

Multnomah County Amateur Radio Emergency Service

Standard Operating Procedure 104.1 Operating Protocols

<u>Goal</u>

The Multnomah Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) operating protocols are intended to guide the operation and response of the organization in the case of activation and during periods of training and organization. The design is to allow a single resource for all Multnomah ARES members and other area hams in order to guide the aspects of our collective response to the eventuality of emergency communications being facilitated by amateur radio operators.

It is implemented prior to activation, and maintained by the membership to ensure the readiness of the membership (both knowledge and equipment) and a robust command and control structure for the organization.

NOTE: Events beyond our control may cause changes to our operating procedures. Please contact your team lead if you have any questions.

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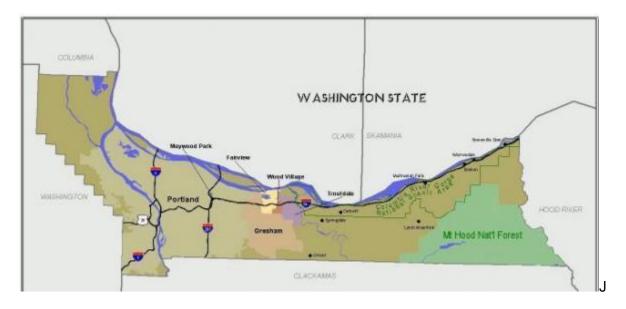
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Operational Organization and Structure

The Operational Organization Structure is applicable to all Multnomah ARES Amateur Radio Operators (ARES AROs). It is designed to coordinate ARES AROs into geographically based teams.

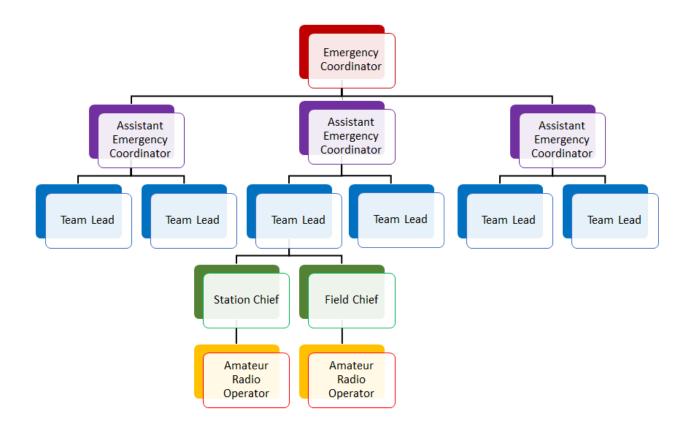
Due to the large population and geographic size of Multnomah County, the organization of the ARES AROs will be divided into working teams. These teams will be organized by operators serving a geographical area to foster coordination and readiness among the ARES AROs on a given team. This framework allows for a distributed responsibility for readiness and training at all times as well as providing the outline and initial response structure of ARES AROs in the event of an emergency.

This operational organization structure is independent from the administrative functions, structure and organization. It serves as a small unit organization during non-operational times for preparation of personnel knowledge and readiness. During periods of activation (drills, events and emergencies) it serves as the starting basis of Multhomah ARES operations.



The operational structure flows from the individual ARES ARO all the way to the Emergency Coordinator (EC).

Organization Chart



*Structure repeats identically for each Team Lead, but not represented graphically to save space and maintain readability

Operational Roles and Responsibilities

Amateur Radio Operator

- Individual licensed by the FCC to operate on Part 97 bands.
- All unaffiliated AROs are encouraged to join ARES.
- It is important for all AROs to be aware of the operations of the Multhomah County Amateur Radio Emergency Service, as we must all work together to facilitate emergency communications on the amateur radio bands.

ARES Amateur Radio Operator

- Assigned to a team and reports to a Field or Station Chief or Team Leader.
- Responsible for their own training as operators, and personal equipment readiness.
- Accurately and efficiently sends, receives and routes voice and data traffic.
- Accurately keeps ICS 309 message log.

