

Metropolitan Emergency Communications Council Summary of August 9, 2014 Meeting

Present at the August 9, 2014 meeting were:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Call Sign</u>	<u>Organization</u>
Matt May (President)	KC4WCG	Johnson County EM
Brian Short (Vice President)	KC0BS	Johnson County ARES
Carolyn Wells (Secretary)	N0CJ	RHSCC Hospital Committee
Dick Quinlan	KA0DJR	Leavenworth County ARES
Ed Robarge	W0LVG	Leavenworth County ARES
Ed Menard	KD7QOR	Leavenworth County ARES/USCG Aux
Dennis Carpenter	KA0SXY	Northland ARES
Ron Rodvelt	KC0QIG	Northland ARES
Rick Smith	K0KEX	Northland ARES/KCHEART
Keith Kaiser	WA0TJT	Northland ARES/Northstar District
Deb Kaiser	W0DLK	Northland ARES
Forrest Creason	KD0RSX	Cass County ARES
Joel Stanley	WU8Y	Jackson County ARES/Raytown
Mike Bellinger	K0UAA	Jackson County ARES
Michael O'Neal	KC0YSO	Platte County EM
John Eberenz	N0RES	Jackson County ARES
Frank Thies	KD0MQO	Jackson County ARES

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

OLD BUSINESS

MECC Goals 2014 – Matt verified with the group the goals for 2014.

Active:

1. Development of a secondary and tertiary list of MECC member organization contacts. – Steve has been working on this list.
2. Development of a list of capabilities for each MECC member organization. – In progress, Steve Hoeger will work on a form to list the resources we want to capture.
3. Seminar for HAMs on emergency management topics. – Not yet started, need to work on this.
4. 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. Play a part in credentialing and resource typing for communications volunteers.
2. WebEOC partnership use arrangements and training. – Matt gave an explanation of the amateur radio boards used by Johnson County in WebEOC. He and Michael talked about the current state of WebEOC for Missouri.
3. Participation in notification systems. – City Watch is available in the region if a group has no other access to a notification system. Contact Carolyn Wells.
4. Education of new HAMs.
5. Development of a frequency coordination template. – Brian has developed one for JoCo ARES. Brian is happy to share the CHIRP templates for programming

6. Enhancements of relationships between MECC, ARES, RACES groups, and the served agencies with emergency management, extending to the regional level. – Need to reach out to Skywarn and invite them to the meetings.
7. Development of a regional communications plan. Completed and posted on the Yahoo groups site. If there are updates, please let Brian know.

Credentialing - Resource Typing

Matt discussed the information about credentialing. The software used for this is from Salamander. It is not currently statewide in Missouri, but regions A, H, D, and C have all chosen to use this (Kansas City area, St. Joseph area, Springfield area, and St. Louis area). When the regional server data was moved to the national server there were no problems, however when the State of Kansas data was merged in the all connections between the regional data and the State of Ks data was severed. The regional credentialing team is working now to resolve the issue but assure us that no data will be lost if put into the national server. Thus work can now proceed on getting local ham credentialed in the KC system.

Brian talked about the review process that Johnson County has in place to approve resource types upgrading the radio operator resource typing levels. There is a board of 7 people that review applications who then forward their recommendations to the leaders of the group who then submit them to the Emergency Manager for final approval. After some discussion, it was decided to develop accreditation for each group and put them on a list. Those credentials will then be accepted among the groups. We can then help new groups develop the credentialing application process.

Education

Technician Classes

January 10 & 17, 2014 at Johnson County EOC

NIMS, EMCOMM, IS-802, Professional Development Series

There have also been some changes in the Professional Development Series and the Resource Typing group made the changes.

www.fema.gov/emi and www.arrrl.org

HazMat for HAMs/Damage Assessment Classes

These are two separate classes that will be taught on the same day. The HazMat for HAMs class will be from 0900-1030 and the Damage Assessment class will be from 1030-1200. The last class is today:

August 9 – NWS Training Center (near KCI)

REPORTS

MEMC Report

The AAR from the CAPSTONE 2014 exercise is almost completed. There were some very positive comments about the role of amateur radio in this type of event.

KCHEART

We have found some funding to complete the videos. There will be ten videos of 10 minutes each that will be shot in HD. There will also be a CD for each facility with all the videos for training.

Signalinks has been purchased for all of the regional hospitals. We now have the equipment (courtesy of regional ASPR funds) and will be putting these in place as soon as we have the protocols and

equipment documents in place. Please check with your hospital contacts to make sure they have access to a computer for the FLDigi software.

The next KCHEART meeting will be August 23, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. at Centerpoint Medical Center. We hope to hand out credentials at that meeting.

Brian is looking into mesh-networking for the hospitals. Noah Dunker (KDONRC) is the point man for this endeavor.

Exercises

Vigilant Guard – State of Kansas held a statewide exercise the first week of August. Locally ham participated at Johnson County by providing voice and digital communications between several sites to support a Public Health dispensing operation.

Fall Hospitals Exercise – Each hospital will be conducting their own exercise, so check with the hospitals in your jurisdiction for any amateur radio components they might want to test.

Regional PIO

No report. Matt will reach out to Jim Bair and see if he is still able to serve in this capacity.

Membership Secretary

No report

NEW BUSINESS:

MECC SET 2014

The date will be October 4, 2014. The planning team met on July 10, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. at the Wyandotte County EOC. The group is currently working on the MSEL for the exercise from each jurisdiction. The next meeting will be on August 14, 2014 at the WyCo EOC.

Other Business

MOSWIN – Michael O’Neal presented information about the statewide interoperability system that is being put in place for Missouri. It is already operational in the rest of Missouri. Kansas City is working to link it into the Metro Area Regional Radio System (MARRS).

Elections will be coming up in December. The slate will be set for presentation at the October meeting. The nominations committee will be appointed by the current President.

Web Sites

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

1. kcmec.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

Next Meeting

October 11 at 1000 at the Johnson County KS EOC (This will be the AAR/IP session for the SET Exercise)

Future Meetings

December 13, 2014 - TBD

Action Items:

1. Matt will reach out to Jim Bair regarding his continued participation at the regional PIO.
2. Matt will reach out to the Skywarn group and invite them to our meetings.
3. Brian will work on the accreditation process for credentialing.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carolyn Wells, NOCJ
Secretary