

WHITE RIVER AREA PREPAREDNESS (WRAP)

Minutes 10-27-22

7:00pm Call to order, followed by invocation and pledge of allegiance

The Concealed/Carry permit class that was held on 10/23 by certified instructor Peggy Gray was discussed briefly, including that there would probably be another class offered in the near future.

It was announced that the directors' meeting will occur via zoom on Thu 11/3 at 3 pm. Meeting participants agreed future general meetings would be regularly scheduled on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month at 7pm. This information will be provided on the website: www.wraprangely.com

ICS training and forming a WRAP CERT group was discussed and it was generally agreed that official FEMA certification would be appropriate, though further discussion will occur in the near future.

Mark Stamos continued sharing communications information about possible radio devices to purchase for WRAP members who want them. He also shared diagrams and radio test data showing several repeater sites in the Rangely area, including distance transmission data, as well as showing a possible site further away on Blue Mountain. Mark also showed the repeater he constructed for the tests to those attending the meeting.

The best site according to the tests was Mellon Hill, where there is now a building with power and a tower in use by various other agencies. It was suggested that Rio Blanco County owns the site, but further research is needed to verify ownership and obtain permission to use the tower. There is also another seemingly abandoned site at "Raven Ridge" across Hwy 64 from Mellon Hill, as well as the previously mentioned site much further away at Blue Mountain in Utah.

Don Davidson suggested that Mark do a short presentation to the Town Council about how WRAP seeks to simplify emergency communication accessibility and safety in the community through use of GMRS radios. The plan would be that Mark explain our objectives to the Mayor and Town Council members as well as seek needed permission(s) to install our repeater and antenna, hopefully at Mellon Hill.

Mark said that, all things considered, he thinks that GMRS radios for group members are the preferred option, such as the Baofeng radio currently available on Amazon for under \$30 each. GMRS option does not require obtaining a license for use; it only requires payment of a fee. Mark will gather funds at the next meeting, thereafter make a bulk purchase of the radios, and after receipt of the devices will program them prior to distribution to purchasers.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:03pm.