Station Chief

- Reports to Team Leader.
- Responsible for the knowledge of the equipment and training of all team members on served agency station equipment.
- Serves as liaison with served agency emergency management personnel.
- Logs station activity on ICS 214 and assures completion and accuracy of ICS 309s.
- Also performs ARES ARO duties as needed.

Field Chief

- Reports to Team Leader.
- Responsible for leading a small field unit made up of team members.
- Responsible for ARES equipment used in the field.
- Logs station activity on ICS 214 and assures completion and accuracy of ICS 309s.
- Also performs ARES ARO duties as needed.

ARES Team Leader

- Reports to their assigned AEC or the EC.
- Responsible for the organization and readiness for the ARES AROs assigned to their team.
- Responsible for the knowledge of the equipment at their Served Agency and any ARES equipment used in the field.
- Also performs ARES ARO duties as needed.

Assistant Emergency Coordinator

- Assumes role of EC if EC is unable to serve.
- Coordinates the organization and readiness of the teams assigned to them.
- Coordinates with Administrative Staff to facilitate the needs of AROs and Team Leaders.
- Coordinates reassignment of personnel as necessary during non-operational periods.
- Facilitates reassignment of volunteer personnel during emergencies as necessary.
- Assists EC, Team Leaders, and administrative staff as needed.

Emergency Coordinator

- Reports to Multnomah County Emergency Manager.
- Performs roles and responsibilities as defined by Oregon Section Manager.
- Coordinates and oversees all MCARES activities.

Activation

The web of communications infrastructure and capabilities in Multnomah County is wide and deep. Multnomah ARES presents itself as a cadre of trained and proficient radio operators that are willing to assist the agencies we serve in the event of any incident that might require communications resources that are beyond those normally required. The potential uses for the ARES radio operator are varied, and as such it is impractical to attempt to cover all potential activation procedures down to the minute detail. This procedure therefore serves as an outline and guide for activation and should be employed when practical. Operation of the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) operating component of this volunteer cadre will be in line with Part 94.407 of the FCC code. Any applicable components of this procedure will be adhered to, as well as any additional limitations from those rules and regulations.

The foremost rule for ARES AROs is that we do not self-deploy. When an amateur radio operator becomes aware of an incident that may require additional communications resources for which they may be suited, they are to establish communications from their location with the ARES unit via the Resource Net. Members should double check and make ready their communications equipment, deployment materials and 72 hour go-kits at this time.

The need for ARES operators should be relayed through the Multnomah County Emergency Manager, the Multnomah County Duty Officer or the Coordination Center Manager at the Multnomah ECC. The individual directed, by one of these officials, to activate ARES (the EC or designee) will relay that information to the Resource Net and deploy operators as requested by the Incident Commander (IC).

The need for ARES amateur radio operators will be communicated to the membership by:

- <u>Self Awareness</u> If there is an obvious weather or disaster emergency that could affect communications infrastructure, then the ARES ARO is to check into or establish the Resource Net as appropriate. This should occur on the assigned repeater if available, or on an appropriate simplex channel if no repeaters are available. Details on this operation can be found in the <u>Activation of the Resource Net</u> section.
- <u>Direct Contact</u> In the event that ARES is needed by the county or other requesting party, the EC or designee will contact the team members by their preferred method of direct contact. This could be phone, text or email, if available.
- <u>Oregon ARES District 1 Net</u> The nightly net at 19:30 will be used as the communication method of last resort for activation of Multnomah ARES.

Activation of the Resource Net

In the event of an emergency, the first order of action is to determine the communication resources available in Multhomah County. The first amateur radio operator available should establish the Multhomah Resource Net on MC-2 (147.280 MHz). If the repeater is disabled, establish the Resource Net on MC-12 (147.280 simplex).

