

Minutes: MCARCS General Meeting-09 October 2023  
Steve, KD6DQO - Secretary

### MCARCS Business Meeting Minutes -

Meeting starts at 6:11 PM due to technical problems with Zoom: Zoom presented technical difficulties all night and President Derek Hoyle, KE6EBZ, was unable to join. I experienced serious drop-outs with both audio and video all night as well as others attending so some parts of the minutes are omitted or abbreviated. The meeting was chaired by Mike-KC6MGM as requested by President Hoyle. Other officers attending: Tim-WB9NJS, John-W6FQX, Dan-W6AAM; Steve-KD6DQO. Absent was Derek-KE6EBZ, Steve-KJ6EIF and Nick-KI6RIT. 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 \$826.12. Considerable discussion immediately followed after his report and later in the meeting regarding acquisition of funds for MCARCS
- B. Minutes: Minutes from the 11 Sept. 2023 meeting was posted to MCARCS website.
- C. Webmaster Report: Webmaster not available

### NEWS, EVENTS AND PROPOSALS:

1. Shakeout: Mike, KC6MGM provided an overview of the activities to take place with Mendocino Co. OES with Mike using HF and communicating with Humboldt, Trinity and possibly Sonoma counties on 3.992 and or 7.192 MHz in coordination with CESN or California Emergency Services Network. Tim, WB9NJS provide details about the exercise. Takes place on Thursday 19 October 2023 from approx. 10 am to 11:15 am. Focus is primarily on Health Care segment and coordination with Mendocino OES and various county health care facilities. Steve, KJ6EIF will be Net Control operating from the county EOS facility. Mike is the MACS representative and will conduct communication/coordination with CESN and Humboldt and Trinity County stated above. This critical exercise needs volunteers. Please contact Tim, WB9NJS at [tdhanna@msn.com](mailto:tdhanna@msn.com)
2. General Class Training: Mike-KC6MGM detailed 1<sup>st</sup> session results which or posted on YouTube from Tuesday's Session. Four more sessions are being Zoomed in the next few weeks on October 3,10,17, 24 and 31. with testing on Saturday, November 4, Albion Center at Noon and Redwood Academy in Ukiah on November 11 @ 9:00 AM. See MCARCS website for details on the presentations developed and delivered by Steve-KJ6EIF: <https://mcarcs.org/doku.php?id=news>

3. ZOOM funding: A discussion developed initiated by Mike-KC6MGM and elaborated upon by many participants. The proposal that followed stated that the 3 Ham agencies, MCARCS, WARS and MACS fund the total cost for Zoom annual membership of \$150 to be shared equally by the three agencies. Tim stated that we had enough in funds to cover the 1/3 Zoom annual costs with funds left over to cover the minimum deposit to avoid monthly bank charges. Rick-KK6PZA and President of WARS agreed to support the funding with 1/3 of total cost at \$50. Mike-KC6MGM was uncertain about obtaining county funding.
4. PROPOSAL: MOTION with SECOND AND PASS - Dan-WA6AAM proposed that the MCARCS board accept the \$50 charges from the treasury and fund the 1/3 costs. The proposal was presented to the MCARCS officers and was seconded by Steve-KD6DQO and was voted upon. The vote was 4-0 in favor and the motion passes. Tim-WB9NJS is authorized to make a one-time annual payment of \$50 to cover the 1/3 total expense for the annual Zoom account shared equally with WARS and MACS.

#### Other Business:

- 1 WARS Update: Rick, KK6PZA provided information about a WARS meeting held at the coast on Saturday, October 28<sup>th</sup> at the Whitesboro Lodge in Albion. All had a great time using radio and enjoying Pot luck and comradery. Rick stated he needed help organizing a large group feed in Nov/Dec time frame.
- 2 Proposals from July 2023 Meeting: Steve, KD6DQO reiterated his dedication to MCARCS fundraiser and stated he would issue a check to the MCARCS treasury for \$100 to get this effort moving. He sent the check for \$100 to Tim-WB9NJS the next day. Steve asked to table further discussion until the next meeting due to his health concerns.
- 3 Proposal: Frequency Database – Steve-KD6DQO told the group that he had lots of files and was in process of testing before submitting for the MCARCS website database. He also stated he needed others to help test the CHIRP CVS files to assure the templates worked with multiple radios. He asked to table updates until next session.
5. Discussion: Fund Raising- Several members spoke up about the history of fundraising for MCARCS during the past 30 years. Part of the problems is MCARCS is not an incorporated entity so has no access to 501c donations and ways of raising funds as a non-profit. John-W6FQX covered lots of history mentioning the marathon, Mendo Monster, bike races and other events that provided funds at one time but dried up. Options could include becoming members of ACS/RACES or other organization that operate under local EOC control and funding. More to follow in future discussions.

6. NOMINATION OF OFFICERS: At the next MCARCS meeting, nomination for next year's officers takes place. This will be on November 13, 2023, 6 PM via Zoom. Election will take place during the December Meeting. Expect details later on the MCARCS website.
7. Meeting Adjourns: At 6:43 PM, with no further business to discuss, Mike-KC6MGM adjourns the meeting
8. ADDED COMMENTS: after adjournment:
9. Emergency Preparedness: John, W6FQX restated concerns about our ability for disaster preparedness in light of the recent Maui, HI extraordinary fire that leveled Lahaina. The team entered in a good discussion focusing on how we in MCARCS will be able to handle such extreme events within Mendocino County. Again, John asked the team if we had adequate radios, both HF and VHF/UHF, Go Bags, portable antennas, power supplies, cables, packet controllers, connectors and other gear to really meet the demands of HAM communications within the County to meet the demands of various emergencies. He asked, "How do we respond to this situation and operate for 48 hours with little support". A lively discussion followed from John-W6FQX, Dan-WA6AAM, Mike-KC6MGM and Tim-WB9NJS. It focused on X-band functionality, battery life, power, and all the components mentioned above. In association with this topic, Mike, K6MGM was asked to share details of his survey with the MCARCS team to understand who and where our best resources are that can respond to critical events within the county. Mike stated he received 35 responses from the community and sent the survey to 140 persons. He and MCARCS clearly needs more information about operational logistics.

Meeting Adjourn: 6:43 PM PDT. Next meeting via Zoom November 13, 2023 at 6PM

Steve, KD6DQO, Secretary-MCARCS