



# Minnesota Repeater Council

## Fall 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 FALL MRC MEETING Will be held

**Saturday  
October 31, 2009  
At The**

**Hennepin County Library  
5280 Grandview Square  
Edina MN 55436**

**Registration at 12:15PM  
Meeting at 1:00PM**

NO Refreshments will be  
provided so plan accordingly.

### Important Agenda items include:

Annual Election of officers  
Coordination Policy proposal

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

The fall meeting of the Minnesota Repeater Council will be one of the most important in a long time. We will be voting on a fundamental change in the way we do coordination in Minnesota.

You've seen the proposed policy. The reasoning behind it is simple: a repeater should not be protected for any more than the area it actually serves. Once upon a time, it didn't make a lot of difference. Now, it does, and the FCC has served notice that they think the old methods of coordination won't cut it any more.

There was a lot of discussion of the new policy at the spring meeting. More than a few folks were willing to give it a fair hearing. I wasn't surprised to hear negative comments from some folks who don't see the problems with the current policy, or don't think the FCC is serious, or want to have a say in what repeaters serve an area they themselves don't serve.

At the meeting, we asked for comments from the membership on the policy, especially specific suggestions for changes that would answer the concerns that were raised. A couple of minor changes were suggested, and a couple of areas we missed were pointed out. Those suggestions will have been incorporated into the final policy that will be voted on at the meeting.

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However, we didn't get any comments from the folks who were raising the most issues with the proposal. We can't take into account comments we don't get.

Please come to the fall meeting, and when the proposal comes up for discussion, make sure your voice is heard. The decision we'll make there will affect all of us. If you want to influence that decision, you'll have your chance there.

Thanks and 73...Jay

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### Coordination Committee Update

At the Spring meeting the MRC Committee on Coordination Modernization presented a proposed new coordination policy following some suggestions made by the FCC about better spectrum utilization and the best practices from amateur as well as commercial repeater coordination. After the presentation the committee chair answered questions from the membership about how this proposed change would affect repeater coordination in Minnesota. At the request of membership present the proposed policy was also made available on the MRC website and an email address was setup to receive comments during a 90 day comment period.

### 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!

Overall there have been few comments about the proposed policy and those comments which were received were requests for minor changes and tweaks based on previously adopted coordination policies. I have asked the coordination committee to again read through the proposed policy and suggest any changes they see as relevant based on this feedback and other interactions and conversations with MRC members. We plan to distribute the most up to date version of the proposed new coordination policy at the Fall 2009 meeting and recommend that it be adopted as policy.

There have been many changes and advancements in technology and tools available to amateur operators since our current policy was written in 1976. Based on the most recent discussions with the FCC 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 last year's Fall newsletter, and update our coordination policy for the times and technologies now available.

If the proposed policy is adopted by the membership at the Fall meeting one of the most important and immediate changes for repeater owners will be to make sure that they have supplied full and accurate repeater information to the Coordinator as this information will be used to determine whether proposed repeaters may be coordinated or not. Failure to report accurate information not only harms the coordination and modeling process but is specifically listed as grounds for revocation of coordination. I've already begun the process of double checking all of my repeater information and correcting errors and I would encourage you to do the same.

I would also like to thank Lion Templin (KB9ENE) who has done the majority of the work in translating the discussions and decisions at committee meetings into the policy seen at the Spring meeting and who was mistakenly omitted from the list of committee members in the Spring 2009 newsletter.

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

## Secretary, Treasurers & Coordinators Notes

In mid August the annual update forms were mailed out. As they come back I have been entering them into CTK in preparation for submission to the ARRL repeater directory.

Many of the records still have not been updated with accurate or missing data such as location data down to the seconds, true antenna height or power. If we adopt the coordination policy that is on the table, some of you will not be happy with the results.

Several pairs in rural Minnesota have been returned. Several systems moved without re-coordination resulting in additional activity. One example is the 147.000 Blue Earth repeater moved placing it 96.6 miles to the Maple Plain co-channel repeater. As trustee of this system I have worked to model coverage of both systems. Both groups based on this data have started a close space agreement. Under the proposed policy this spacing would meet the -100db criteria.

You may update your records or repeater at any time you do not need to wait for the form to arrive in the fall. The idea of lets move our repeater and worry about coordination later does not fly when I get a update form with most of the data with whiteout on it with new a new location and parameters on it. A new coordination form is generated at that point.