Amateur radio operators should check into the Resource Net with their FCC callsign. When recognized by Net Control, they should be prepared to give to the Net Control the following information:

- Name
- Location by nearest major cross streets
- Available equipment, including communications and transportation resources
- ARES Team, NET team or other primary response obligation if applicable
- Ability to deploy and for how long you can serve
- Any other information deemed necessary or requested by EC

The Net Control operator on the Resource Net will maintain the list of available operators with their reported information and deliver it to the EC or the appropriate designee when requested, digitally if possible.

Deployment assignments will be made by the EC or their designee on the Resource Net. When AROs have completed their assignments and been released, they will check back into the Resource Net to either secure or be reassigned.

Portland NET members will also initially report to the ARES Resource Net. Portland Bureau of Emergency Management (PBEM) will assign NET members to their operational frequencies from the ARES Resource Net. Once NET members have been transferred to the NET frequencies, PBEM will assume responsibility for them. They do not need to check back to the ARES Resource Net at the completion of their assignment.

Deployment

ARES AROs assigned to a team can expect to be deployed to either a served agency or a field station. Unassigned AROs will be deployed as requested by the EC or Multnomah County Emergency Management. We will make every effort to keep AROs as close to their home geographic location as possible. However, dynamic situational requirements dictate that we are unable to guarantee an ARO will be sent to a particular location. The team leaders & station chiefs will schedule AROs for initial and relief shifts in a prolonged deployment.

The following is adapted from the ARES Field Resource Manual. Further information can be found at <u>http://www.arrl.org/files/file/ARESFieldResourcesManual.pdf</u>.

Initial Actions during an Emergency

- The Net Control station and/or ARES officials on the designated emergency net will provide additional instructions, including information on frequencies used for other resource and tactical nets. Normally, a Resource Net will enroll volunteers and provide information on how you can assist.
- Be prepared to operate. Check all equipment and connections.
- When deployed, check in with your assigned contact. Deploy to assignment with Go-kit.
- Obtain tactical call sign for your location/assignment.
- Use log form (ICS-309) to record messages handled.
- Use a formal message form (ICS-213) when a precise record is required.
- Use tactical call sign for your location, and observe FCC's 10-minute ID rule.
- Monitor your assigned frequency at all times. Notify the Net Control station if you have to leave.

Standard Communication Protocols for Nets and Traffic Handling

In general, amateur radio operators in Multnomah County are expected to adhere to the following:

- Follow the net scripts given below for operating in the event of an emergency.
- If a repeater that we normally use for communications is damaged and inoperable, we may conduct the communications in simplex mode on the output frequency of that repeater. For example, MC-2 would be MC-12 (147.280 simplex) in the event of repeater failure. Alternatively, we may move to a different repeater.
- All communications go through Net Control. Do not call a station directly without Net Control permission.
- When checking into a net for the first time, use your personal FCC callsign using ITU phonetics followed by your tactical callsign. Thereafter, use only your tactical callsign to initiate a contact, then end the contact with your tactical and personal callsign.
- We initiate contact in the format: "(station you are calling), (your callsign/)," then wait to be acknowledged.
- Whenever possible, the net and traffic handling protocols of the NTS should be adhered

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to, including use of pro-words.

- If you have messages to relay, call "Net Control, (your callsign), with traffic." Net Control will ask you to list your traffic. State number of messages and the tactical call of the receiving station. Net Control will then ask the receiving station to call you to receive your traffic.
- If the net is busy, Net Control may ask you and the receiving station to go to a different frequency to pass the traffic. When finished both stations should return to the main net with tactical callsign and "recheck."

Types of Emergency Nets

Adapted from ARES Resources Field Manual

Resource Net (MC-2, 147.280 MHz) - For all incidents, a Resource Net is used to track and delegate operators and equipment in support of operations on the Tactical Nets. As an incident requires more operators or equipment, the Resource net evolves as a check-in place for volunteers to register and receive assignments. All MCARES AROs check back with the Resource net at the end of their assignment or deployment.

