

April 8, 2020

Rick Dean, General Manager
KXII-TV
4201 Texoma Parkway
Sherman, TX 75090

Steven Davoust
5132 FM 2352
Sumner, TX 75486

Mr. Dean:

I am writing you in my capacity as president of the Red River Valley Amateur Radio Club (RRVARC) based in Paris, Texas. During meteorology training for local amateur radio operators we have become acquainted with your station's Chief Meteorologist Steve LaNore (KB5DEY) who is also a licensed amateur radio operator. This training was for amateur radio operators who are involved with making weather observations for the National Weather Service Fort Worth SKYWARN Program and who participate in Amateur Radio Relay League (ARRL) organized and sponsored Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) and/or FCC Part 97.407 Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) as a part of their civic duty. We amateur radio operators go out during severe weather and report our observations directly to the National Weather Service, in this case their office in Fort Worth, via our local repeater, which is networked through other repeaters back to the Fort Worth office. We amateurs also provide communications responding to disasters and during planned events such as one of the large ones in Paris, the Tour de Paris bicycle ride, providing safety and update communication all along the course via our local repeaters.

In discussion with Mr. LaNore we determined there might be some synergy in partnering with KXII in Paris in a manner that is beneficial to KXII and the RRVARC in service to the entire Red River Valley area of northeast Texas. To date Kelly Collins (W5KJC), the club station Trustee, has been coordinating the proper tower climber insurance needs with Susanne Kulbeth. We now believe the nature of the project necessitates a more wide-ranging dialog with station management in an effort to clarify how such a project might proceed and then secure an agreement outlining how this task should be achieved. This letter seeks to initiate conversation to outline how we might accomplish these objectives.

Our earliest consideration of the matter had been to seek an agreement allowing the club to place radio repeater and antenna equipment at the KXII tower site just outside of the loop and west/southwest of Paris. This would be desirable for at least two reasons. 1) We currently have club repeater equipment at a hospital in

Paris. Emergency preparedness protocols consistently urge redundancy and geographic dispersal of assets. 2) Analyzing various location heights in the area the KXII tower was determined to be very suitable for hosting of an amateur radio repeater site for the same reasons it is used for your TV broadcasting. Mr. Collins subsequently coordinated looking at the site and sought properly qualified and insured talent to help us determine what it would cost if the project were authorized by station management. As an IRS 501(c)(3) we also initiated preliminary discussions seeking financial support from those that might help make the location even more robust. Local Lion's Club leadership and others expressed interest. We have explored things like adding high-speed 24/7 Internet access, backup power generation and necessary fuel stores to the site, something it currently lacks. As we started putting all of this together it naturally stimulated a lot of questions. If we go into the project wholeheartedly and secure funding to enhance the site with the addition of Internet access for remote monitoring and radio control, backup power generation to keep the site up and running during a power outage, etc., it is obvious to us that our project should have some natural appeal to you. So as we have looked at various options it occurred to us – Do we want to approach this from the standpoint of a long-term agreement with KXII to host our repeater equipment? And what of this upgrade to the site?

Or alternatively might KXII be interested in turning things around and donate the Paris site to the RRVARC, in exchange getting a nice IRS deduction while also securing a long-term nominal cost agreement for the club to maintain the site and its upgraded remote monitoring/control and redundant capabilities? There are many considerations to each approach and so we determined that prior to devoting too much additional effort to the first we should at least broach the second. This drove the decision that I should contact you. We are now at a point where it seems prudent that prior to going any further with the project we should first confirm that you are willing and interested, discuss the outline of the project and then secure contractual protocols for how we wish the project to move forward.

When you have had the opportunity to consider the points I have raised in this letter I would like to see if we could chat by phone or in person and at least develop the framework for how we might conclude a contractual agreement. To that end, once you have had the chance to read and consider these points, please have someone on your staff contact Phillip Beall (W5EBC) (214-729-6182). I am sometimes hard to reach during business hours, he is the club secretary and since we are in the current "social distancing" environment he will coordinate our discussion and see if we should initially have a phone conference call, a video chat or what our options are.

Whether it is a long-term hosting agreement between KXII and the RRVARC or a transfer of ownership and then long-term hosting agreement between RRVARC and KXII; if the club leadership and station management could nail that question

down then we could start working on how the relationship and contractual documentation could be concluded. We are excited at the prospect of partnering with KXII in furtherance of enhancing emergency preparedness communication in the Red River Valley area of northeast Texas. I look forward to speaking with you and/or your representatives at your earliest convenience.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steven Davoust". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'S' at the beginning.

Steven Davoust (N5KCH)
903-517-3427
President, Red River Valley Amateur Radio Club
North Texas Emergency Communications Coordinator ARRL

CC: Steve LaNore
Susanne Kulbeth
Kelly Collins
Phillip Beall