

Metropolitan Emergency Communications Council Summary of Aug 8, 2015 Meeting

Present at the Aug 8, 2015 meeting were:

Name	Call Sign	Organization
Brian Short (Vice President)	KCOBS	Johnson County ARES
Steve Hoeger (Membership Sec.)	KCOYSY	KCHEART
Mike Bellinger (Member at Large)	KOUAA	Jackson County ARES
John Eberenz	NORES	Blue Springs ARC
Richard Fretwell	WOKRF	Jackson County ARES
Deb Kaiser	WODLK	KC North ARES
Keith Kaiser	WAOTJT	Northland ARES
Forrest Creason	KDORSX	Cass County ARES
John Bauerly	NW0I	Johnson County ECS
Andy Bailey	KCOZKN	NWS
Dave Stickel	KDORSX	Cass County ARES
Steve Rainy	WD0DPQ	JOCO ECS

Matt May, President and Carolyn Wells, Secretary were unable to attend due to scheduling conflict. Brian Short led the meeting and called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and introductions were done.

The group reviewed the meeting minutes from June 13, 2015. They were unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS

MECC Goals 2015

Active:

1. Development of a list of capabilities for each MECC member organization. –
 - a. Want to have at least one main contact liaison for each group.
 - b. Each jurisdiction will organize their levels and designate those who fall into each level and provide the list to MECC.
 - c. The capabilities for each level are documented in the MECC yahoo group.
 - d. The Review Board will be at the county level.
 - e. Steve will mock up a form to include members and levels and deployable assets for each group.
2. Seminar for HAMs on emergency management topics. – Nothing to report at this time.
 - .
 - Mike asked about JOTA – Event this year is complicated by the another BSA Order of the Arrow event, so the scouts will be at the Race Track on the day of JOTA– we will include a Radio Scouting activity during the SET first weekend of October to compensate.

Monitoring:

1. Development of a regional communications plan. – The current version of the plan is located on the MECC yahoo group site. Please send any updates or corrections to Brian so he can make the changes on the plan.
2. Development of a secondary and tertiary list of MECC membership organization contacts. – no new discussions.
3. Play a part in credentialing and resource typing system for communications volunteers. – See discussion under Old Business above.

4. WebEOC partnership use arrangements and training.
5. Participation in notification systems – City Watch training is available through MARC. Contact Carolyn and she will facilitate with MARC.
 - a. Can set up separate lists for text, calls or both per Brian.
6. Education of new HAMs. - Ongoing
7. Development of a frequency coordination template. – This has been recently updated and is available on the yahoo groups site.
8. Enhancements of relationships between MECC, ARES, and RACES groups with emergency management, extending to the regional level. – Ongoing

GUEST SPEAKER: NWS and SkyWarn- Andy Bailey

- Expansion of capabilities - can now get between 100 and 200 reports in event of severe weather
 - Huge shift in how the NWS office communicates with the public to receive storm reports (public, media and social media)
- Supporting 44 counties – getting additional equipment and work stations
- Ham radio's future in Skywarn:
 - No definite plans
 - Ham radio reports are dropping off, however
 - there is still a need for verification of conditions on the ground.
 - No recent events have been reported recently that we didn't already know of.
- NET CONTROL will now enter data directly into NWS Chat
 - No need to drive to the NWS office
 - Use familiar equipment
- NWS Chat discussed:
 - Considering having Net Controls enter info to NWS chat site
 - Mike Bellinger brought up that the repeater frequency was not real clear so participation by hams was limited.
 - Andy offered to do training for NC's to use NWS chat. This will not be open to just any ham, but restricted to Net Control operators and others in EM leadership positions.
 - Andy would like various folks from each Jurisdiction identified for training and get all of them together.
 - A big need for each jurisdiction to:
 - List those who should be approved.
 - List those who are already on NWS Chat
 - NWS is no longer issuing ID numbers for Wx spotters as there was unanticipated confusion with this practice.
 - Also plans are being put together for advanced spotter training.
 - Andy also stated he will be putting together a video of NWS Chat training.
 - Timeframe for training– maybe Jan-Feb and he will work on the video for distribution before then.
- Andy talked about procedures for if the system goes down:
 - **99% up-time** and recognized priority, so will get fixed as soon as possible if it goes down.

Education

Technician Classes 2015

Hamclass.org: November 7th and 14th – Shawnee, KS Justice Center – more info on hamclass.org.
 Aug 28th – 30th Extra Class in Independence Mo Fire HQ — Norma Libby Contact

Extra Class

Norma Libby: August 28, 29, & 30 – Independence Fire Station 1, Spring Street and Ind Ave
contact: normalibby@sbcglobal.net

HAM 101 Class

Maybe look to schedule a class in conjunction with the Southside HamFest.

