

Metropolitan Emergency Communications Council Summary of April 13, 2013 Meeting

Present at the April 13, 2013 meeting were:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Call Sign</u>	<u>Organization</u>
Matt May (President)	KC4WCG	Johnson County EM & ARES
Brian Short (Vice President)	KC0BS	Johnson County ARES
Carolyn Wells (Secretary)	N0CJ	RHSCC Hospital Committee
Larry Widener (Membership Sec)	KA0YJE	American Red Cross KCMO
Mike Bellinger (Member at Large)	K0UAA	Jackson County ARES
James Bair	N0AJI	Jackson County ARES
John Eberenz	A0RES	Blue Springs ARC
Ron Rodvelt	N0RL	Northland ARES
Rick Smith	K0KEX	Northland ARES
Steve Hoeger	KC0YSY	KCHEART
Richard Fretwell	W0KRF	Jackson County ARES
Ed Menard	KD7QOR	USGC Auxiliary, Navy MARS
Kent Dickinson	K0WEW	Region VII Army MARS
Tom Griswold	KT0MG	Johnson County ARES/RACES
Rich Britain	N0ENO	SATERN

President Matt May called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and introductions were done

The group reviewed the meeting minutes from February 9, 2013. They were unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS

MECC Goals 2013

Active:

1. Play a part in credentialing and resource typing for communications volunteers. – See below
2. Development of a secondary and tertiary list of MECC member organization contacts. – The contact list was passed around.
3. Development of a list of capabilities for each MECC member organization. – In progress
4. Seminar for HAMs on emergency management topics. – Not yet started
5. Develop a demonstration workshop for Emergency managers to educate them regarding the capabilities of amateur radio operators. – We will do this after one of the MECC monthly meetings.

Monitoring:

1. WebEOC partnership use arrangements and training.
2. Participation in notification systems.
3. Education of new HAMs.
4. Development of a frequency coordination template.
5. Enhancements of relationships between MECC, ARES, and RACES groups with emergency management, extending to the regional level.

Credentialing - Resource Typing

The State of Kansas system is considering adopting the same four levels of resource typing that our region has proposed. (See Below). The badge layout will be identical to the one for KCTEAM with the exception of the QR code replacing the standard bar code. The KCTEAM badges will work on the Kansas

system. The software for the KCTEAM system does not have the updates, but will in the future so the coding will be the same.

The RHSCC MEMC has been given the responsibility of writing draft policies for the volunteer groups and Emergency Management for the KCTEAM system. Matt shared a draft of the document that has been developed to address how the amateur radio groups will be a part of the KCTEAM badging system, "Pre-Incident Badging Policy for Kansas City Amateur Radio Volunteers." Each of the amateur radio groups will have to take the policy, once it is approved, and develop their own processes for implementing the resource typing for their group. This process will need to be developed with concurrence with their sponsoring Emergency Management office. Steven Hoeger made a motion to accept this draft as the policy endorsed by the MECC. This was seconded by Ron Rodvelt. The motion passed unanimously.

Several of the groups in the area have adopted the resource typing process such as Johnson County, Wyandotte County, Independence RACES. Matt offered for any group who has questions to contact him or Dennis Smeltzer with Johnson County ECS.

Kansas RACES Plan

Below are the proposed revised qualifications requirements:

General Membership requirements:

Is: Technician Class license
IS-100, 101, 200, 242, 700, 800, 802
Government issued ID
Proposed: Amateur Radio Operator III

State officers are required to have in addition to the above:

Is: IS-240, 241, 244
General Class license
Demonstrate ability to act as net control
Proposed: Amateur Radio Operator II

Education

Technician Classes 2013

June 8 and 15, 2013 at JoCo EOC

August 17 and 24, 2013 at Providence Medical Center

Jim Bair stated he is doing classes on FL Digi via Google Plus video conferencing. Up to 9 people can be on the video conference/session. It is being done on Thursday nights at 2000. Jim will send out the information to the group.

Rick Smith stated Northland ARES will be sponsoring a training on all different kinds of digital modes at the Clay County Training Center on May 11 from 0800-1300. There will be different types of training formats as well as labs to do hands-on training.

Herb Fiddick recently conducted a "How to Support Public Service Events" class. It was well received with over 20 participants. Other discussion was had regarding other post licensing classes that would encourage new hams to participate in amateur radio based programs such as storm spotting and community events. This would also include basic "Get OnThe Air" classes like the Ham 101 classes that been presented in the region in the past.

MEMC Report

Matt gave a report on the MEMC meeting on April 11. He talked about the WebEOC Conference that several WebEOC Committee members attended the first part of April. The most important information for this group is that Intermedix who just acquired WebEOC is working on an interface between all of their products, especially the IPAWS/CMAS interface. Matt also gave a report on the upcoming SET and provided the Emergency Managers an overview of the exercise planning progress to date, including the list of currently participating jurisdictions (see New Business section). The MEMC is also developing a functional exercise scheduled for June 13th.

KCHEART

The videos have been shot and are now being edited to include graphics. The only video that still needs to be shot is the one with the FT-897 which is the HF transceiver installed in all the hospitals. The group was asked to recommend someone that has the expertise in this piece of equipment to Matt or Brian. Once the videos are complete, they will be posted on You-Tube. There will also be a DVD made that can be used to train operators.

