



Minnesota Repeater Council

Spring 2009 Newsletter

Founding Member: National Frequency Coordination Council

MRC Officers:

Chair

Jay Maynard, K5ZC
1831 Oakwood Dr.
Fairmont MN 56031
chair(at)mnrepeaters.org
507-235-6485
952-960-3600

Vice Chair

Greg Kitchak, NØGEF
10238 Humboldt Ave S.
Bloomington MN 55431
vicechair(at)mnrepeaters.org
952-886-0281

Secretary Treasurer

Jerry Dorf, NØFWG
1402 Pulaski Road
Buffalo MN 55313
coordinator(at)mnrepeaters.org
763-682-2169

Appointments

Frequency Coordinator

Jerry Dorf, NØFWG
See Secretary's info

Technical Committee Chair

Alan Knutson, WBØZKB

User Liaison

Lion Templin, KB9ENE

THE SPRING MRC MEETING Will be held

**Saturday
May 9, 2009
At The**

**Southern Minnesota
Red Cross Building
105 Homestead Drive
Mankato MN 56001**

**Registration at 12:30PM
Meeting at 1:00PM**

**Thanks to the
Mankato Area Radio Club
(MARC)**

**For hosting this meeting
Talk-in will be on 147.240**

NO Refreshments will be
provided so plan accordingly.

It is important that if your not
going to attend the meeting to
proxy your vote to someone who
can attend. This can be another
club member or any licensed
amateur, it does not have to be a
MRC member.

Chairmans Message

At the end of my last column, I said that "we just can't afford to do [coordination] the same old way any more". Between the demand for repeaters, the growing use of new technologies, and the clear direction from the FCC that we weren't going to get any more spectrum to use, things have got to change.

The MRC membership voted to establish a committee to work out a proposal for coordination based on coverage modeling software at the meeting last fall. Since then, the committee, chaired by Ben Franske, KØBEN, and including a broad cross-section of the membership, has studied the issue and agreed on an approach. Ben will present it at the spring meeting in Mankato on behalf of the committee.

The proposal will undoubtedly cause some alarm and concern among existing trustees. Those who have become accustomed to having their very own clear channels for much more area than their system actually covers may see it as having that protection taken away from them. That's not the way it's intended to work. The idea is that a repeater is protected within its actual coverage area, but no more.

Continued on Page 2

Chairmans Message (Continued)

Last issue, I mentioned my own two meter D-Star repeater. That repeater has a 120-mile diameter circle that it owns exclusively, as things currently stand. It doesn't even come close to filling that circle with RF. Neither do the repeaters on the same channel elsewhere in Minnesota. The result is a large swath of the state that isn't covered on that channel, where more systems could fit in without causing any problems in the real world - but our existing policies don't recognize that.

Coordination in other services is done based on modeling of their actual coverage, not based on any sort of mileage separation criteria. This is what the FCC thinks of in terms of coordination. Should we not do something to answer the criticisms that folks like Bill Cross level toward us, that's what will be imposed on us, in all probability, and we won't like the way they go about it.

We need to control our own destiny. This is our best chance to do so. Please keep that in mind as you consider the committee's proposal.

I hope to see you at the meeting in Mankato on May 9. Mark it on your calendar now.

Until then...73, Jay

MRC Resources on the Internet

MRC Webpage <http://www.mnrepeaters.org>
<http://www.mrc.gen.mn.us>

MRC Mailing list:

This mailing list is for announcements and general discussion of MRC events, policy and operations. Currently it is un-moderated and open to all.

Sign up at:

<http://eight.pairlist.net/mailman/listinfo/mrc>

Don't forget to change your email program to "plain text" before you try to send anything. Messages with HTML or other fancy print will come through blank if you don't make the change.... Also do not include attachments!

Contacting the MRC Secretary & Coordinator!

I have a full time job, so if you wish to contact me by phone, it is best to try 6-9PM in the evenings except Wednesdays.

Sending registered mail is going to delay my receiving the correspondence, this also requires my leaving work early or going to the post office on a Saturday morning.

I normally read and respond to email on a daily basis, this is preferred if I need to research something or for simple questions.

Repeater updates and frequency applications must be mailed or faxed. I will provide my FAX number upon request. You may also scan your documents and email the document.

You may use email to notify us of operational changes to your repeater like its now on the air or will be off the air for a period of time.

Proxy forms can be mailed or faxed, emailed scans are acceptable, however just a proxy statement is not..

