

Minutes: McARCS General Meeting-9 September 2024
Steve, KD6DQO – Acting Secretary

MCARCS Business Meeting Minutes -

Meeting starts at 6:00 PM by Vice President Steve, KJ6EIF via Zoom. Officers attending are: Tim-WB9NJS, John-W6FQX, Dan-W6AAM, Steve-KJ6EIF, Nick-KI6RIT, Steve-KD6DQO. Absent: None. Thanks to the many members and guests who attended the meeting.

- A. Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Tim, WB9NJS gave the treasurer's report. MCARCS has a balance of \$1126.12.
- B. Minutes: Minutes from the 1August 2024 meeting to be posted to MCARCS website.
- C. Webmaster Report: Nick-KI6RIT: Nick is in the process of moving again. This takes time and effort. He is in the process of uploading MCARCS business minutes, agenda and other items. Nick noted that the he is changing the hosting company and dealing with new hosting fees and domain name registration fees. He also mentioned that he used personal funds to purchase domain registration fees. I mentioned that he should no use personal funds to do this and made a motion to approve reimbursement of past fees (minimal) and new domain registration fees and new hosting fees. Nick will provide proof of the fees he paid and new fees to be paid.

Motion 9-Sept 2024-1: Pay Nick past ISP associated fees and current domain and hosting fees upon submission of invoice. Motion seconded by Steve, KJ6EIF and approved by vote of membership. Motion Passed

1. Planning Regional Exercise: Mike, KC6MGM mentioned plans to conduct additional radio exercises including Region 2 counties from Monterey to Oregon. New exercise is tentatively planned for May 1, 2025. Within Mendocino County, it will include hospitals, school districts, county EOC and other vital entities. A very general discussion about Mendo MACS followed. Mike noted that 14 MACS members need re-approval that has been pending for many months now. Some suggested that MACS was not adequately funded, membership still needs renewal by county officials and within MACS, not much has been done. Steve, KD6DQO noted that without county approval of existing membership, even those old members as well as new applicants are not officially recognized by the county even if called out during an emergency and not eligible for county reimbursement. He also pointed out that even though he submitted his application for membership for MACS in April 2024, he has had no response from the

county officials. Others reflected the same. Within McARCS, there is general frustration with the county recognizing old as well as new membership and getting new membership ID's printed and approved. The discussion focused on runs MACS. It appears that Jeff reports to Travis Kilmer for OES responsibilities. Some reported that OES has no drills, training or coordination with the county. Finally, and importantly, Dan, W6AAM mentioned he was a personal friend of the sheriff and has a meeting tomorrow with him to discuss the MACS application process and was prepared to discuss all the issues noted above with the sheriff at the meeting. I, KD6DQO suggested I go with him to lay out the issues and a resolution but Dan stated his desire to go alone and use his personal experience and professional association to manage the meeting alone. This is very welcome news and we await Dan's report in the next meeting.

Comments: Several members noted the contributions of ham volunteers, Nick, KI6RIT; Sean, K6SCM; and Steve, KJ6EIF during the multicounty exercise. These individuals contributed many hours to the exercise execution at the new EOC space. They needed to prep the space by installing various antennas, internet access and power for the numerous radios, modems, printers, laptops and other hardware. The county just received major radio equipment additions that will provide radio communications for the Mendocino EOC with the State, intercounty, hams and other emergency responders. Excellent news.

2. Countywide ICS Training: Mike, KC6MGM is hosting training on use of ICS forms and documentation and provided details for the dates of training and other activities including trivia night on the 1st & 3rd Thursdays and training on the 4th Thursday of the month. That includes procedure and document training to be held as follows:

Oct 7 – Procedure

Oct 11 Document Prep

Oct 25 Procedure

Oct 21 Document Prep

He will use the county wide network and Zoom to deliver the material and all interested in signing up, visit the McARCS website for registration and instructions. Zoom details are listed there as well. Mike will distribute an email to all registrants.

3. WARS UPDATE: Rick, KK6PZA an overview of forthcoming WARS activity. Aug 24: Joe Riley a great outing. Sept 28: Whitesboro Grange-Potluck and fellowship; Oct 12-Willits LDS church. Potluck and workshop. See WARS website for details.
4. Shakeout: It is unscheduled by EOC but a shakeout drill in October is considered. Mike, KC6MGM will query various organizations trying to make this happen and a countywide event. Mike is looking for volunteers. He further stated his Zoom training schedule using ICS

forms will take place on the countywide repeaters on the dates that follow:

Oct 7 – Procedures

Oct 11 – Documentation

Oct 25 Procedures

Oct 21 – Documentation

Mike will send an email to those who sign up to confirm attendance.

5. Comments: Shakeout – Tim, WB9NJS is the County Health Care radio coordinator and is working to assure Co. Health Care participation in the Shakeout exercise. More to follow.
6. Ham Testing: Tim, WB9NJS also will proctor the Ham radio Testing on 21 September in Ukiah at the fairgrounds. Pre-registration is required as well as Federal FCC fees. See McARCS website for details.

No further business is discussed or raised.

Meeting Adjourn: 7:22 PM PDT.

Steve, KD6DQO, Acting Secretary-McARCS Thank You!