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AMATEUR Radio Emergency Services organizations of both Lee and Williamson counties provide additional communications resources for responding to

emergencies. Pictured from left are Terry Jones with Williamson County ARES, Lee County Emergency Management Coordinator Delynn Peschke, Lee Coun-

ty Emergency Coordinator for ARES Marida Favia del Core Borrromeo, and Lee County Judge Paul Fischer.

-- Times & News Photo



LEE COUNTY officials viewed additional communications resources for responding to emergencies in the county at a demonstration outside the Lee County Sheriff's Department last Friday. The demonstration was coordinated between Lee and Williamson County Offices of Emergency Management and the Amateur Radio Emergency Services.

-- Times & News Photo

Lee County officials evaluate alternative communication

Lee County elected officials viewed additional communication resources for responding to emergencies in the county. The demonstration was coordinated between Lee County and Williamson County Offices of Emergency Management and the Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES) organizations of both Lee and Williamson County.

The joint demonstration allowed Lee County officials to evaluate the use of amateur radio to communicate with emergency services when normal communication methods are interrupted. Both voice and data communications were demonstrated and conducted between Lee and Williamson County Emergency Operation Centers.

Lee County Judge Paul Fischer said, "We are very pleased to have witnessed the vast resources available to us, should the need arise. Knowing that regional response is available and seeing the capacity of these resources helps me to feel more prepared to respond to events in our county."

Delynn Peschke, Lee County Emergency Management Coordinator, states, "The operation went very well. We learned how we can work with both Williamson County and amateur radio to respond to emergencies, when needed. We also learned how we can help to expand Lee County ARES to assist in these responses."

Marida Favia del Core Borromeo, Lee County Emergency Coordinator for ARES, was instrumental in planning of this event and worked with all agencies to ensure a successful two days.

Lee County ARES -- with the help of Don Spivey, Butch Johnson, Robert Zoch Jr., and Mark Stennett -- was able to add additional amateur radio resources in the county. A second amateur radio repeater was placed into service adding increased capacity for radio communication and was thoroughly tested during the event. As a result of this activity, Lee County ARES has attracted the attention of other local, licensed radio operators.
