

Madison County Emergency Management Agency

Communications Division

Tom Ecker, Executive Director

Steve Riley, Director of Communications

October, 2018

Remember our regular Communications Division meeting on Tuesday, October 2, 7:00PM at the EOC. A primary topic for this meeting is to present and review a “Field Guide for Communicators” that Jeff has been preparing for our group. This pocket size document will be available to all members and is full of useful information. Please attend to pick up your copy.

We welcome a number of new members to our Communications Division:

W9CGA, Rick Wiseley from Frankton

N9VZL, Ferrin Nice from Anderson

KD9LMC, Alex Collins from Anderson

KD9ISO, Tom Cole from Pendleton

We look forward to their active participation in our meetings, training and responses. All have also been active in the club meetings and events.

As most of you know the ARC website has been rebuilt with a lot of effort from Tom, W9EEL and Tim, KB9VE. One feature of the site is strong support for “weather” and “SKYWARN”. There is useful and needed information available to all of us. Tom will be reviewing the site at our meeting so that all can see what is available.

Saturday, Sept 29 we will be moving the .82 repeater on the tower to eliminate the “shadow” that we have toward Elwood/Frankton. If you can help check in about 8:30AM when Jeff calls the net. Prepare to monitor with a handheld and/or be available to go mobile to help define the resultant antenna pattern.

Se you on Tuesday.

73,
Steve

**Notes from Communications Division Meeting
August 7, 2018**

1. Meeting called to order at 1900 by Jeff, K9DYZ, who led us in the Pledge to the Flag.
2. Upcoming Activities:
 - August 28 – EOC Tabletop Exercise @ EOC, 6PM. Everyone welcome and needed.
 - Sept 8 – Indiana Parks on the Air – Club operating 10:30 – 6PM At Mounds Park. May use the Van to operate out of.
 - Nov 4 – Run-The-Mounds Communications Exercise. Everyone encouraged to participate.
3. Review of White River Run Communications Exercise – Steve, WA9CWE – Went well, had adequate communicators (10) including a couple who had not helped before. Alex, W9BLK, assisted with Net Control logging. Gary, W9GNR, had a neat setup with his clipboard which he reviewed with all at the meeting. The event went well and communications was excellent. We hope that others will be available next year.
4. Review of the Moonsville Tornado – Dale, KV9W – On July 20 a tornado hit the Moonsville area. There were no watches or warnings issued for the storm going thru as it was a garden variety thunderstorm. He discussed the social media reports and how they cannot be counted on. He and Tom discussed false reports from Delaware County. Dale reviewed the radar imaging and that there was not a “couplet” indicated when the tornado occurred. Dale showed a tornado video and reviewed “Microburst” dynamics and a “Tornadic Thunderstorm”. Dale and Tom reviewed pictures of the storm damage and video from the Drone Flyover that Brent did on the next day. We reviewed the NWS report on the incident from information provided by our organization. Tom and Dale showed more pictures of the damage and we analyzed them to help understand what happened.
5. Tom, KA9SYP, asked that our spotters be ready and available to do damage assessment after an incident. We need to be able to evaluate straight line winds vs a tornado event.
6. Steve, WA9CWE, presented information on a potential activation of two COAD shelters in a winter event. He reviewed our response and some potential failure modes and what we’d need to bring. Gary asked that he send out the presentation to all members.
7. Alex, W9BLK, reported his observation of our White River Run Exercise. He noted it was obvious that we had done it many times and knew what was necessary. He had no suggestions from his prior experience. We noted that this event is handled in the same manner as the fall Run-The-Mounds Exercise.
8. The meeting was concluded at 2045. There were 18 in attendance including 2 visitors from the Delaware County organization and 2 new members of our group.