Command Net (MC-1, 146.840 MHz) - This net allows the incident managers to communicate with each other to resolve inter- or intra-agency problems, particularly between cities or within larger jurisdictional areas. It is conceivable that this net could become cluttered with a high volume of traffic. It may also be necessary to create multiple Command Nets to promote efficiency.

Tactical Net – (MC-3, 146.940 MHz) - The Tactical Net is the front line net employed during an incident, usually used by a single government agency to coordinate with Amateur Radio operations within their jurisdiction. There may be several Tactical Nets in operation for a single incident depending on the volume of traffic and number of agencies involved. Communications include traffic handling and resource recruiting.

Sample net scripts may be found in <u>Appendix C</u>.

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со	INCIDENT RADIO MMUNICATIONS		Planning [Document		08/	08/17/2021 MCARES						
				4.	Basic Radio	Cha	nnel Util	ization	1				
Chan	Function	Cha	nnel Name	Accignment	Rx Frequency	W/N	Rx Tone/ DC 8	TX Free	quenoy	W/N	Terre/ DC 8	Mode A, D, M	Remarks
63	Command net	N	NC-1	ARES	146.840			146.	.240			А	Primary Repeater
64	Resource net	Ν	NC-2	ARES	147.280			147.	.880		167.9	А	Secondary Repeater
65	Tactical net	N	NC-3	ARES	146.940			146	.340			Α	Tertiary Repeater
66	Primary Simplex	Ν	ИС-4	ARES	146.480			146	.480			А	
67	Secondary Simplex	Ν	NC-5	ARES	147.460			147.	.460			А	
68	Delta Repeater	N	NC-6	ARES	147.040			147.	.640		100.0	Α	
69	Gresham Simplex	P	ИС-7	ARES	147.520			147.	.520			А	
70	NET-Tac 1	P	NC-8	PBEM	147.580			147.	.580			А	Simplex
71	NET-Tac 2	P	NC-9	PBEM	146.460			146	.460			Α	Simplex
72	RMS Gateway	N	IC-10	ARES	145.070			145	.070			Α	K7MCE-10 County EOC
73	UHF Simplex	N	IC-11	ARES	432.150			432	.150			Α	UHF simplex
74	Resource net simplex	N	IC-12	ARES	147.280			147.	.280			А	Secondary repeater simplex only if repeater down
75	UHF Portable Repeater	Ν	IC-13	ARES	440.275		151.4	445.	.275		151.4	А	ARES Portable Repeater
76	UHF Cross- band repeater	N	IC-14	ARES	446.150						151.4	А	UHF Side
	APRS				144.390							Α	APRS
	W7RAT			ARES Digital	440.400			445	.400		123.0	А	MMSSTV- Digital
Prepa	ed by (Communications	Unit) KK	7DEB C	ontaot Number 603-818-	5128	Γ	Incident L	ocation	Multro	mah (County AR	ES	
							County						

Incident Radio Communication Plan (ICS 205)

Digital Operations - Winlink

Multnomah County ARES digital operations are primarily based on Winlink Express, using RMS packet messaging. For more information on Winlink and RMS messaging, and to download the software, go to <u>www.winlink.org</u>.

Standard equipment includes:

- VHF radio.
- Packet TNC (mostly Kantronics, but the TNC-X and Timewave TNCs work well also) or sound card modem.
- Computer with Winlink Express software installed.

RMS Addressing

All agencies served by ARES RMS messaging are assigned a (callsign)@winlink.org address. See Served Agency List in <u>Appendix B</u>.

RMS Gateways

Multnomah County ARES uses the Multnomah County ECC's RMS Gateway as a primary gateway, and it should be used for most RMS activity. For drills, events and incidents that do not impact internet connectivity in the region, any RMS gateway can be used to successfully transmit messages to served agencies.

