expressed by several airlines who have requested a delay.

<https://aviationa2z.com/index.php/2026/03/15/faa-orders-boeing-787-fix-after-radio-signal-flaw/>

2026 PAID MEMBERSHIP

- PAID MEMBERSHIPS are in **BOLD**
- ABØER..... Tom Stiefel [E]
 AGØL..... Steve Loyd [E]
 AIØN..... Chuck Engberg* [E]
 KBØFSI..... Pat McCollum [T]
 KBØLF..... Fred Eriksen [E]
 KBØOGO..... Roger Behrns* [E]
 KCØHYD..... John Titsworth [G]
 KCØHYE..... Shirley Titsworth [T]
 KDØDLY..... Paul Chiarello [T]
 KEØPFQ..... Justin Fader [G]
 KEØXQ..... Bill McCollum [E]
 KEØTR..... Paul Stanek [A]
 KFØFHH..... Erik Jamison [T]
 KFØRMO..... Paul Duran [G]
 KFØRMZ..... Stanley Winterstien [T]
 KFØVCA..... Dale Mortensen [T]#
 KGØKR..... Beth Engberg* [E]
 KIØPY..... Kevin Faris [E]
 N5SEZ..... Ray McNally[E]
 NØLZH..... John Harrington [G]
 NØPEU..... Shawn Djernes [E]
 N8VCL..... Scott Schreiber [E]
 WØDBW..... Derek Winterstien [G]
 WBØWTF..... Mitch Green [G]
 WDØCFC..... Gary Bauersachs [E]
 WØJRN..... Jim Nelson [E]
 WR5I..... John Bergman [E]

*Charter Members #New Ham

Note: Thanks to all who have paid their dues and those who have given additional donations. All donations are greatly appreciated. Please let me know of any corrections.

Meetings are 8am the last Saturday of most months at Mom's Café in Plattsmouth.

Tuesday night get-togethers at Plattsmouth Burger King at 6 PM or so.



P.A.R.C. Officers

President

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Vice President

N8VCL..... Scott Schreiber

Secretary

WØDBW..... Derek Winterstien

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KIØPY..... Kevin Faris

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Repeaters:

443.45⁺ is located in downtown Omaha
 443.225⁺ is located in Murray.
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Web Site

www.kb0smx.com

Maintained by Derek (WØDBW)

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The February Meeting was held at Mom's Café on February 28, 2026. The meeting was called to order by President Roger Behrns at 8:00 am.

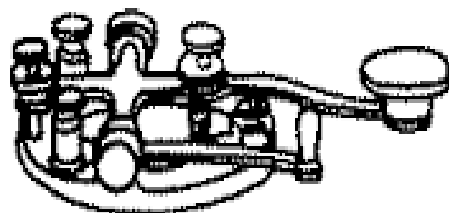
Those in attendance were Roger (KBØOGO), Kevin (KIØPY), Ray (N5SEZ), John (KCØHYD), Shirley (KCØHYE), Chuck (AIØN), Derek (WØDBW), Paul (WFØPCE), Scott (N8VCL), Paul (KEØTR), Dale (KFØVCA), Mike (NØMCN) and Tom (ABØER).

The Minutes of the January meeting were approved on a motion by John and seconded by Chuck.

The Treasurer reported receiving dues and donations of \$150. This leaves \$692.55 in the General Fund and \$315 in the Repeater Fund for a total of \$1007.55. The report was accepted on a motion by Paul and second by Ray.

There was general consensus that we want to do Field Day in Murray again. Roger will send a request to the village.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:01 on a motion by Scott and second by Dale.



PLATTSMOUTH ARC MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION FORM					
Name		Call Sign		Class	
Address		City	State	Zip	
E-Mail			Phone #		
Spouse Name			Call Sign		Class
Membership Type <input type="checkbox"/> Primary(\$15) <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse (\$5) <input type="checkbox"/> Student (\$5) <input type="checkbox"/> New Ham		• Additional donations are gratefully accepted. • New Hams are free during the year they receive their first license. • Please give this form and dues to the club treasurer or any club officer.		Donation for: <input type="checkbox"/> Repeater fund <input type="checkbox"/> Insurance <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ <input type="checkbox"/> General	
Any additional e-mail or cell phone #s?		Amount: <input type="checkbox"/> I prefer my donation to be anonymous.			

Meeting Calendar

8am, Sat March 28
8am, Sat April 25
at Mom's Café.