Midcountry Bank where our checking account resides changed their account number scheme last year expecting to silently update everyone as they ordered new checks. We do not write enough checks to use up the supply on hand. As a result we have a gap in check numbers as indicated in the treasurers report.

When you send checks for dues, please include a membership application with the required information marked. This serves as a backup paper copy for my records and shows what the payment is for!

Our ARRL license agreement for the repeater directory was not received or lost by the ARRL, as such we did not receive payment for the 2008/2009 data. The 2009/2010 agreement has been completed and mailed in and an acknowledgement received back. There was also a report that some older data may have been in the Repeater Directory this year.

### 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 2009 is paid up till Dec 31, 2009

Membership types listed on the envelope

REG	Regular member	ASC	Associate member
NL	Newsletter only	SPL	Special / comp
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.

## New Coordinations

RPTLOCAT	RPTCALL	RPTOUT	RPTRSPON	TRUSTEENAN	RPTRAREA	CORDATE	CONSTDATE	USE
TRACY	W0DRK	147.1500	RANDY DONAHUE	RANDY DONAHUE	SW	6/13/2009	8/14/2009	RO
GLENVILLE	N0OJL	146.6850	RODGER J BASEMAN	RODGER J BASEMAN	SE	5/13/2009	5/20/2009	RO
PINEWOOD	KC0FTV	442.2250	DUSTIN VERMEERSEH	DUSTIN VERMEERSEH	NC	5/8/2009	5/19/2009	RO
TYLER	KBONLY	444.6750	SCOTT LICHTINN	SCOTT LICHTINN	SW	3/1/2009	3/1/2009	RO
WORTHINGTON	K0QBI	146.6700	WORTHINGTON ARC	KEVIN HLAVAC	SW	1/22/2009	1/22/2009	RO

## 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)

I hope to see you all at the fall meeting.

73's Jerry Dorf, N0FWG

# Minutes of the Minnesota Repeater Council

Spring meeting held On May 9, 2009  
Southern Minnesota Red Cross Building Mankato MN

Call to order by Chairman Jay Maynard at 1:00PM.  
Introduction of officers & members made.

Quorum was met with a total of 65 members in good standing on the roster, 24 in attendance, 8 non-metro at the start of the meeting.

**Chairman's Report:** Jay Maynard K5ZC

**Secretary & Treasurer's report:** Jerry Dorf N0FWG  
Reports presented to membership in the newsletter, and handout.

**Frequency coordinator:** Jerry Dorf N0FWG  
Reports presented to membership in the newsletter, and handout.  
Lots of new coordination activity occurring within the last month

**Technical Committee:** Alan Knutson  
Nothing to report

## **Coordination Policy Committee Report**

Due to time constraints by Ben Franske N0BEN made his presentation early.  
Discussion ensued, copy's of the proposed policy were handed out. It was asked that it be placed on the MRC website, membership be given 60-90 days for the general membership to comment

For the membership to instruct the committee to continue with comments presented by the general membership for 90 days and present a policy proposal to be adopted at the fall meeting. Motion made and seconded, Motion passed.

Greg Kitchack Motioned to reimburse the coordinator for the purchase of 1/3arc second digital terrain data from Lurodata for \$210 that is used with Radio Mobile software. Motion was seconded; this data will be passed on to the next coordinator. Motion passed

Motion to accept minutes as presented was made, seconded and passed

## **Old Business:**

Coordinator is still waiting for a channelized 900 band plan from the planning committee.  
Jay Maynard will work with Doug Reed to complete. Remains tabled  
441/446 full duplex links, directed to policy committee for consideration

## **New Business:**

IRS will treat the MRC as a 501c4 but not recognized as such. Our fiscal tax year has been defined to be the calendar year. If the MRC wants to pursue official recognition we will need to file additional applications as such. No action was taken.

## **New Members:**

Michael Langer WQ0A 147.135  
Christopher Buck W0HO 147.210 TCRC

Motion to approve both, seconded motion passed

Motion to donate \$50 to the Southern MN Red Cross for the use of the building was made, seconded. Passed

## **Fall Meeting: Metro location:**

Jeff Goodnuff will check on returning to Burnsville for the fall meeting and advise the board. Other suggestions may be submitted to the secretary.

