



Auxcomm Workgroup

Thursday, April 11, 2019

Time: 2 – 4 p.m.

Location: Conference Call

Meeting Notes

In Attendance:

- John McDonough WB8RCR (SEC, co-chair)
- Dennis Klipa N8ERF (ASEC, MI-CIMS trainer)
- Jaclyn Barcroft (co-chair)
- Chuck Brew N8NXP (ADEC 7)
- Pete Costa K8PDC (DEC 8)
- Bob Dennis WX8BOB (SATERN)
- Charlie Pfister WD8AXB (ADEC 5)
- John Winn KE8CYC (NBEMS course developer)
- Pat Shannon W8LNO (AEC Bay)
- Chuck Cribley WA8LQD (D3 IMT)
- Carl Flickinger KB8FQJ (DEC 5)
- Jay Nugent WB8TKL (ASM Digital)
- Jim Kvochick K8JK (SM)
- MacKenzie Angus (State planner)
- Lt. Michael de Castro (DC 7)
- Tim Crane WM8A (DEC 1)
- Ann-Marie Ruder K8AMR (SATERN)
- Tony Lupo KE8EOY (EC Bay)
- Stan Broadway N8BHL (SEC Ohio)

Spring Exercise:

- Reminder of Spring drill
 - May 11 - morning (9-noon)
 - Simple task to perform, no scenario
 - Focus on digital
 - Winlink and NBEMS

March performance:

- Numbers are way down from last year, because people are still trying to get on ARES Connect.
- March #s down - make sure folks are reporting hours.

Progress against goals:

Review various state and local planning documents and more thoroughly incorporate Auxcomm capabilities into the plans.

- 1.1: State just getting started on MEMP. Next week is SEMC quarterly meeting. Using ESF 7 to intro process. Get all experts for each ESF together in a room.

Compiled task lists for each ESF.

- o 1.2: No word yet when the MI Annex will begin the update cycle.
- o 1.3: ARPSC Guidelines Tim Crane and Jaclyn Barcroft
- o 1.4: MECF - Pete and Dave will work on this.
- o 1.5: SCIP updates, COMU meeting coming up.
- o 1.6: Local planning templates for Auxcomm: Chuck Brew and D3 committee.
- o 1.7: Trifold - Jaclyn's responsibility

Conduct a statewide Auxcomm Capability Assessment.

- o 2.3: Template report is complete, includes more detail than what is visible on the website. Working on getting website up and running.

Develop statewide Auxcomm Activation Protocols.

- o 3.1: Activation plan in File Library on MI CIMS. Need to review and discuss.

Create an Auxcomm operator training plan.

- o 4.1: First draft online

Enhance statewide redundant communication coverage.

- o 5: Need good documentation on what EOC's have what type of voice and data coverage. Have Ryan ask about HF, DSTAR, DMR capabilities.

Increase regional coordination.

- o 6: Region 1 working with the EM's in the next week to try and get a regular meeting scheduled. Would like to have 2-3 EM's, EMHSD DC, Healthcare Coalition, Region Planner,

RACES Cards:

- o RACES Cards- to be sent out to the DC's this week to disseminate.

New MI-CIMS Boards:

- o Auxcomm Nets
 - Should we document only statewide nets or all ARPSC Nets? Would be nice to get more Auxcomm folks trained, this may be a carrot. Would like to see both statewide and ARPSC.
 - Who should be allowed to edit? Would need to create some new MI CIMS positions. **DEC**, Statewide Traffic Manager, Asst. DEC Position.
- o Resources
 - Would like to have ARES Repeater documented in each county
 - Don't have the relational capability built in. Will have to develop and use a **naming convention**.
 - Potentially have a couple of **designated maintainers** to manage this data. Get some more people involved other than just the DEC's. Potentially a new MI CIMS position just for maintaining this.
 - Repeater council has some of this data in the database. Lots of information on coverage. We are hoping for more on resilience.
 - Need to start an Auxcomm calendar to review list of various databases - we need to make sure we are maintaining this data. Do we want to do this one time per year, or spread the different topics throughout the year?

District/Service updates:

- District 1: Auxcomm Training setup for June 1-2, 2019 - John Peterson will be a guest at the training. John Peterson setup a Facebook group called "AuxComm Brother and Sisterhood".
 - April 18 - presentation with Regional Emergency Managers - info on ARES, RACES, ARPSC, Auxcomm, recruitment to official D1Auxcomm Committee
- District 3: Committee starting to gain speed.
- District 5: Meeting April 15 @ 6PM. Have a National Guard Exercise April 30, WMD Group from Ft. Custer. Some interest with the WI exercise early May.
- District 7: More MI CIMS training completed in past month. Upcoming District 7 hospital exercise coming up. April 13 - CCE doing a class to get everyone in ARES Connect. Planning for a lot of activities for the summer. District 7 EC meeting in May/June.
- District 8: MI CIMS class on March 16, next class schedule May 16. Trying to get more MI CIMS classes across the district this summer. Auxcomm class the past weekend was successful - feedback has been excellent, the participants really become active. ARES participants - most of them did not know their emergency managers. SIMCOM - 4 are going down to observe (May 1-3). Dark Sky tabletop exercise coming up May 23 in Escanaba. District call April 18 is going to have John McD to describe setting up digital coms. Next swap / face to face meeting April 27. Prepared a survey for Region 8 Emergency Managers - to see what they know about Auxcomm and how they could support them more.
- SATERN: Digital packet between Grand Rapids, Ottawa Co, . SIMCOM (WI Exercise) - put up a satellite station with their COW (Communications on Wheels) setting up in wooded area north of Grand Rapids a target for the exercise. Field day - going to Dorr to participate. Using telephone conferencing for monthly meetings.

Other Business:

- Suggestion allow for a longer period of time after the event is closed to enter hours into ARES Connect. If you check the box that people can update their own hours and you send a thank you note they will get a link.
- Jay Nugent: Digital Radio Group - Quarterly meeting hoping for April 27. EMS Center in Howell. How to fine tune getting Netrom working. Hamvention - 3 counties agreed to put something online if nodes were built up.
 - Status of SEOC JNOS box? John has not made much progress recently.