

# McARCS

Mendocino County Amateur Radio Communication Service

Thursday, August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2014 ~ 1730  
Minutes

## **Introductions and Announcements**

Present: KI6MJC (Marcella), W6JRC (Jim), KJ6EIF (Steve), W6FQX (John), WB9NJS (Tim), KI6RIT (Nick)

## **Reports**

Website – nothing new

Nick – nothing new. Minutes posted, calendar posted, not much else has changed.

Treasury – Donation from Rotary Club

Tim - \$250 from Rotary, balance is now \$897.13.

Serial interface from PC to radio is an idea on what to spend some of the money on... Nick suggested this, which was also what Tim was going to suggest. Ham radio deluxe? The cable is \$29.95. Will make operating the radio in OES office easier. Can also allow for remote operation. Also need USB connection. Having the properly configured computer along with the ability to connect, would be valuable.

Motion to spend up to \$150 to convert OES HAM radio to allow digital mode. Cable and interface, plus shipping – all ayes, no nays.

John will get a USB 6 pin signal link, and a Yaesu serial cable interface cable. Tim will reimburse him.

## **Items of Discussion**

Jim – Batteries for ham reprogrammed HTs in SAR office

Tami cannot purchase grant money on the SAR HTs units as the radios are no longer compliant (grant money only for P25 equipment). Can we purchase them with McARCS money? Jim has already researched prices – from \$17 to \$40. HNN8148 – on Amazon for \$27+, free shipping over \$35.

Tim suggested we buy enough for a half dozen radios, but at a minimum if 3 were usable and 3 always on charge, those 3 would be more useful (John).

The radios can be loaned to new HAMs, during events, etc.

Shall we authorize spending money on 6 batteries? Units already pre-programmed with some frequencies, all of which may not be overly useful. \* channel. Hoping Greg Glavich can held

**The next meetings are scheduled as follows**

**Sept. 4th, 2014**

**Oct. 2nd, 2014**

<http://mcarcs.org/>



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reprogram to a more useful set.

Steve made motion to buy batteries, Marcella seconded, all ayes, no nays. Also agreed to cover 4 of the county-wide nodes, and at least 1 for Lake County. Not 146.520 – too many people use it, too much interference.

Channels agreed:

County-wide –	147.390
Cahto –	145.430
Sanel –	145.470
Burton –	145.130
Konocti –	146.775
Willits simplex -	146.445
Ukiah simplex -	146.490
Laytonville simplex	146.955

Jim, Steve – volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD) meeting

Jim attended – Tami was there. If we are needed, we can be activated. They want to bring in everyone to discuss: senior centers, city councils, etc... Trouble is people come and go, fade away, change, etc. We are established, and perhaps they should invite us to talk rather than invite us to listen.

John – Regional digital communications efforts (VHF & HF)

Steve – invite to participate with Lake County...

## Events

Yes Camp Canceled

Harvest Ride – 9/28. Tim cannot be there. Discussion about how to get more participation. Asked that all community nets announce same, and that maybe Tim announce on County-wide instead of me.

Shakeout 10/16 @ 10:16

## Programs (if there's time left)

Nick – Field Day summary slideshow

Not as many contacts this year as last – but it took us longer to get us on air as it did last year. This year we were... relaxed. This was the first year we successfully made contact with digital mode.

160 total contacts, 7 digital

Sidebar – Jim said Steve Francis said they are remodeling the OES area. Comment that they haven't yet used this configuration!

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