In the event that all local gateways lose internet connectivity and go into local delivery mode, ARES will use K7MCE-10 as a coordinating gateway.

Primary Gateway	K7MCE-10	145.070	Multnomah County ECC
Other RMS Packet G	Sateways:		
KF7LJH-10	145.070 (1200 baud)	Portland, OR	
AE7ZQ-10	144.990 (1200 baud)	Portland, OR	
KK7DEB-10	145.090 (1200 baud) Fairview, OR	
K7ENN-10	145.030 (1200 baud)	Portland, OR	
KA7CTT-10	144.920 (1200 baud)	Vancouver, WA	
W7LT-10	144.910 (1200 baud)) Mt. Scott, OR	
KI7QBU-10	145.510 (1200 baud)	Oregon City, OR	
KD7ZDO-10	145.570 (1200 baud)	Clackamas, OR	
N7MCU-10	ARES Trailer no set	frequency at this time,	variable depending on location
Other gateways can	be found in "Channel S	Selection" in Winlink.	

HF Pactor is available for Winlink at Multnomah County ECC and in the Multnomah County ARES trailer.

Digital Operations - SSTV

ARES uses SSTV to provide images from the field to the Multhomah County ECC or any emergency operations center (EOC) able to receive it.

EOC and ECC equipment consists of a Windows computer with MMSSTV software and a SignaLink or other sound card-radio interface. Images may be transferred from the field using the MCARES digital go-kits, radio and cell phone with camera and SSTV software via acoustic coupling, or operators' personal equipment which will include radio, laptop computer with SSTV software, sound card-radio interface and digital camera or cell phone camera.

All images should include a specific location (street address or GPS coordinates). Operators who have images to transmit should contact Net Control on the Command Net to be directed to the appropriate frequency for SSTV transmissions.

Appendix A: Leadership Contact information

Deb Provo	KK7DEB	dprovo@yahoo.com	EC, Membership Manager
Adam Karol	KF7LJH	akarol36@gmail.com	AEC, Mike Team Lead
Carrie Conte	K7CAC	cconte@msn.com	AEC, Charlie Team Lead
Matthew Bradburn	AF7PV	bradburn.m@gmail.com	AEC
Dylan McNamee	N4LYD	dylan.mcnamee@gmail.com	Training Manager, Alpha Team Lead
Rachel Stout	KI7NMB	rsstout@gmail.com	NET Manager
Brian Cochrane	KE7QPV	ke7qpv@arrl.net	Webmaster, Event Coordinator
Dylan McNamee	N4LYD	dylan.mcnamee@gmail.com	Alpha Team Lead
Linda Bellerby	K7LJB	ljbellerby@gmail.com	Bravo Team Lead
Carrie Conte	K7CAC	cconte@msn.com	Charlie Team Lead
Jeff Bissonnette	KI7TVE	jeff@jeffbissonnette.com	Delta Team Lead
Eliza Pride	W7ELI	eliza.pride@gmail.com	Echo Team Lead
Adam Karol	KF7LJH	akarol36@gmail.com	Mike Team Lead

Appendix B: Served Agency List

Multnomah County

K7MCE@winlink.org

Team Leader	Dylan McNamee	dylan.mcnamee@gmail.com		
Served Agency Contact	Robert Quinn	Contacts on file with Team Leader		
Multnomah County ECC	Multnomah County Juvenile Justice Center	1401 NE 68th Ave, Portland Oregon 97213		

Portland Bureau of Emergency Management

W7ECC@winlink.org

Team Leader	Linda Bellerby	ljbellerby@gmail.com
Served Agency Contact	Ernie Jones	Contact on file with Team Leader
Portland ECC	Portland Bureau of Emergency Management	9911 SE Bush St., Portland Oregon 97266

City of Gresham / East County

WG7EOC@winlink.org

Team Leader	Eliza Pride	eliza.pride@gmail.com	
Served Agency Contact	Kelle Landavazo	Contact on file with Team Leader	
Various locations	Fairview, Wood Village, Troutdale, Corbett	Gresham Fire Stations 72,73,74,75,76 and 31	

Appendix C: Sample Net Scripts

Resource Net Script

Note: The Net Control operator may adjust this script as necessary to suit the situational needs. Unspoken comments are in italics.

