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Lexington Leader

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\$1.25 Vol 23; No. 11

Thursday, March 14, 2019

Emergency Communication Methods Evaluated

Lee County Elected Officials viewed additional communication resources for responding to emergencies in the county last weekend, coordinated between Lee County and Williamson County Offices of Emergency Management and the Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES) organizations of both Counties. 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, such as during a hurricane or other catastrophic events. Both voice and data communications were demonstrated.

Paul Fischer, Lee County Judge, 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

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Participating in the Lee/Williamson County joint emergency communication evaluation last weekend were (left to right) LCSO Chief Deputy James Crockett, Marida Favia del Core Borromeo, Lee County Emergency Coordinator for ARES, Lee County Sheriff Rodney Meyer, LCSO Captain Jack Allen, Lee County Judge Paul Fischer, Fedor Volunteer Fire Department member Jeff Bullard, and Delynn Peschke, Lee County Emergency Management Coordinator.

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Management Coordinator, said, "The operation went very well. We learned how we can work with both Williamson County and amateur radio operators to respond to emergencies, when needed."

Marida Favia del Core Borromeo, Lee County Emergency Coordinator for ARES, was instrumental in the planning of this event and worked diligently with all participating agencies to ensure a successful two days. Lee County ARES, with the significant 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. All licensed amateur operators are encouraged to contact Marida, KD5BJ, at ec.lee.kd5bj@gmail.com to participate in future events.