I will continue to ask that you do the following before the meeting. It is much easier to resolve any issues in advance than at a meeting. I can spend more time to help come to a solution.

Check your envelope for your membership status. If you need to pay dues, please fill out the membership form before bringing funds to the table. Or mail the application in advance!

If you look at the envelope this newsletter came in, you will find your expiration date. This is the year you are paid to the end of the listed year. So 2005 is paid up till Dec 31, 2005

Membership types listed on the envelope

REG	Regular member	ASC	Associate member
NL	Newsletter only	SPL	Special
ZZ	Unknown	RPE	Reg Pending.

If you have any questions, or there is a discrepancy in your information please ask before coming to the meeting.

Thanks for your cooperation.

Secretary, Treasurers & Coordinators Notes

New Coordinations

RPTLOCAT RPTRAREA	RPTCALL CORDATE	RPTOUT STATUS	RPTRSPON LSTCHGDATE
TYLER SW	KBONLY 3/1/2009	444.675 OTA	SCOTT LICHTINN 1/28/2009
MARSHALL SW	WB0ZSO 1/22/2009	147.150 CNST	RANDY DONAHUE 12/20/2008
WORTHINGTON SW	KOQBI 1/22/2009	146.670 OTA	WORTHINGTONARC 12/20/2008
BLOOMINGTON MET	N0BVE 12/30/2008	29.660 CNST	DONALD RICE 11/28/2008
HOLLAND SW	WB0ZSO 12/5/2008	147.075 CNST	RANDY DONAHUE 12/5/2008
MINNEAPOLIS MET	WB0ZKB 11/27/2008	1283.300 CNST	ALAN KNUTSON 10/26/2008
ROSEVILLE MET	KC0OZC 11/27/2008	53.130 CNST	CHANNEL ONE 11/27/2008
STATEWIDE STA	WB0ZKB 11/27/2008	1282.500 CNST	ALAN KNUTSON 10/26/2008
COTTAGE GROVE MET	KS0J 11/7/2008	147.180 OTA	SOUTHEAST AMATER 10/6/2008
MAPLE GROVE MET	KE0L 11/1/2008	442.400 OTA	JAMES FIELDER 9/30/2008
CARVER MET	WB0RMK 10/31/2008	224.300 CNST	SMARTS RADIO CLUB 9/30/2008
ONAMIA NC	KC0WMC 10/11/2008	445.375 OTA	MONTE S FRONK 8/26/2008
GOLDEN VALLEY MET	K0FVF 10/10/2008	145.150 OTA	DAN KARG 10/11/2008
GOLDEN VALLEY MET	K0FVF 10/3/2008	442.900 OTA	DAN KARG 10/11/2008
GLENVILLE SE	WA0RAX 9/24/2008	146.880 OTA	ALBERT LEA ARC 8/23/2008
ST LOUIS PARK MET	KG0SG 9/6/2008	444.900 OTA	BRIAN DALE 9/6/2008
CHASKA MET	WB0ZKB 8/29/2008	1283.500 OTA	WB0ZKB 8/29/2008

Coordination activities have been busy with new systems as evidenced by the list. Most of it has been for new systems.

The repeater directory submissions were done without incident, overall I believe the ARRL needs to update the format of the directory as a whole to allow for more data from the coordinators. Echolink and IRLP changes are due in September not January like the repeater data.

I have been experimenting with Radio Mobile for coverage maps. We have 2 repeaters that agreed to do a close space agreement due to estimated coverage. I personally purchased a 1/3rd arc second digital terrain data set for Radio Mobile that provides some very detailed results for the state. This data comes from a company called Lurodata out of Canada for \$210 + \$10 shipping.

I spoke with Walter Baker PA who originally prepared our non-profit documents for the State of Minnesota and initial filing with the IRS. He stated I should call the IRS and ask why we can not file the electronic postcard return that we are required to file as they often will work with the organization directly. I found out that the original application needed some additional details that I was able to complete without the aid of professional help. As of this time the MRC will be able to file the informational postcard by the end of April via the online process. Currently the IRS code allows organizations with less than \$5,000 in income to operate without a formal application. The statement given by the IRS is that the MRC will be treated as but not recognized as a formal 501c4 organization as we meet the current guidelines for a community /civic organization. There are lengthy descriptions that I could copy but I will save paper! Our fiscal year has been established as Jan 1 to Dec 31 each calendar year.

In 2008 we had a income of \$1071.00 and expenses of \$374.86. In 2008 I had envelopes and paper left from the previous mailings so I did not need to purchase supplies. I expect to replenish this stock for the fall updates and newsletter.

