

## Metropolitan Emergency Communications Council Summary of December 13, 2014 Meeting

Present at the December 13, 2014 meeting were:

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Call Sign</u></b>	<b><u>Organization</u></b>
Matt May (President)	KC4WCG	Johnson County EM & ARES
Brian Short (Vice President)	KCOBS	Johnson County ARES
Carolyn Wells (Secretary)	NOCJ	RHSCC Hospital Committee
Kent Dickinson (Treasurer)	KOWEW	MARS
Mike Bellinger (Member at Large)	KOUAA	Jackson County ARES
James Bair	NOAJI	Jackson County ARES
John Eberenz	NORES	Blue Springs ARC
Ron Rodvelt	NORL	Northland ARES
Richard Fretwell	WOKRF	Jackson County ARES
Deb Kaiser	WODLK	KC North ARES
Chet Hallberg	KOTCB	American Red Cross
Larry Staples	WOAIB	Jackson County ARES
Dennis Carpenter	KAOSXY	Northland ARES
Ron Bondy	AD0DX	KCHEART
Joe Krout	WOPWJ	WyCo ARES/RACES
Frank Thies	KDOMQO	JCARES/BSARC/IRMARC
Glen Dikes	KDOGIE	WyCo RACES/KUMC
Forrest Creason	KDORSX	Cass County ARES

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

The group reviewed the meeting minutes from October 11, 2014. There was a correction made to the list of those present. Bill Richart was added. They were unanimously approved.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **MECC Goals 2014**

##### **Active:**

1. Development of a secondary and tertiary list of MECC member organization contacts. – The list has been expanded. Matt will talk with Steve Hoeger about sending the list to the served agencies so they can update their information. Then this goal will be moved to monitoring.
2. Development of a list of capabilities for each MECC member organization. – In progress. We need numbers according to resource typing to compile a regional list. This goal will stay active for next year.
3. Seminar for HAMs on emergency management topics. – Several topics were discussed such as the Interoperability Plan and the Regional Coordination Guide. Matt will work with the group to determine which topics to present. This goal will stay active this year.
4. Develop a demonstration workshop for Emergency managers to educate them regarding the capabilities of amateur radio operators. This goal was deleted.
5. Development of a frequency coordination template. – This has been completed, however, Dennis wanted to review it to see if there were changes that needed to be made. After review, this may be moved to monitoring.
6. Explore a relationship with the Boy Scouts of America Northstar District. This is a suggestion from Keith Kaiser.

## **Monitoring:**

1. Play a part in credentialing and resource typing for communications volunteers.
2. WebEOC partnership use arrangements and training. – Matt gave an update on the state of WebEOC in both Missouri and Kansas.
3. Participation in notification systems – Need to set up City Watch training.
4. Education of new HAMs.
5. Development of a frequency coordination template. – This has been recently updated. All groups need to be sure the frequencies are correct and let Brian know if there are changes.
6. Enhancements of relationships between MECC, ARES, and RACES groups with emergency management, extending to the regional level.

## **Education**

### Technician Classes 2015

January 10 & 17, 2015 at NWS Training Center

January 10 – February 28, 2015 SFARC is hosting a CW class from 0900-1000, then a Tech class from 1000 on every Saturday at the Gardner Library.

### Extra Class

Extra License Class will be held on Saturdays: January 3, 10, 17 and 24th, 2015 at Bartlett & West building 1200 SW Executive Dr, Topeka (just west of Sam's Club) from 9AM - 5pm each day. Class size is limited to 18 people. Flyer: <http://www.kvarc.org/misc/HamRadioExtraClass-2015-Jan.pdf> For more information or reservations, email: <[ham.class@kvarc.org](mailto:ham.class@kvarc.org)>

### HAM 101 Class

This class will be given at the HAM Bash April 18, 2015 at the Ararat Shrine Temple.

There is still some interest in doing the HazMat for HAM's/Damage Assessment Classes. Richard will see about setting up a few more classes.

Jim Bair stated he is doing weekly 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.

NIMS, EMCOMM, IS-802, Professional Development Series

[www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov)

[www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org)

## **REPORTS**

### **MEMC Report**

Kent reported that there was information on several upcoming exercises for the Emergency Managers. One of the exercises involves the Civil Support Team and there is also a Port Exercise in the spring. None of these exercises have a specific communications element.

### **KCHEART**

The Transfer of Equipment (TOE) for the Signal Links is out to the hospitals and several have been returned. Matt will distribute them to the hospitals that have returned the TOE. Matt will also send out the list of the hospitals that have returned the TOE to the group.

The contract for the videos has been signed with the production company. Matt will work with them to schedule the shooting of the videos. The plan is for 10 videos, approximately 10 minutes in length. A compilation of the videos will be put on a DVD and given to each hospital.

Both Kindred facilities need HAM operator support. Please let Matt know if anyone is interested in this.

### **Exercises**

MECC SET 2015

This is scheduled for October 3, 2015. Matt and Carolyn will get the planning committee together in time for the next meeting.

The hospitals have not yet set the date for the hospital spring exercise, but it will probably be in June.

### **Regional PIO**

Brian Short won the Silver Antenna award. The story about this award is linked on Larry's List. "Kansas Radio Amateur is ARRL McGan Silver Antenna Award Winner" January 2015 QST, Page 85

Quoting from the QST article, "The award recognizes outstanding public relations efforts in promoting Amateur Radio to the non-ham community." <http://kcur.org/post/exploring-ham-radio-digital-world>

Jim talked about putting together a PIO newsletter that could go out once a month. Let Jim know if you have any content for the newsletter.

### **Membership Secretary**

Steve Hoeger was unable to make the meeting, but Matt relayed there was nothing to report.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

#### **Officer Elections for 2015**

The following slate of officers was presented to the group for approval:

President	Matt May KC4WCG
Vice President	Brian Short KC0BS
Secretary	Carolyn Wells NOCJ
Membership Secretary	Steve Hoeger KO0SY
Member at Large	Mike Bellinger W0UAA
Treasurer	Kent Dickinson W0WEW

There were no nominations from the floor. The slate was unanimously accepted by those present.

### **Web Sites**

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

1. [kcmecc.org](http://kcmecc.org)
2. [www.hamclass.org](http://www.hamclass.org)
3. <https://ks.train.org>
4. [http://groups.yahoo.com/group/MECC\\_KC/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/MECC_KC/)
5. <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/kcheart/>
6. [LarrysList@list.k0jpr.net](mailto:LarrysList@list.k0jpr.net)
7. <http://list.k0jpr.net/mailman/listinfo/larryslist>
8. [www.kcHamRadio.com](http://www.kcHamRadio.com)

9. [www.marc.org/emergency](http://www.marc.org/emergency)

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Forrest Creason asked a question on how an ARES group can become a RACES group. There was discussion about this topic. Forrest was offered several resources to help with the process.

**Upcoming Meetings:**

February 14, 2015	Blue Springs (John Eberenz will check on which facility)
April 18, 2015	The date was moved so the meeting can be held at the HAM Bash. Also a time change to 1300.
June 13, 2015	Wyandotte County EOC
August 8, 2015	Johnson County EOC (Matt will confirm)
October 10, 2015	American Red Cross
December 12, 2015	KCMO EOC (Matt will confirm)

**Action Items:**

1. Steve Hoeger will send a letter to the served agencies to update their information on the membership list.
2. Carolyn will set up City Watch training.
3. Matt will confirm several of the meeting locations.
4. Dennis Carpenter will review the regional communications plan and advise on changes if needed

Respectfully Submitted,

Carolyn Wells, NOCJ  
Secretary