

**Knox County, Maine - RACES/CERT  
Meeting Minutes  
Saturday, August 9, 2014**

The Saturday, August 9, 2014 meeting of Knox County, Maine – RACES/CERT was held at the Knox County EMA building in Rockland, Maine.

The meeting was called to order by Steve (KB1TCE) at 10:02 AM.

Members in attendance were Jim Blier (KC1AKT), Norm Smith (NY1B), Ed Rotch (KC1CG), Nate Marvin (WA1SAZ), Steve Hansen (KB1TCE), Mike Coulombe (KB1UTD), Tom Ames (KB1URB), Donna Allen (KB1WBJ), Eric Greiner (KB1ZUN), Chuck Fleming (KB1TGB) and Bob Brooks (KC1AKV).

Steve (KB1TCE) announced that Michael Coulombe (KB1UTD) of Palermo, Maine is now the new Maine ARES District Three Emergency Coordinator (DEC). His district covers Hancock, Knox, Waldo and Washington Counties.

It was reported that in two weeks' time an Isleboro Swim event would be held starting at about 7 AM (with volunteers meeting prior to the race's start at 5 AM at the Belfast EMA). The race start will be near Lincolnville Beach on the Point Lookout property. Hams are invited to assist with emergency communications. So far, about nine Hams have already signed up from Waldo County.

Chuck Fleming (KB1TGB) made a motion to approve the July Meeting Minutes. Chuck's motion was seconded by Tom (KB1URB) and the motion was passed as edited.

There will be a Base Camp Exercise in October on which details will be forthcoming.

Jim (KC1AKT) reported that the May Meeting Minutes still need to be approved. Norm (NY1B) made a motion to approve the May Meeting Minutes. Norm's motion was seconded by Eric (KB1ZUN) and the motion was passed.

Steve Hansen (KB1TCE) will be serving as Maine ARES Digital Coordinator. Michael Courtenay (KB1DBL) will be serving as the ARES Knox County, Maine Emergency Coordinator and Jose Douglas (KB1TCD) will be serving as the ARES Lincoln County, Maine Emergency Coordinator. Other Maine ARES key personalities are listed on the new Maine ARES website (<http://www.qsl.net/me-ares/>) at:

- [http://www.qsl.net/me-ares/Maine\\_ARES/Contact.html](http://www.qsl.net/me-ares/Maine_ARES/Contact.html)
- [http://www.qsl.net/me-ares/Maine\\_ARES/Digital.html](http://www.qsl.net/me-ares/Maine_ARES/Digital.html)

Mike (KB1UTD) reported that he talked to Phil Duggan (N1EP), Maine's ARES Section Emergency Coordinator about ARES and its purpose of serving emergency services and of great possibilities that exist with a renewed ARES in Maine, including grants. Phil is promising proactive leadership, something that Maine ARES has been lacking over the past several years. Already, Waldo and Knox counties have begun setting de-facto standards for voice and digital communications. An HF Net started in 2010 was also discussed. ARES training was also discussed and it was stated that it should contain the ICS 100 course.

Steve (KB1TCE) discussed involving Canada border provinces in ARES exercises in light of the recent Quebec train accident.

Mike (KB1UTD) explained that in the past Maine ARES focused on voice communications instead of digital communications. Going forward, Maine ARES will now be getting more into digital communications as well.

Norm (NY1B) stated that digital is better than CW.

Steve (KB1TCE) reported that Phil (N1EP) is good with documentation and has the new ARES website up and running at <http://www.qsl.net/me-ares/> which will also be linked from the Pen Bay ARC website home page. ARRL membership is required for ARES membership.

The Windsor Hamfest will be in September. Steve (KB1TCE) made a motion that our next Knox County, Maine - RACES/Cert meeting date be announced and scheduled so as NOT to conflict with the Windsor Hamfest. Steve's motion was seconded by Jim (KC1AKT) and was passed.

Norm (NY1B) reported that Scott (KB1DSW) requests that he NOT be nominated for re-election to the position of Knox County Maine RACES/CERT President due to time constraints and suggested Mike (KB1DBL) be his replacement.

Eric (KB1ZUN) asked how the town ham project was proceeding. It was reported that St. George's antenna was not yet up. Installation issues for St. George were discussed. There will be more on the Washington installations within the next month. It was also discussed that the D710 G's can't be programmed with the D710 software.

The next meeting of Knox County, Maine - RACES/Cert will be announced (and scheduled so as NOT to conflict with the Windsor Hamfest) at the Knox County EMA building (the usual place) beginning at 10 AM (the usual time).

Eric (KB1ZUN) made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Eric's motion was seconded by Nate (WA1SAZ). The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned by Steve (KB1TCE) at 10:42 AM.

**Minutes Respectfully Submitted by James Blier (KC1AKT) for Knox County, Maine - RACES/CERT Secretary, Ed Rotch (KC1CG).**