

Madison County Emergency Management Agency

Communications Division

Tom Ecker, Executive Director

Steve Riley, Director of Communications

June, 2018

The June meeting of the Communications Division is Tuesday, June 5, at 7:00 PM at the EOC. Our topics for discussion will include a presentation by Tom, W9EEL, on the Kilauea Volcano in Hawaii. This should be very interesting. Additionally, we'll be doing a dry run of the "White River Run" Communications Exercise. See the next paragraph.

The White River Run Communications Exercise is Saturday, June 9. This is our yearly spring exercise, and we encourage all member to participate. Information has been forwarded to all members, but we plan to have a pre-exercise at our meeting on Tuesday. Bring along everything you'd bring to this event so we can have a dry run at the meeting. Bring your 2 meter handheld & we'll be certain that everyone has proper programming for the repeater(s) and appropriate simplex channels. If you have a vest and/or other appropriate identification bring it along too. Other items include a clipboard & pencil/pen, stop watch, rain gear, and anything else you would plan to respond with. This will also give everyone an idea of other things they might want to add to their response gear. This is only a two hour event, so you probably won't need many of the things that you probably have in your "go-bag". Even if you cannot attend on Saturday bring your equipment to the meeting so that you can be certain you would have everything ready to go if necessary.

Welcome to our newest Communications Division members, Gary Sherman, KD9KOD and Franklin Dudley, KD9KOE. Gary lives in Anderson, and Franklin lives east of Pendleton. Both have been active in our group and club activities and we look forward to their continued support of our group.

We've been quite lucky so far this year with regard to severe weather. Although we've had a couple of informal nets, so far no full-fledged StormNet alerts have been necessary for our County. Please continue to monitor as we never know when something might pop up.

Our Sunday evening nets continue to be well attended. Jeff is doing a great job of leading our regular test. Use this opportunity to test all of your equipment not just your base station.

We are hoping that soon we we be able to get the .82 antanna relocated on the tower with the intention of improving the coverage in the Elwood & Frankton area. We never expected the tower to cause such a shadow in that direction.

Remember Field Day is June 23 and 24. This is a great opportunity to make certain that the HF equipment and antennas at the ECC are fully operational, and also a good test of our individual communications skills (hearing, remembering calls, etc). Make a point of

coming to the EOC to operate some, and/or set up your own station to participate. Remember, "When all else fails....Amateur Radio".

We're happy to announce that Jeff, K9DYR, is now the Administrative Assistant for our Director, Tom, KA9SYP. Jeff will begin his new job on June 6, and will be at the EOC in support of the Director and the organization.

I hope to see you at the meeting on Tuesday.

73,
Steve

**Notes from Communications Division Meeting
April 3, 2018**

1. Called to order at 1900
2. All participated in the Pledge To The Flag
3. Dale, KV9W, provided weather update for potential severe weather this evening, perhaps during the meeting. As it turned out our county wasn't effected.
4. Jeff, K9DYR, & Tom, KA9SYP, discussed Project Lifesaver sponsored primarily by Community Hospital and the Madison Co. Sheriff's Dept. Have 7 "Search Specialists" trained and have participated in over 200 man-hours of training. The Kickoff was yesterday. There are 8 people qualified to get the device, people who tend to "wander". Requires a doctor RX, and a caretaker among other things. The transmitters are \$300 each and there is funding for 12 so far. Looking for sponsoring organizations. We have 6 receivers @ \$1300 each. Need to be within about 1 mile of the transmitter. There are about 4500 people nationwide in this program. Have active programs in Hamilton Co., Delaware Co., Marion Co., Fishers.
5. Steve, WA9CWE, passed out the StormNet documentation and we discussed each page briefly. Hoping to get them situated on the web page for all to easily obtain.
6. Steve, WA9CWE, reviewed the 2 meter, 220 and 440 Bandplans for Indiana along with a history and explanation of the why's of the channel spacing. Everyone needs to utilize the standard channel spacing.
7. Steve, WA9CWE, reviewed the history of the Madison County CD/EMA including the MCU's in preparation for the MCU tour for new members.
8. Mike, KC9DJU, provided a tour of the new van sponsored by the MCARC - "MCU-2".
9. Meeting closed at 2000 so that all could tour the MCU's.
10. There were 13 present including two new members-to-be.