

## Metropolitan Emergency Communications Council Summary of April 16, 2016 Meeting

Present at the April 16, 2016 meeting were:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Call Sign</b>	<b>Organization</b>
Matt May (President)	KC4WCG	Wyandotte County EM
Brian Short (Vice President)	KCOBS	Johnson County ARES
Carolyn Wells (Secretary)	NOCJ	KCHEART
Steve Hoeger (Membership Sec.)	KCOYSY	KCHEART
Dave Copeland	NORL	Platte County EOC
JD Spradling	KCONYS	Kansas RACES
Deb Kaiser	WODLK	Northland ARES
Keith Kaiser	WA0TJT	Radio Scouting
Jeff Libby	KA0OTL	Northland ARES
Rick Smith	K0KEX	Platte County ARC
Dennis Carpenter	KA0SXY	Northland ARES
Richard Fretwell	W0KRF	Jackson County ARES
Larry Widener	WA0WJE	Jackson County ARES
Susan Sims	KD0ODN	KS State RACES Officer
John Eberenz	N0RES	Jackson County ARES
Bill Hulse	W5NI	Jackson County ARES
Jimmy Thomas	KE0DDT	Independence ECS
Joe Krout	W0PWJ	Wyandotte County RACES
Mark Widner	KC0VMZ	Jackson County EP
Dante Gliniecki	KD0QFI	Independence ECS
Ron Cowan	KB0DTI	ARRL
Linda Chase	KD0TQA	Independence ECS

Thank you to the Ararat Shrine restaurant for hosting our meeting after the Hambash.

Matt May called the meeting to order at 13:00 a.m. and introductions were done.

The group reviewed the meeting minutes from February 13, 2016. They were unanimously approved.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **MECC Goals 2016**

##### **Active:**

1. Development of a list of capabilities for each MECC member organization. – Steve Hoeger will send out a letter that was approved in the February meeting to the member organizations.
2. Seminar for HAMs on emergency management topics. – Matt and Mike O’Neal will work on this.
3. Develop a demonstration for Emergency Management on HAM capabilities.
4. Develop information for HAM’s on how amateur radio fits into response/recovery in disasters based on the regional THIRA (Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment).

##### **Monitoring:**

1. Development of a regional communications plan. – The current version of the plan is located on the MECC yahoo group site. Brian has made it into a google sheet so anyone can go in and update it. He will send out the link to the group. There was discussion on the digital part of the

plan. It seems everyone is currently using 145.760 MHz in the metro. Missouri is using 52.790 MHz for 6-meter digital communications. Brian handed out the latest version.

2. Development of a secondary and tertiary list of MECC membership organization contacts. – The list was sent around to those present to update.
3. Play a part in credentialing and resource typing system for communications volunteers. – Regionally, the MEMC now has this responsibility and Matt will co-chair this subcommittee.
4. WebEOC partnership use arrangements and training. – Working on the new update implementation and fusion with MO. Matt explained where we are in that process.
5. Participation in notification systems – City Watch will be going away June 30, 2017. There is no replacement for the region. Each group was encouraged to get with their EMA to see how they can be supported.
6. Education of new HAMs. – Ongoing.
7. Development of a frequency coordination template. – This has been recently updated and is available on the MECC yahoo group site.
8. Enhancements of relationships between MECC, ARES, and RACES groups with emergency management, extending to the regional level. – Ongoing
9. Continue to develop a relationship with the Boy Scouts of America-Heart of America Council. – Radio scouting is becoming more popular in Boy Scouts. Several of the groups have official committees.

## **Education**

### Technician Classes 2016:

- May 14 & 21, 2016 – Wyandotte County EOC
- Bill Gerle is doing a class in May in Kearney, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup>, with testing on June 4<sup>th</sup> at the library in Kearney. These will be 2 hours each.
- Norma Libby will be doing a class at the Independence EOC. No dates were given.

### HAM 101 Class

- No further classes scheduled at this time. Update on the last class will be under new business.

### FEMA Classes:

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

### Digital Nets:

- On Going Digital Nets:
  1. FL Digi via Google Plus conferencing Thursday nights at 2000.
  2. Digital Net on the 147.33 repeater Sunday nights at 2000.

### 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](http://www.arrl.org/courses-training)

## **REPORTS**

### **MEMC Report**

Matt gave the report from the April 14, 2016 meeting:

- There was a presentation by Captain Kevin Huckaby from the Civil Air Patrol on how they can support Emergency Managers.
- There is now a Citizen Preparedness Calendar on the MARC web site, [preparemetrokc.org](http://preparemetrokc.org) and the new Emergency Preparedness guides are also available through your EM.
- The next meeting is May 12, 2016 at MARC at 1300 in the Boardroom.