Net Control is to maintain the net roll until relieved. It is advised that they keep three check-in lists; one for ARES members, one for NET AROs, and one for non-affiliated AROs. When transferring to a new Net Control operator it is preferred to send them the net roll in written format via Winlink if possible.

To initiate net and every 30 minutes or during lull in net business:

Net Control: "This is (*your name*), (*your call*), Net Control for the Multnomah County ARES and Portland NET team Resource Net. This is a directed net and stations are asked to remain on frequency until directed by Net Control. If you must leave, please advise. This net serves as the coordinating hub for amateur radio operators serving in Multnomah County. The Multnomah ARES Emergency Coordinator or another designated representative will relay radio operator requests here as they are received. No station is to deploy until assigned on this net. All checkins are welcome. Stations are asked to check in with their FCC callsign. Stations wishing to check in, or other stations with business for the net, please come now."

Acknowledge each station and request the following information:

Net Control: "The net acknowledges (callsign). What is your:

- Name.
- Location by nearest major cross streets.
- Available equipment, including communications and transportation resources.
- Multnomah County ARES team, NET team, or other primary response location.
- Ability to deploy, and for how long you can serve.

Net Control to collect this information and enter it in the log to give to the EC when requested so EC can make assignments

Every 10 Minutes

*Net Control: "*This is *(your name), (your call)*, Net Control for the Multnomah County ARES and Portland NET team Resource Net.

To close the net when directed by EC:

Net Control: "This is (your name), (your call), Net Control for the Multnomah County ARES and NET team Resource Net. Thank you to all stations who participated in this emergency response effort and to all other stations who stood by to give us a clear operating frequency. (*If net was conducted on the repeater: "*Multnomah County ARES also thanks the Hoodview Amateur Radio Club for the use of this repeater.) All stations may now secure. This net is closed at (*local time*) and the frequency is now returned to normal amateur radio use."

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Written station logs should be given to the EC and a copy to the Net Manager, as soon as practical.

Command Net and Tactical Net Script

Note: The Net Control operator may adjust this script as necessary to suit the situational needs. Unspoken comments are in italics.

To open the net and every thirty minutes or during a lull in net business:

Net Control: "This is (*your name*), (*your call*) as (*club call if applicable*), Net Control for the Multnomah County (*exercise or type of net*) net. This is a directed net and stations are asked to remain on frequency until directed by Net Control. If you must leave, please advise. This net serves as the communications center for (*exercise or incident net type*). Stations are asked to check in with their tactical callsign. Stations are reminded to sign at the end of every communications string with their tactical callsign and personal FCC callsign. Stations with business for the net may come now."

(Every 10 Minutes)

Net Control: "This is (your name), (your call or club call), Net Control for the Multnomah County (exercise) (incident and type of net) net.

To close the net when directed:

Net Control: "This is (your name), (your call), Net Control for the Multnomah County (type of net) net. Thank you to all stations who participated in this (emergency response effort) or (name of event) or (exercise) and to all other stations who stood by to give us a clear operating frequency. {If net was conducted on the repeater: Multnomah County ARES also thanks (the repeater owner) for the use of this repeater.} All stations may now secure and report back to the Resource Net. This net is closed at (*local time*) and the frequency is now returned to normal amateur radio use."

