

Oakland County Amateur Radio Public Service Corp (ARPSC)
W8OAK Repeaters – 146.900 MHz/100pl & 444.325 MHz/107.2pl
Weekly 2 meter net 8 pm every Thursday
Hospital Radio Net – 7:30 pm last Thursday of Month
Packet 144.950 MHz/1200 baud, connects made with Oakxxx or
Callsign-# to OAKBBS (W8OAK-3) with nodes at
OAKNOD (N8NM-1 Pontiac – most coverage),
OAKEOC (W8OAK-7 at EOC) or K8DTX-7 (White Lake)
APRS – 144.390 MHz
Web Site: <http://www.arpesc.com>

Meeting Minutes for 7 November 2013

On 7 November 2013 at 7 pm, Jim Richards - AB8JR, Emergency Coordinator (EC) for the Oakland County ARPSC, called the meeting to order in the County Emergency Operations Center (EOC). The order of business included:

(I). Report from Steve Iannucci, Homeland Security Division – Oakland County:

The EOC has a new computer to better handle video projection, but is not working properly yet. Oakland County siren testing has ended for this year and Steve thanks everyone who assisted. Plans exist for several new sirens to be added next year.

(II). Report from Randy Love – WF5X, District Two EC.

The State Section Amateur Radio Public Service Corps (ARES) is working on frequency plans to link the State ARES with county emergency operation centers (EOC's) and link county EOC's to other counties. A frequency plan will reduce interference and improve communications. Also, inter-county credentialing continues.

(III). Report from the Emergency Coordinator (EC), Jim Richards - AB8JR:

Oakland County ARPSC needs a frequency plan for simultaneous net and subnet operations. More subnet control operators are needed. In fact, Jim would like to see 6 or more sign up.

Our two meter repeater is behaving better. Jim thinks Steve Murphy – N8NM, County Radios might know the reason, but hasn't talked to him yet. One reason for the better reception could be Fred Moses – W8FSM, who brought over his service monitor to check the repeater when it was re-installed on the water tower.

Our siren testing for the year went well despite two monthly siren tests being cancelled. More sirens were covered than last year, but six sirens were still missed. Thanks go to everyone who assisted.

Our next two hospital nets have been changed:

November 2013 Net will be 7:30 pm Thursday, 21 November 2013 instead of the week following which is Thanksgiving.

December 2013 Net will be 7:30 pm Thursday, 19 December 2013 instead of the week following which is the day after Christmas.

(IV). Presentation “What’s in the Pipeline” by Steve Iannucci, Homeland Security Division – Oakland County:

Steve represented “Pipeline Emergency Response Guideline” prepared by “Pipeline Association” for public awareness. Briefly summarized by this secretary - Pipelines are a safe reliable way to transport energy products such as natural gas, crude oil, liquid petroleum products, and chemical products. Most are underground. It is important for First Responders and the public to understand what to do when problems occur.

When responding to an emergency involving a pipeline leak, spill or fire, or a natural gas leak in a building, one needs to understand that each incident has unique features. The scene needs to be secured and NIMS employed with an Incident Command System. The key is to protect one’s self is by first assessing the situation, then approaching from an upwind location, not parking over manholes or storm drains; not bringing your vehicle close to the scene (engines are ignition sources), not going through a vapor cloud or puddle of liquid, and wearing protective equipment. Ignition sources need to be eliminated and by-standers moved a safe distance away. Isolation zones and barricades may be needed. To report such a problem, locate a pipeline marker sign to call its 24 hour emergency phone number. Or call 811 or 911. The DOT Emergency Response Guidebook gives guidelines on handling such a response.

(V). Reports from Different Volunteer Communication Groups within Oakland County:

Southfield, Birmingham, Farmington Hills, and Bloomfield Township are called “390 Communities” that have their own Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT). The following are reports:

Tim Wirkus, KD8GZB reported on Southfield’s Emergency Management CERT and radio program. Southfield’s communication room has now been expanded to include Southfield Amateur Radio Service (SARS), Southfield CERT, Southfield Police, Fire, Open Sky Radio, and the ability to monitor Michigan State Police in its EOC system. Volunteers are trained to learn communication skills with proper etiquette and proper procedures.

Bob Haar – KD8THG reported on the Rochester Hills CERT program. Oakland County Sheriff Department handles police protection for Rochester Hills and the CERT program reports to them. Rochester Hills CERT's include three hams. CERT's mostly serve as eyes and ears for the sheriff's department who can't cover everything. Classes are given to prepare members.

Phil Ross – WB8NXP reported on the Bloomfield Hills CERT program. Currently they have about 20 active members, which include about 4 hams. This CERT program works with the Bloomfield Township Fire Department and serves more or less as extra eyes and ears. Training is done with the fire department. Communications is shared with the township repeater and on simplex.

Ed Peters – KD8EEY reported on the Lake Orion Township hams. They began in a senior citizen center in 2004 and now are in a new building. They now have 11 active volunteers and have assisted at local summer concerts, farmer's market programs, and in getting 2 new sirens for the township. They meet on Saturday morning on siren testing days to give assistance to Brad Maney – KD8QPF, subnet control operator of the NE Area Siren Subnet.

(VI). AEC-Management Team Reports:

(1). Report from Pete Gladysz – K8PGJ, Operations:

2014 Sno*Drift Rally will be held 24-25 January at Atlanta, Michigan. See Pete to volunteer or volunteer to Barb Steencken at www.sno-drift.org. Pete is in charge of communications. Let them know if you can come up for one or two days.

Pete recently competed in the CQWW contest and contacted 108 counties for 800,000 points. In January 2014, he will again be the Caymans and will be contesting on 10, 12, and 15 meters. Amateur radio contesters are invited to contact him.

(2). Report from Jim Richards – W8JJR, SkyWarn

Next Saturday, 9 November 2013, there will be a MICON meeting which will outline what is coming next year.

Respectfully submitted,
James R. Murphy, N8SML
Secretary, Oakland County, ARPSC, 8 November 2013