

## ECARC - 11/19/2013 Meeting Minutes

Dave, KB9WPC called the Meeting to order at 6:32 PM at the Eau Claire County Courthouse. Twelve members and guests attended. Everyone introduced himself or herself and hams in attendance gave their call signs.

Tom Hurley (Eau Claire County Emergency Government Director) was the speaker for the meeting and was kind enough to provide a room for tonight's meeting.

Ron, W9RLL provided a detailed treasurer's report. Motion made and seconded to approve the report as read. Motion passed unanimously.

Ron, KC9PKO read the meeting minutes from the 10/15/13 meeting. Motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as read. Motion passed unanimously.

### DISCUSSION

Tom Hurley gave a brief update on the ARES/RACES communication system history and current Narrow Band migration and digital technology that is being used. He also gave some insight into the direction the existing systems will be heading in the future.

Tom thanked our club for its help with emergency communications in the past and asked that ECARC continue to assist in the future. Tom also informed the group that Outdoor Warning Siren testing for the Eau Claire area will be 12 months per year beginning with the upcoming December 2<sup>nd</sup> test. It was previously thought that the belt driven sirens might not function during extreme cold weather. Many of the sirens have been updated with better drive systems and Tom will be testing them every month. He needs feedback on the function of these sirens this winter. The consensus was that the club would be happy to assist.

We discussed future meeting sites. Next month (December), we will meet at the East Ridge Center. There were no suggestions on any alternate sites from those present. We will finalize the East Ridge location at the next meeting.

Thanks to Tom Hurley for the use of the EC County Courthouse for tonight's meeting site.

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

Siren testing in and around Eau Claire will take place at 11:00 AM on December 2<sup>nd</sup>. Check in with Ron W9RLL (Net Controller) about 10:45 AM. We are on the 146.910 repeater. Please consider giving us a hand.

1/04/14 West Allis Radio Club – Midwinter Swapfest.  
Waukesha, Wi. <http://www.warac.org>

1/11/14 Next Ham Examination in Eau Claire will be January 11, 2013 at the L.E. Phillips Senior Center. There will be a \$15.00 fee for each examination. Walk-in's are welcome! Volunteer Examiner is Jon Case KE9KW. More details will be on the ECARC website as they become available. John can also use some help with the exam session so contact him if you might be available.

3/29/14 Midwinter Madness Hobby and Electronics swap meet/show.  
Maple Grove Radio Club – Show in Buffalo Minnesota.  
<http://K0LTC.org>

The 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the founding of the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) will be 2014. As a part of the Centennial Celebration there will be a Centennial QSO Party beginning January 1<sup>st</sup>. W1AW Portable 9 will be operating in each state at least twice during the year and they have scheduled 2 operating sessions in Wisconsin next year. The first session will be 2/12/2014 and will primarily be operating in the Southern part of the State. The second session will be 7/2/14 thru 7/9/2014 and will be closer to our area. Keep your eye on the website for more information.

## PROGRAM

There was a lively discussion of different subjects after the formal part of the meeting.

One of the subjects was the lack of activities our club has for new newly licensed Technicians, the continuing drop in club interest & membership and some suggestions for future activities to turn this around.

We also discussed new amateur radio technologies and radio equipment that is available.

Meeting adjourned about 8:05 PM.

**Next scheduled meeting** will be December 17, 2013 at the East Ridge Center. Meeting will begin at 6:30 PM. Enter at the North Entrance and look for signs when you enter the lobby. Meeting room is ahead on the left.

We will be discussing details on:

1. 2014 ECARC Equipment Auction.
2. 2014 National Weather Service Training.
3. Club Membership Renewal

#### 4. Officer Elections

Hope you can join us.....Ron, KC9PKO