Appendix D: Standard Forms

It is recommended that all operators maintain the following forms in their personal operating binders:

ICS 100 - Blank Paper ICS 213 - General Message Form ICS 214 - Unit Log ICS 309 – Communication Log NTS Radiogram Form

See the following sources for important forms: http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/is/ICSResource/icsforms.htm http://www.arrl.org/files/file/ARESFieldResourcesManual.pdf

ICS 213 General Message

		ICS 213 GENERAL MESSAGE		•
ncident Nam	ne and Number:			
TO (Name an	d Position):	and the weather and any		
FROM (Name	e and Position):			
Subject:			Date:	Time:
Message:				
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Approved by	: Name:	Signature:	Position:	
Reply:				
Replied by:	Name:	Signature:	Position:	
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ICS 214 Unit Log

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4. Unit Nan	ne: Communicati	ons 5. Unit Le	eader (Name	and Position):	6. Operational Perio	d:
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105 214 11-1					rev 1/11	
ICS 214 Uni	t Log		Page _	01		2015
ICS 214 Uni	t Log		Page _	01		2015

ICS 309 Communications Log

ICS 309		INCIDENT # and	d Name:		DATE STARTED:
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ARRL Radiogram

	THE AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE RADIOGRAM VIA AMATEUR RADIO											
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REC'D	ROM		DATE	TIME	SENT TO		DATE	TIME				
WHOSE ADD HANDLED SC ACCEPTED B DELIVERING	GE WAS HANDLED FREE C RESS IS SHOWN IN THE B VLELY FOR THE PLEASURY YA "HAM" OPERATOR. A F THIS MESSAGE TO YOU. F ROM ARRL HEADQUARTEF	BOX AT RIGHT E OF OPERAT RETURN MES FURTHER IN	RADIO RELAY LEAGUE, INC, IS TH D'AMATEURS AND THE PUBLISHE ROMOTION OF PUBLIC SERVICE I THAT END, THE LEAGUE HAS OR JILY NATIONWIDE MESSAGE HAND	R OF QST MAGAZINE. ONE COMMUNICATION AMONG A RGANIZED THE NATIONAL TR	OF ITS MATEUR							

Appendix E: Administrative Roles and Responsibilities

Membership Manager

- Welcomes new members, sends an orientation packet, introduces Team Leader and new member trainer. Informs of the resources available.
- Maintains membership records and Google Drive roster with current contact information of all members.
- Collects ICS documents for each member and coordinates with Training Manager for ARRO certification.
- Distributes "records check" form to qualified members.
- Records membership participation at monthly meetings, events, drills and SETS.
- Maintains Google Group email reflector.
- Assists members with any special needs.

Training Manager

- Sets forth the annual training schedule.
- Coordinates any training resources needed.
- Is available to team leaders and can assist with team-level training.
- Arranges ARRO certification workshops and coordinates other MCARES certifications with other leadership personnel
- Maintains training records on Google Drive.

Net Manager

- Earn NCFO Certificate
- Coordinate with Team Leaders to assure a Net Control for every Wednesday weekly net. Teams are assigned by the month to provide Net Controls.
- Send a reminder email to each Net Control. Include current Net Control script.
- Receive Net Control reports and record check-ins on Google Drive spreadsheet.
- Maintain Net Control script
- Attend Leadership meetings and help out where needed.

Webmaster/Social Media

- Maintains the <u>www.multnomahares.org</u> website and keeps all information therein current.
- Responsible for Multnomah ARES presence in social media including Facebook, Flickr and Twitter.

PIO

- Responsible for public outreach and recruitment and leads recruitment drive for new members.
- Coordinates ARES promotion and recruitment at local public service events and emergency preparedness fairs.
- Recruits members to represent ARES at recruitments and outreach functions
- Prepares news releases to local media and articles for QST Magazine and ARES NW Division Newsletter

Approved and Adopted

Debra Provo	12/31/2021
Approved, Multnomah County Emergency Coordinator	Date
Matthew Bradburn	12/31/2021
Assistant Emergency Coordinator	Date
Adam Karol	12/31/2021
Assistant Emergency Coordinator	Date
Carrie Conte	12/31/2021
Assistant Emergency Coordinator	Date