On March 19, I purchased 400 stamps to cover the following mailings, Spring and Fall newsletters along with the annual updates. This was done due to the announced increase in postal rates.

Thanks for reading

Jerry Dorf, N0FWG
Sec-Treas- Frequency Coordinator
Minnesota Repeater Council, Inc.

Coordination Committee Report

Over the past several months the committee appointed at the Fall 2008 meeting and in light of the comments by the FCC about improving coordination policies and efficiencies met to do just that. Our committee consisted of people from all walks of ham life including both urban and rural repeater operators as well as a user. It was very clear from the initial meeting that this group of individuals was dedicated to examining and improving all aspects of coordination work.

We began our deliberations by defining the scope of our job and discussing the broad questions which drive coordination policy including the purpose of repeaters, why coordinate repeaters in the first place, what ideal coordination and use of spectrum would entail and what the limitations are of such a system. We also surveyed a number of other state and regional coordination bodies around the country to determine what best practices might look like and how coordination policy and procedures varied from location to location.

Eventually we got down to the nuts and bolts of coordination and discussing the advantages and disadvantages of various coordination policies we might suggest be implemented. Though we certainly did not all agree on everything along the way we, as a committee, did reach a unanimous consensus on important changes which must be made if we are to continue to exist as a viable coordination body. There have been many changes and advancements in technology and tools available to amateur operators since our current policy was written in 1976. It is our belief that if we do not want the type of rules and regulations currently applied to commercial repeaters to become the rules and regulations for the operation of amateur repeaters we need to heed the advice of the FCC, echoed by Jay in the Fall newsletter, and update our coordination policy for the times and technologies now available.

Our committee will be presenting our full report and findings as well as proposing an updated coordination policy at the Spring 2009 meeting. On a personal note I'd like to thank all members of the committee, some of whom traveled quite a distance several times, provided food, a place to meet and certainly aided the spirited discussion and deliberations to deliver this needed update to our policies: Jay Maynard, K5ZC; Jerry Dorf, N0FWG; Matt Genelin, N0YNT; Jon Peterson, WA0UNB; and Alan Knutson, WB0ZKB.

--Ben Franske, K0BEN
Chair, MRC Committee on Coordination Modernization

Waiting List

Greg Kitchak	N0GEF	2-meters	Crown
Bruce Williams	N0VOW	2-meters	Wyoming Twsp

DSTAR Pending/waiting list

Alan Knutson	WB0ZKB	2-meters	Chaska/ west metro
Anoka ARES	W0ANA	2-meters	Fridley (Ross Demeyere, W0FTX)

**Preliminary Minutes of the
Minnesota Repeater Council**
Fall meeting held On October 18, 2008
Savage City Hall, Savage MN

Call to order by chairman Jay Maynard, K5ZC at 1:30PM

Introduction officers & members made.

Quorum established with a total of 79 members in good standing on the roster, 22 in attendance, 8 non-metro at the start of the meeting.

Chairman's Report:

NFCC status & election report made Statement by Bill Cross on changes needed to the coordination process and elimination of paper repeaters.

Frequency coordinator Secretary & Treasurer's report: Jerry Dorf, N0FWG

Reports presented to membership in the newsletter & handout. Everything is moving along smoothly.

Motion by Greg Kitchack : All new analog FM coordination's after January 1, 2009 shall be required to use CTCSS/DCS or equivalent on the input frequency. Motion seconded by Robert KC0FMI Motion passed

New Members: None

Old Business:

900 MHz band plan is still not published. Follow-up with Doug Reed by Jay Maynard.
Band plan committee to evaluate 440 Mhz Full duplex links remains tabled.

New Business:

Motion to authorize spending up to \$500 to review and get IRS non profit status by legal professional(s). Seconded, Motion passed.

Matt Genelin, N0YNT: Motion to require all 144 & 440 repeaters in the state of Minnesota to use CTCSS/DCS or equivalent on input by October 31, 2009. Motion seconded Question was called. Motion failed

Motion to change the 120 mile co-channel / 50 mile 1st adjacent pair spacing to 100 mile /50 mile spacing, seconded. Motion rescinded.

Chair appointed a committee to develop revised coordination policies with the use of propagation modeling software to model coverage & other non mileage based methods for coordination of new repeaters committee to report back at the Spring Committee to consist of: Jay Maynard, K5ZC Jerry Dorf, N0FWG Ben Franske, K0BEN Matt Genelin N0YNT Jon Peterson, WA0UNB Alan Knutson, WB0ZKB

Spring Meeting: Non-Metro location.