Several of the kits have been deployed. One kit was taken to Royal Oakes in Clinton, MO and the other one to Kindred North in Gladstone. One kit has now been deployed to Liberty Hospital. John Ebernz was asked to take one for the Blue Springs Amateur Radio Club to put one on the east side of the metro. We still have 1 kit to be deployed.

KCHEART began a monthly net which is conducted on the first Monday of the month at 2000. It is held on the 443.500 repeater and is a directed net at this time. Any interested amateurs who would like to support the project should contact Carolyn Wells, carolyn.wells@libertyhospital.org

Exercises

MECC SET 2013

The planning committee for the 2013 MECC Set Exercise has begun work on October 5, 2013 exercise. We will be using a common scenario this year for the region. The first meeting was held March 14, 2013 at Wyandotte County EOC at 1800 and the group will continue to meet every month on the second Thursday at the same time and location. We encourage all interested parties from each jurisdiction to attend with the understanding that by attending the planning meetings that person will not be able to be a "player" in the exercise but can act as a controller or evaluator. (See details in the New Business section)

The Spring Mass Prophylaxis Exercise was conducted by the regional Public Health Departments April 8-11, 2013. The Hospitals participated on April 10 as a closed Point of Dispensing (POD). There was an open POD in Independence on April 11. The exercise was very positive for the hospitals and the Public Health Departments as well. More detailed reports will be forthcoming.

There will be an EOC functional exercise June 13, 2013. The purpose of this exercise is to activate the EOC's and conduct EOC to EOC communication. This exercise will be run during the daytime hours. The planning committee has just started the planning process and more details will follow. Check with your jurisdictions to confirm their participation and the involvement of amateur radio teams.

Regional PIO

Jackson County ARES will have a table at the HAM Bash coming up April 20 at the Ararat Shrine Temple. They will have 2 tables inside and Jim has opened this up to anyone in the MECC that would like to be at the booth. He has made a banner and made up a display about the SET. There will also be a 45 minute presentation at 0945. If any of the clubs would like to put out handouts, lists of meetings, information regarding nets, etc. they are welcome to do so.

NEW BUSINESS:

MECC SET 2013

The MECC SET Exercise will be October 5, 2013 from 0800-1400. This will be a very complex tornado-based scenario. We will be using historical tornadoes to identify damage that really occurred. The planning team has chosen for this to be a closed exercise, so only the planning team members will have all of the information about the exercise. The official representatives from each jurisdiction are:

Platte/Clay County, MO – Ron Rodvelt
Jackson County, MO – James Bair and Richard Fretwell
Johnson County, KS – Tom Griswold
Wyandotte County, KS – Ed Rust
Cass County, MO – Stan Swaggert
Leavenworth County, KS – Dick Quinlan
KCHEART – Steve Hoeger
MARS – Kent Dickinson

Each jurisdiction will be asked to identify specific missions based on their objectives. This will be done in the form of injects that will be given to the players. The planning team members will be writing these injects that will then be put into the Master Scenario Event List MSEL for the region. This could be up to 120 injects, so the groups will need to get started on this process soon. It will help if the groups look back at their AAR/IP from last year and see if the improvements have been addressed.

We will have a formal command center at the Regional Hospital Coordination Center at the Don Chisholm Learning Center with an Incident Commander, along with operators for the different nets. Matt will be the Exercise Director and Carolyn will be the Senior Controller. This will allow for greater control on the exercise and the ability to deliver the injects as needed.

Because of the complexity of the exercise, there will be a greater need for controllers and evaluators. The amateur radio groups will need to identify people that can serve in those rolls. It will be very important for those identified people to attend the Controller/Evaluator meeting on October 1, 2013 at the Don Chisholm Learning Center from 1800-2000.

Anyone is invited to the MECC SET Planning meetings; however, anyone who comes cannot be a player. The meetings are all held on the 2nd Thursday each month at the Wyandotte County EOC from 1800-2000.

OTHER BUSINESS

Steve Hoeger suggested putting together a regional frequency plan for use during emergencies and a list of nets and group meeting times/places. Brian will work on putting this together. Steve also shared that he is looking into getting name badges made that will have the KCHEART logo. Let him know if your group is interested. Steve also shared that he has spoken with the people at Signal Link and they are making an HT cable, along with the chip to support it that should be available soon.

Jim Bair stated he is putting together a training that would be of interest to HAMs that will be held at the Public Library. He will send out more information when the arrangements are finalized.

Rick Smith shared that Ken Barrymore has resigned as the SEC in Missouri and Jeff Young, KB3HF, is the new SEC.

Upcoming Dates:

June 8, 2013 – MECC Meeting at the Johnson County EOC from 1000-1200

August 10, 2013 – MECC Meeting at the Wyandotte County EOC (Matt will verify)

October 12, 2013 – MECC Meeting/AAR Conference at the CJC Training Center (John Eberenz will check)

December 14, 2013 – MECC Meeting at the National Weather Service Training Center (Ron will check with Bill Gery)

Respectfully Submitted,

Carolyn Wells, NOCJ
Secretary

Web Sites

This is the current list of web sites that may be of interest:

1. www.mecckc.org
2. www.hamclass.org
3. <https://ks.train.org>
4. http://groups.yahoo.com/group/MECC_KC/
5. <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/kcheart/>
6. LarrysList@list.k0jpr.net
7. <http://list.k0jpr.net/mailman/listinfo/larryslist>
8. www.kcHamRadio.com
9. www.marc.org/emergency