

**Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) Working Group**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**April 23, 2012**

Meeting Attendance:

Those present at the RACES Working Group meeting in Topeka are listed below:

John Stradel, Cowley County Emergency Management

Col. Chris Stratmann, Adjutant General's Department

Jim Miller, Montgomery County Emergency Management

Jim Tuggle, Montgomery County RACES

Cathy Hernandez, Kansas Division of Emergency Management Emergency Management

Matt May, Johnson County Emergency Management

Natalie Davis, Kansas Division of Emergency Management

Toby Prine, Kansas Division of Emergency Management

Myron Calhoun, Riley County RACES

Joseph Plankinton, State RACES Officer

Jonathan York, Kansas Division of Emergency Management

A conference call bridge was opened up for those who were unable to attend the meeting in Topeka. Dale Urban, Finney County RACES was on the conference call.

**Meeting:**

Jonathan York gave a brief overview of the RACES Program: The RACES Working Group was created to increase the knowledgebase and amateur radio capabilities across the State; streamline identification of amateur radio operators wishing to participate in the RACES program; increase collaboration between the State RACES program, Counties, and Incident Management Teams; develop minimum qualifications and credentialing standards for RACES Officers; and maintain the State RACES Plan.

Joseph Plankinton reported that the following Counties have registered RACES programs in the State: Atchison, Brown, Cowley, Douglas, Finney, Ford, Johnson, Marshall, Miami, Montgomery, Nemaha, Neosho, Riley, Russell, Sedgwick, and Thomas.

Current Status of the amateur radio capabilities at the State Emergency Operations Center:

KDEM is working with information management staff and State RACES Officer to get amateur radio communications equipment operational at the State Emergency Operations Center. The State is purchasing a new antenna to be placed at the State Defense Building complex for the amateur radio equipment.

Amateur Radio Capabilities across the Regions: Various County/Regional Amateur Radio capabilities were discussed.

State RACES Plan: The group went through the current State RACES Plan and discussed revisions that need to be made to the Plan. Jonathan York and Joseph Plankinton will meet in May to complete first revisions of the State RACES Plan. After those revisions have been completed, they will be disseminated to the Working Group for review.

Credentialing of County RACES Officers and RACES Operators: Matt May shared the *Amateur Radio Credentialing Requirements and Resource Typing* standards utilized by Johnson County Emergency Management for their RACES Program. The group briefly discussed adoption of those credentialing requirements and resource typing standards for inclusion into the State Plan. The requirements and resource typing standards are attached for review by the group.

Next Meeting: Jonathan York advised that he would create a doodle poll survey for potential meeting dates/times for the next meeting. I would like to reconvene next quarter to finalize the State RACES Plan.

The meeting adjourned at 1545.