Meeting Adjourned at 2:30 pm

Jerry Dorf, N0FWG  
Secretary Treasurer  
Minnesota Repeater Council, Inc

# Minnesota Repeater Council Checking Account

## September 12, 2009

Date	Type	Description	Debit	Credit	Balance	Comments
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
4/6/2009	Dep	BRUCE WILLIAMS		\$10.00	\$4,800.77	Dues 2009
	Dep	DAN SWEE		\$20.00	\$4,820.77	Dues 2012
4/10/2009	Dep	BRUCE BJORKLAND		\$30.00	\$4,850.77	Dues 2011
	Dep	Jim Johnson		\$50.00	\$4,900.77	Dues 2013
	Dep	Thomas Strum		\$30.00	\$4,930.77	Dues 2011
	Dep	Ray Thissen/ VARS		\$10.00	\$4,940.77	Dues 2009
	Dep	STEVE CSIZMADIA		\$10.00	\$4,950.77	Dues 2009
4/15/2009	Dep	MIKE SCHWENDEMAN		\$20.00	\$4,970.77	Dues 2011
	Dep	Alfred Belk		\$40.00	\$5,010.77	Dues 2010
4/27/2009	Dep	DAVID FISHER		\$20.00	\$5,030.77	Dues 2010
5/2/2009	Dep	Paul Germscheid		\$10.00	\$5,040.77	Dues 2010
	Dep	Sheldon Mann		\$20.00	\$5,060.77	Dues 2011
5/5/2009	Dep	THOMAS SVIHEL		\$10.00	\$5,070.77	Dues 2009
5/9/2009	2089	Southern MN Red Cross	\$50.00		\$5,020.77	Donation for Meeting room
5/9/2009	2090	Void	\$0.00		\$5,020.77	Void
5/11/2009	Dep	REUBEN RUEN		\$20.00	\$5,040.77	Dues 2010
	Dep	Sean Stepanek		\$20.00	\$5,060.77	Dues 2010
	Dep	Richard Auld/TCFMC		\$10.00	\$5,070.77	Dues 2009
	DEP	Bob Bliss		\$20.00	\$5,090.77	Dues 2010
	Dep	JAY MAYNARD		\$20.00	\$5,110.77	2011
	Dep	Michael Langer		\$10.00	\$5,120.77	Dues 2009
	Dep	Christopher Buck/TCRC		\$20.00	\$5,140.77	Dues 2011
	Dep	DON RICE		\$20.00	\$5,160.77	Dues 2010
	Dep	Jerry Dorf		\$20.00	\$5,180.77	Dues 2010
	DEP	Thomas Carlson/SMARTS		\$10.00	\$5,190.77	Dues 2010
5/11/2009	2091	Jerry Dorf	\$220.00		\$4,970.77	Re-imb for Lurodata Radio Mobile data
5/23/2009		Bank changed account #			\$4,970.77	New Check # due to Bank acct change
8/3/2009	2101	Anchor Paper Company	\$47.62		\$4,923.15	Paper/envelopes
8/3/2009	2102	Pair Networks	\$120.89		\$4,802.26	Web hosting
8/21/2009	DEP	DAN GELLE		\$20.00	\$4,822.26	Reg Dues 2010
8/24/2009	DEP	Robert Stone		\$60.00	\$4,882.26	Reg Dues 2014
	DEP	Robert Stark		\$30.00	\$4,912.26	Reg Dues 2010 & extra NL
9/9/2009	Dep	Don Hengemuehle		\$20.00	\$4,932.26	Reg Dues 2012
	Dep	THOMAS G RUKAVINA		\$5.00	\$4,937.26	Asc Dues 2010
9/12/2009	DEP	Jeffery N Clarine		\$10.00	\$4,947.26	Reg Dues 2010

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/mailing 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**  
**Fall 2009**

**I. Call to order 1:00 PM**

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

**V. Old business.**

- A. 900Mhz bandplan
- B. Evaluate fesibility of full duplex links in 440Mhz bandplan.
- C. Coordination Policy Committee

**II. Reports**

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

**VI. New business**

- A.
- B.

**III Individual Announcements**

- A. Midwinter Madness, March 27, 2010

**VII. Spring Meeting, Outstate location**

**IV. Applications for membership**

- A. Thomas G Rukavina, KA6WXR  
Hibbing Associate Member

**VIII. Election of Officers**

**IV. Adjournment**

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**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 if 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.**