

# Madison County Emergency Management Agency

## Communications Division

Tom Ecker, Executive Director

Steve Riley, Director of Communications

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April, 2018

Our April meeting is Tuesday, April 3, at 7:00 PM at the EOC as usual. A primary topic of discussion will be a review of the operating procedures for our StormNet activities for this year. We also plan a review of the FM Band Plans and tours of the MCU and MCU-2.

Our StormNet Training session on March 6 was as usual an excellent presentation. We had 114 sign the attendance register and 31 were hams....24 Identified as EMA members. There were 21 other organizations represented, and more of the “no affiliation or family” types than in years past too. That was great. Thanks to Todd, KA9WJD, and Jeff, K9DYR, for the pre-planning, and to Dale, KV9W, for lining up the NWS again this year. We also got a nice pictures/write-up on the front page of the Herald Bulletin on Friday.

Another plus this year was an effort to sign up non-hams who were interested in getting licensed. Jeff ended up with 10 people with email addresses. This prompted the March 13 “Introduction to Amateur Radio in Madison County” meeting at the EOC on March 13. We had 9 interested persons and 17 hams attend the presentation that included a brief introduction to amateur radio in our county, information on licensing and some demonstrations of equipment. The expectation is that most of these folks will eventually take the test and get involved in our hobby locally. The VE testing on March 20 resulted in two folks who showed up passing their Technician license test and both indicated an interest in participating in the Comm. Div. and the Clubs in the county. Jeff is going to continue to follow up with the others who were interested with the hope that they will continue to study and obtain their license.

Thanks to Tim, KB9VE, and Mike, KC9DJU, the south weather station is up and running again. It was moved to the South Madison School Corp. Administration Building in mid March, and they are providing the internet connection thru their network. It’s still listed as “Exit 219” on Weather Underground since it’s just across the interstate and a bit east of the original location at BorgWarner.

The Communications Vehicle supporting Amateur Radio continues to be improved upon and made operational. Dale, KV9W, and Mike, KC9DJU, have put a lot of effort into getting the operating positions and antenna supports usable. If needed it could roll now and provide an operating station.

Hope you can attend on Tuesday.

73,  
Steve