

MISSOURI REPEATER COUNCIL, Inc.

BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MINUTES

July 28, 2012

Meeting was called to order by MRC President, Don, KMØR, at 12:30 CDST. All board members were in attendance including Bill, NØPNP; Roger, KØGOB; George, WBØIIS; Jeff, KB3HF; Gary, NØPBM; Bryon, KØBSJ. In addition, the WØMRC trustee, Mac, K4CHS was in attendance.

2012 Annual Meeting Review

With 21 members in attendance, the interest was almost double the 12 members who attended last year. Good comments were heard about the MRC Web page. Members' concerns were addressed and no open issues were left on the table. The Mass Mailing that was sent out three weeks before the meeting did not get to the membership...only to the originator. The developer will be asked to look into the issue.

Database Update

Don, KMØR, and Roger, KØGOB, updated the Board on the progress of the on-line database. Three months ago, Don, Roger and Jeff met with the developer and outlined the next steps. Nothing has taken place since that meeting.

Don lit a fire under the developer and just last week he indicated that he will have some time during the next week or so to work on the MRC programming. The highest priority will be the developers' software. That includes the importing of the ARRL information from adjacent state coordinators. In the simplest form, the coordinators need the frequency and Lat/Lon information for every repeater in coordination overlap distance.

To accomplish the above, the MRC needs to get the adjacent states to agree to furnish their ARRL info to us for inclusion in the calculations. When the software is ready, Jeff will work with IL and Bryon will work with KS, two states with good working relationships, to start the ball rolling. Hopefully the other adjacent states will follow when they see the benefit of a smoother coordination effort. It goes without saying that the MRC will freely provide the ARRL info to all adjacent states. In addition, the MRC can provide an Excel spreadsheet of the ARRL data to any adjacent state if that is easier for them to work with.

Database Questions

A number of repeater and link screens contain two "notes" boxes. Which one is public and which one is private? The issue will be discussed with the developer and tested before an answer is published.

Can the MRC web page send an automatic "we got your message" type email to members who send info to the MRC via the "contact us" or "info" boxes?

Server Speed

When the MRC database was moved to the new server, the speed improved greatly. It has degenerated to the same slow pace as the previous server. Don will talk to the site host owner to determine what improvements can be made to increase the server response time.

Coordinator's Email Box

Discussion continued on the need (benefits) of having a Coordinator's Mailbox where all member requests could be funneled. The only benefit identified was the fact that all coordinators would see the request. The negative would be email inbox clutter and the uncertainty of who is/was working on the member request or question. Decision was to continue to have mail directed to the individual coordinator as sent by the member.

ARRL Issues

The board requests that the ARRL go on record as "strongly" suggesting the sharing of key repeater data between adjacent states. The MRC will engage the ARRL in a discussion about exporting the frequency and Lat/Lon of repeaters in adjacent states that do their coordination on the ARRL web site and have no database of their own.

SNP Frequency

Jeff noted that the documentation of the 147.000 minus Shared Non-Protected repeater pair indicates that it is only for use within 25 miles of the arch in St. Louis. He has had requests to use the frequency in outlying areas in support of races and other public events. Permission has been granted, except near Jefferson City, with the stipulation that if anyone complained, they would have to terminate operation. The MRC needs to review the SNP policy and confirm or modify same.

Coordinator Overload

There have been some complaints of late or no response to member requests. Situations have changed and after a lengthy discussion, it was decided not to re-divide coordinator area of responsibilities. The issue will be reviewed after the 2013 MRC Annual Meeting.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Don, KMØR, thanked the Board Members for participating and adjourned the meeting at 1:08 CDST.

Submitted by,
Bill, NØPNP
MRC Secretary