MARC - First Aid Class or CPR Class

Call to schedule: Terri Roller (816) 701-8242

Class location: MARC, 600 Broadway, Second Floor, Kansas City, MO 64105

Class dates/times: On Saturdays - see below -from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm in the *Lewis and Clark Room*

Class size is limited to 12 persons; also subject to cancellation if class size is less than 5.

FEMA Classes: Online at <https://training.fema.gov/is/nims.aspx>

Richard Fretwell is willing to do more HazMat for HAM's/Damage Assessment Classes if there is interest. If your group is interested, please contact Richard at rfretwell@sbcglobal.net.

Jim Bair and Rick Smith are 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. Currently they are doing ICS forms that might be used by operators during a disaster.

Rick Smith conducts a digital net on the 147.33 repeater at 8pm every Sunday.

NIMS, EMCOMM, Professional Development Series (PDS) –

The PDS is the backbone of the higher levels of the amateur radio operator resource typing classifications. The two links below will give you access to all the classes you need.

<http://training.fema.gov/IS/>

www.arrl.org/courses-training

REPORTS

MEMC Report

Steve updated –

- not relying on NWS reports
- They activate based on zones that are set up for the hospitals
- Another meeting this week – all MECC members are encouraged to attend.

KCHEART

No new meetings on KCHEART at this time.

- Videos are in process – they have been shot, but not yet reviewed.
- Deployment of Signalinks: waiting for agreement from Hospitals.

MECC SET 2015

This is scheduled for October 3, 2015. The planning committee has met twice and decided on the scenario. It will be a winter weather event. This will allow those HAMS that are not a mobile to participate if they wish. Below is a list of dates for the meetings: (if needed, more will be added)

Update from the last meeting: Carolyn made the ExPlan available and the Planning committee members are to get their injects to her by 8/21 in preparation for the MSEL planning meeting.

Future Meeting dates:

Next date TBD – MSEL planning meeting

September 17 – Final Planning Conference at WyCo EOC from 1800-2000

September 29 – Controller/Evaluator Training at Don Chisholm Center from 1800-2000

October 3 – MECC SET and Hotwash at the Don Chisholm Center at 1500

October 10 – MECC SET After Action Conference from 1000-1200 at GKC ARC

Regional PIO

- Jim was unable to attend and provided his report to Brian who covered it with the group.
 - it is attached here.
- Keith suggested that Jim contact ARRL to see if they would publish an article about BSA Radio Scouting being a part of MECC. This is likely a very unique partnership and might spur other Emcomm organizations to develop partnerships of their own with the BSA district in their area.

Please send any other group activities to Jim at n0aji@aol.com and he will be sure it is sent to the media.

Membership Secretary

Nothing to report.

Boy Scouts

BSA NorthStar District and Radio Scouting: – Keith Kaiser reported:

- Ham radio equipment was picked up from Camp Naish till next Summer Camp Season. 2
- BSA will be providing a permanent pole for the antenna mount and some other equipment has been donated for Camp Naish use that will be implemented next year.
- Keith will be the new District Radio Scouting Commissioner.
- Northland ARES is including the Radio Scouting group in the October SET – details TBD
- Keith will distribute Brian's Flyer to the Scouts to promote interest in ham radio at any future BSA events

Treasurer's Report

Kent Dickinson not in attendance. No report.

Web Sites

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

1. kcmecc.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/emergenc

Upcoming Meetings:

October 10, 2015 American Red Cross
December 12, 2015 KCMO EOC (Matt will confirm)

Action Items:

1. MECC members will contact their Jurisdiction leaders for designation of 2 representatives to organize and approve the operator levels for credentialing.
2. Steve Hoeger will create a form for tracking for Resource Typing based on the doc on the Yahoo Group: Amateur Radio Operator Credentialing Requirements
3. Matt will set up a meeting to discuss credentialing with the group of reps from the Jurisdictions
4. Keith to contact Jim Bair about his suggestion about approaching ARRL.

Current Officers:

President	Matt May KC4WCG	matthewmay@kc.surewest.net
Vice President	Brian Short KC0BS	kcshorty@gmail.com
Secretary	Carolyn Wells NOCJ	carolyn@chwells.net
Membership Sec	Steve Hoeger KC0YSY	kc0ysy@gmail.com
Member at Large	Mike Belling K0UAA	mbbelling@aol.com
Treasurer	Kent Dickinson W0WEW	skentd@gmail.com

Respectfully Submitted,
Deb Kaiser on behalf of Carolyn Wells, NOCJ, Secretary