Suggestions for Southern MN, Mankato? Check with Sean Stepanek N0PBA for use of Mankato Red Cross building?

Elections:

Nominations were opened, then closed for each office. Jeff Goodnuff was appointed by Jay Manard as election teller.

Election Results.

Chairman:	Jay Maynard, K5ZC	19	Ben Franske , K0BEN	4
Vice Chairman	Greg Kitchak, N0GEF	20	Matt Genelin, N0YNT	3
Sec-Treas	Jerry Dorf, N0FWG		No other candidates, accepted by acclimation.	

Motion was made to destroy the ballots, seconded & passed.

Jay Maynard appointed Jerry Dorf, N0FWG as Frequency coordinator; Lion Templin, KB9ENE as User Liaison; Alan Knutson WB0ZKB as Technical Committee chair.

Motion to adjourn, seconded. Meeting Adjourned at 3:10 PM

Jerry Dorf, N0FWG
Secretary Treasurer
Minnesota Repeater Council, Inc

Minnesota Repeater Council Checking Account

March 19, 2009

Date	Type	Description	Debit	Credit	Balance	Comments
4/23/2008	Dep	KEVIN MAGLOUGHLIN		\$10.00	\$4,624.63	Reg Dues 2009
	Dep	Richard Jackson		\$10.00	\$4,634.63	Reg Dues 2009
5/1/2008	Dep	Ross Demeyere		\$30.00	\$4,664.63	Reg Dues 2010 Pending
5/6/2008	Dep	Gary Wilson		\$20.00	\$4,684.63	Reg Dues 2009 Pending
	Dep	DAVID HUSTON VIA GREG KITCHAK		\$10.00	\$4,694.63	Reg Dues 2008
	Dep	GREG KITCHAK		\$30.00	\$4,724.63	Reg Dues 2010
	Dep	Ben Franske		\$20.00	\$4,744.63	Reg Dues 2009
	Dep	John Swanson		\$20.00	\$4,764.63	Reg Dues 2009
	Dep	ED JACOBSON		\$20.00	\$4,784.63	Reg Dues 2009
	Dep	TCRC/Ivan Frantz		\$10.00	\$4,794.63	Reg Dues 2008
5/14/2008	DEP	MIKE SCHWENDEMAN		\$20.00	\$4,814.63	Reg Dues 2009
	Dep	Robert Kaliszewski		\$20.00	\$4,834.63	Reg Dues 2011
6/25/2008	Dep	Keith Mobarry		\$20.00	\$4,854.63	Reg Dues 2010
6/25/2008	2084	Postmaster	\$84.75		\$4,769.88	Postage Fall mailings
7/8/2008	2085	Jerry Dorf	\$45.22		\$4,724.66	Paper/envelopes/labels
7/28/2008	Dep	Art Carlson /ST Cloud ARC		\$10.00	\$4,734.66	Reg Dues 2008
8/4/2008	2086	Pair Networks	\$120.89		\$4,613.77	Web hosting
9/2/2008		Art Carlson /ST Cloud ARC		\$50.00	\$4,663.77	Reg Dues 2013
		Don Hengemuehle		\$10.00	\$4,673.77	Reg Dues 2010
		Jeffery N Clarine		\$10.00	\$4,683.77	Reg Dues 2009
9/15/2008	DEP	Sherlee Gregg		\$10.00	\$4,693.77	NL 2010
		Marshall Radio Club James Babcock		\$20.00	\$4,713.77	Reg Dues 2010
		David Furman		\$20.00	\$4,733.77	Reg Dues 2010
		David Kellner		\$10.00	\$4,743.77	Reg Dues 2009
		RICHARD BRUNDIDGE		\$10.00	\$4,753.77	Reg Dues 2014
9/22/2008	DEP	Gerald VanDervort		\$10.00	\$4,763.77	Reg Dues 2008
9/23/2008	DEP	WILLIAM FISCHER		\$10.00	\$4,773.77	Reg Dues 2008
9/29/2008	DEP	Norman D Yeautter		\$10.00	\$4,783.77	Reg Dues 2009
10/3/2008	DEP	TOM CARLSON/ SMARTS		\$10.00	\$4,793.77	Reg Dues 2009
10/7/2008	DEP	STEVE CSIZMADIA		\$10.00	\$4,803.77	Reg Dues 2008
10/20/2008	DEP	Michael Paskeuric		\$10.00	\$4,813.77	Reg Dues 2008
	DEP	John Czech		\$20.00	\$4,833.77	Reg Dues 2011
	DEP	Jerry Frederick /ARAC		\$60.00	\$4,893.77	Reg Dues 2013
	DEP	Richard Neish		\$15.00	\$4,908.77	Asc Dues 2018
10/21/2008	DEP	ALAN KNUTSON		\$10.00	\$4,918.77	Reg Dues 2009
	DEP	DAVID HUSTON		\$20.00	\$4,938.77	Reg Dues 2010
10/31/2008	DEP	Randy Haglin		\$30.00	\$4,968.77	Reg Dues 2010
11/3/2008	2087	Postmaster	\$42.00		\$4,926.77	Postage
12/24/2008	Dep	Austin Area ARC/ Mary Nystrom		\$10.00	\$4,936.77	Reg Dues 2009
1/20/2009	Dep	Dennis McCusker		\$12.00	\$4,948.77	Reg Dues 2009
3/17/2009	Dep	Lion Templin		\$10.00	\$4,958.77	LIA Dues 2009
3/19/2009	2088	Postmaster	\$168.00		\$4,790.77	400 stamps for use in 2008

