

Madison County Emergency Management Agency

Communications Division

Tom Ecker, Executive Director

Steve Riley, Director of Communications

August, 2018

The August Communications Division meeting is Tuesday the 7th, 7:00PM at the EOC. Please plan to attend. Our training will relate to our personal communications preparedness should we need to deploy to a “shelter” or similar location. Come prepared to offer your suggestions and take notes. We’ll also be reviewing the White River Run and the Tornado that went thru Moonsville.

The White River Run Commuications Exercise on Saturday, June 9, was again a success and a good opportunity to test our net operations. There were 131 participants in the 10K run, 5K run and 5K walk, and we had 10 communicators observing the course and the start/finish. The weather was perfect and it went quickly. We conducted our organization and safety talk at 7:15 and everyone was on their observation point by the primary race start at 8:00 with the other two races starting about 8:10 and 8:20. We were complete by about 9:25. Thanks to the communicators: K9BLK, WA9CWE, N9DR, K9DYR, KC9GBL, WA9IVB, KD9KOD, N9OWN, WA9STB and KV9W. Gary came with some really good ideas to pass along, and Alex assisted with the net control function and will report to us his observations based upon his prior experience in similar events out west at our meeting. For reference the first 10K runner finished in 37minutes 43 seconds, and the last runner finished at 1hr, 25min 5 sec.

On July 20 our County was hit with an F1 tornado that touched down in Moonsville. Fortunately the path was short and narrow so a small amount of damage was done. Several of our Communicators were available to provide damage identification after the fact. Tom, W9EEL, will be providing a detailed review at our meeting. This is a good example of how such a tornado can pop up with no prior warning.

FEMA has released revised basic ICS/NIMS Independent Study Courses, IS-100.C, An Introduction to the Incident Command System, and IS-700.B, An Introduction to the National Incident Management System. Together, these two online courses form the foundation of ICS/NIMS training for all incident personnel. Note that IS-100.c and IS-700.b are updated versions of the IS-100.b and IS-700.a courses. If you have successfully completed a previous version of these courses there is no FEMA requirement to take the revised versions of the courses. However, because these courses contain new information based on the revised NIMS, October 2017, you may find it informative to review the new versions of these courses. The new courses will be available through FEMA's [EMI website, https://training.fema.gov/is/](https://training.fema.gov/is/).

(From the ARRL ARES E-Letter for July 18)

Our Director, Tom, KA9SYP, attended the National Homeland Security Conference in New York City in early July. He, a member of the Anderson Police Department leadership and about 15 others from Indiana participated in the week long conference consisting of a number of in-depth presentations related to recent major events in the United States. He also got to see first hand a lot of the NY response equipment and their EOC. Tom will be able to fill us in on some of the things they saw/did.

This has been an unusual year in that we've had no StormNet alerts or other severe weather so far other than the Tornado at Moonsville. We usually have had 4 or 5 alerts by this time of the year. Apparently the weather gods have been made aware of the keen observation that our Warning Officer, Dale, KV9W, keeps and stay away from Madison County. Good job Dale, Tom and Tony.

I hope to see all of you at the meeting on Tuesday. It's worth your time and we appreciate your continued interest in serving our County.

73,
Steve

**Notes from Communications Division Meeting
June 5, 2018**

1. The meeting was called to order by Jeff, K9DYR, at 1900 followed by the Pledge to the Flag.
2. Jeff updated the progress on the "Project Lifesaver"; they have 7 clients. The DF group continues to practice.
3. The EOC Exercise is upcoming on the 11th, 6PM at the EOC. Communications members are needed, as many as are available.
4. Director Tom, KA9SYP, had no additional updates.
5. Steve, WA9CWE, reviewed the upcoming White River Run Communications on Saturday the 9th. We reviewed the route, the objectives and needed equipment for each observer. Several members plan to attend.
6. Tom, W9EEL, provided a detailed update on the Kilawea Volcano eruption. With many videos and pictures the progress of the eruption up to today was reviewed. This included USGS videos of the history of the volcano. Everyone found this to be interesting.
7. The MCARC plans to operate Field Day from the ECC this year. June 23 & 24.
8. Warning Director Dale, KV9W, indicated that it's likely to get hotter again later in the week.
9. The meeting was adjourned at 2017.