#### KCHEART

- Videos are completed –Copies of the videos were handed out to the hospitals and showed at the KCHEART meeting on January 23, 2016.
- The majority of the Signalinks have been deployed. There is no need to change the current configuration of the TNC and the radio, the Signalink connects via the control head. Please see the KCHEART Digital video located on YouTube.
- The majority of the credentials have been handed out.
- Antennas – Because of the design flaw in the current Diamond antennas that support VHF/UHF communications for the hospitals, the hospital have been encouraged to replace the antennas. Matt would like to put together an installation team to help with the installation of these antennas. The Diamond X200 is not available at this time, so the hospitals are ordering the X300. Matt has also asked Dan Carr to add in coax seal, butyl tape, and black electrical tape to each order.

#### Exercises

- Mark Widner from Jackson County Emergency Preparedness presented information on the National Level Exercise (NLE) on Mass Care scheduled the week of August 22-25, 2016 with multiple states. The state of Missouri will be coordinating our region's participation. Our region will be playing on August 24 and will be receiving (notionally) approximately 250,000 evacuees from the east side of MO. Eastern Jackson County/Independence will be very involved in this exercise and will need HAM support for many of the venues:
  - There will be a Reception Center Site (RCS) located at the Silverstein Event Center in Independence.
  - There will be 2 complex large mass care shelters set up in several locations.
  - There will be 2 distribution PODs set up.
  - There will be a fixed food site that will be delivering meals to various locations that will need to be tracked.
  - Independence EOC will have a HAM operators as will the MAC (Multiple Agency Coordination Center) at the KCMO EOC.
  - There will also be a Volunteer Reception Center set up at the Church of the Resurrection in Johnson County, KS.

Mark will send a list of the HAM operator needs when the plan has been completed. He would also like at least 200 volunteers to run through the reception center and the shelters to test the plans.

KCHEART will be being doing a roll call of the hospitals on August 24.

- MECC SET 2016 – This is scheduled for October 1, 2016. The next planning meeting is scheduled for April 20 at 6:00 p.m. at the Wyandotte County EOC. The scenario is the New Madrid Seismic Zone (NMSZ) earthquake, so we will discuss whether or not to move our exercise to coincide with the August NLE.

## Regional PIO

No report.

- Please send group activities to Jim at [n0aji@aol.com](mailto:n0aji@aol.com) and he will be sure it is sent to the media.

## Membership Secretary

- The list has been sent around for everyone to update.

## Boy Scouts

- Keith stated the camps are starting to gear up for spring and summer activities. There are currently stations at Camp Nash and Camp Bartel. He is working with local HAMS to support these stations.

## Treasurer's Report

- Kent Dickinson was not in attendance. The \$8.51 is still available if needed.

## Mo-Kan Regional Council

- They met today at the Hambash. There were about 20 people there. They currently have quarterly meetings. They are working on a recognition program for all HAM operators, kind of a "HAM of the Month" recognition. Keith is working with Larry Staples on this.

## Kansas RACES

- No report. Susan Sims and JD Spradling attended the meeting to represent Kansas RACES.

## NEW BUSINESS

- Report from HAM 101 Class in March – Dennis Carpenter reported there were 61 participants with 10 different agencies represented. It was very well received. In the testing they did prior to the class, they had 4 people who passed their Technician test, one of which also took and passed the General test.
- Field Day is coming up in June, so please bring any activities your groups have scheduled to the June meeting.

## 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)

## Upcoming Meetings:

- **Next Meeting is June 11, 2016** – at the Independence EOC. The address is 950 N. Spring, Independence, MO.

- August 13, 2016 – Camp Nash (Keith confirmed)
- October 8, 2016 – Red Cross (Richard Fretwell confirmed). It will also be the SET AAR.
- December 10, 2016 – Wyandotte County EOC (confirmed)

**Action Items:**

1. Steve will send out a letter to the points of contact listed in the membership directory to confirm their level of participation in the MECC, the number and types of operators in their groups, and what resources they have that could be deployed by the region (people or equipment).

**Current Officers:**

President	Matt May KC4WCG	<a href="mailto:jmatthewmay@twc.com">jmatthewmay@twc.com</a>
Vice President	Brian Short KC0BS	<a href="mailto:kcshorty@gmail.com">kcshorty@gmail.com</a>
Secretary	Carolyn Wells NOCJ	<a href="mailto:carolyn@chwells.net">carolyn@chwells.net</a>
Membership Sec	Steve Hoeger KC0YSY	<a href="mailto:kc0ysy@gmail.com">kc0ysy@gmail.com</a>
Member at Large	Mike Bellinger K0UAA	<a href="mailto:mbbelling@aol.com">mbbelling@aol.com</a>
Treasurer	Kent Dickinson W0WEW	<a href="mailto:skentd@gmail.com">skentd@gmail.com</a>

Respectfully Submitted,  
Carolyn Wells, NOCJ, Secretary