Notes:

1. New & pending memberships checks have been deposited to avoid the past "Stale Check" problems.
2. The date in the comment field shows dues paid to the end of that year.

Minnesota Repeater Council

Membership and Renewal application form

Name of organization or individual sponsor: _____

Repeater Call: _____ Frequency(s): _____

Repeater Location(s): _____

Trustee information (MRC Main Contact).

Trustee Callsign: _____ Name: _____

Phone: _____ Address: _____

Email: _____ City: _____

Other: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Club or alternate contact/mailling address.

Callsign: _____ Name: _____

Phone: _____ Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Type of Application: Renewal New membership Trustee Change Database Update

- Regular Membership
Dues \$10.00 year
Organization or individual who is operating a FCC licensed Amateur Repeater station on a frequency coordinated by the MRC. Has one vote at all meetings. Receives all mailings.
- Associate Member
Dues \$ 5.00 year
Organization or individual with a active interest in constructing an Amateur Radio Repeater station or in the activities of the MRC. Can participate in the activities of the MRC but has no vote. Receives all mailings.
- Newsletter
Receives one copy of MRC newsletter for 1 year. Dues \$ 5.00
Or download for free from the MRC webpage

Signed: Repeater Trustee/Regular Member

Date: _____

Mail all Applications and dues to:
Minnesota Repeater Council
Jerry Dorf, N0FWG Secretary/Treasurer
1402 Pulaski Road
Buffalo MN 55313
763-682-2169 Voice Fax available upon req
jerryd@jerryd.net

of years Paid: _____

Total Amount: _____

Check #: _____

Name on Check: _____

Other Info: _____

Membership Approval Granted: _____ Date: _____

Dues Paid for: 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023

Agenda
Minnesota Repeater Council General meeting
Spring 2009

I. Call to order 1:00 PM

- A. Welcome
- B. Establish quorum
- C. Introduction of officers and members
- D. Review Agenda

II. Reports

- A. Chairman
- B. Secretary & treasurer report
- C. Frequency coordinators report
- D. Technical Committee

III Individual Announcements

- A.

IV. Applications for membership

- A.

V. Old business.

- A. Coordination Committee
- B. 900Mhz bandplan
- C. Evaluate feasibility of full duplex links in 440Mhz bandplan.
- D. IRS Tax status

VI. New business

- A.
- B.

VII. Fall Meeting, Metro location

VIII. Adjournment

Delegate Registration (Proxy) Form

Regular member: _____

Repeater Call: _____ Frequency: _____

Trustee: Call: _____ Name: _____

A regular member is an organization or individual that is the Trustee of record for an operating repeater in the MRC frequency coordination database with MRC membership dues paid in full at the start of the meeting.

Primary Delegate Call: _____ Name: _____

Alternate Delegate #1 Call: _____ Name: _____

Alternate Delegate #2 Call: _____ Name: _____

Restrict voting privileges: If you wish to be registered for purposes of counting attendance, but do not want your assigned delegate to have voting privileges, check here

Duration of Proxy: Check here to allow this proxy to be used at future MRC meetings. This proxy may be altered or revoked at any time by the regular member. Check here to restrict voting to current meeting.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Regular Member (Trustee)

Please mail this proxy to the Secretary at least one week prior to the meeting. Advance registration is appreciated.