

Minutes in Bold

Mendocino County Amateur Radio Communications Service - MCARCS

Monthly Meeting - April 12, 2021 - 6:00 PM / 1800hrs

Via ZOOM Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87817676318>

DRAFT Agenda

Welcome, introductions - Steve KJ6EIF

Lea KJ6OUY

Nick KI6RIT

Michael KM6OTE

Eric

Steve KJ6EIF

Tim WB9NJS

Mike KC6MGM

Jim W6JRC

Carole KI6DJH

Rick KK6PZA

Garrett (OES)

Mary Jane WA3VUI

Marshall KM6OTF

Minutes from Previous meeting – Caleb KK6UEV

Approved unanimously.

Treasurer's report - Tim WB9NJS

No change. Balance at \$826.12.

Updates- 10 minutes:

EOC station update - Marshall KM6OTF / Mike KC6MGM

No change.

Red Cross HF test – John

Test went well. Need additional involvement with WinLink. Limited training requested during Tech Net.

After Action Report

Tsunami Warning System Test - Mike/Brentt

Test went well. Casper Community Center was NC. Able to contact all but Gualala (which relayed through Point Arena). All sirens activated, except for Pudding Creek (missing PSU). Lea wasn't able to observe the plane from Albion. Most observers couldn't understand the voice from the plane – too high and too fast.

Proposed activities/updates: -10 minutes

Annual Health System Drill update??- Tim WB9NJS

Likely employees only at this point.

Simplex Coverage Mapping - Steve / Lea

Lea able to hear Van Damme and Point Arena. Monitoring input frequency of repeaters during county wide net may provide a general idea too. Michael uses Google Earth (Installed program - not browser based) to select two points and acquire a profile picture. Carole could hear the entire coast from Van Damme area during Tsunami drill.

Emergency Notification Test -May - Brentt/Mike

Field Day last full weekend June (June 26/27)

Idea of socially distanced field day. There is interest within the group. Caleb recommended setting up in Ukiah to attract new operators from the Ukiah area since MACS has a shortage of Ukiah based EOC operators in the event of a disaster. Mike offered the use of his property in Laytonville. Tim asked questions about sharing microphones and the removal of masks. Marshall suggested having sanitation supplies. Rick suggested using local media (Mendocino Voice) to advertise field day. Potentially operating at several locations that models comms in the county – demo style. Request for a class this fall – interest expressed in Ukiah and Coastal regions. Likely offered in summer via Zoom. Teaching pool: Michael, Caleb, Tim, and Steve. Separate discussion for field day will be held to plan outside of this meeting. FD planning/volunteering Michael (Coast Coordinator), Nick (Ukiah Coordinator), Rick (Ukiah), Mike (Ukiah), Caleb (Ukiah), and Jim (Info distribution – not available for event).

Shakeout - October - Mike Carter

No information yet.

Other Updates: 10 min

WARS update – Marshall

Larger congregations limited. Looking to organize limited face-to-face interactions.

MACS update - Mike Carter

County doing background investigations again. 5 people in processing. When finished there will be 19 registered MACS members.

MCARCS - Steve - Replacement president for MCARCS for balance of 2021

Steve is willing to continue, but is offering the position to other interested parties. Caleb suggested cancelling meetings tied to the summers or other low business times to limit the time commitment of McARCS folks in general (July and August likely cuts).

Items for next meeting, May 12

Adjourn

Suggestions: as of 1/10/20

Technician:

Getting started w programming , antenna, and communication protocols --Mike (MACS) has powerpoint

Programming your new radio

Making antennas, non-technical/mechanical

Technician on 10 meter HF

Simplex mapping so you know who you can contact of the repeater is down --MCARCS Comm Nets

Exercises/activities based on the MC Hazardous Mitigation Plan -- MACS drills

Show and tell...

Go Kits --Proposed Zoom Seminar Jan 26 TBD MCARCS/WARS/MACS

Raspberry Pi uses/projects for Ham Radio -- two potential presenters

problems with FT8, JT-65, RTTY, and SSTV. Would love to have a class or platform on which to get some answers.

Ham SSTV Robot 36 or 24

FL Digi

Interacting with the ISS: QSO, SSTV (Martin 1), Repeater

Show & Tell w pictures sent by Ham SSTV

Hidden transmitter hunting -- some personal activities possible until COVID threat gone

Handheld radio activities outdoors -- after COVID

Coaching on how to move to HF

General: Setting up an HF station, antennas, practicalities, protocol of QSO