

WOOD COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS INC

November 3, 1997

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM by Ken Harris, WA8LLM/Unit 251 President. There were 9 members present.

Minutes from the October 7th meeting were read and approved.

The Treasure's report was read and approved.

OLD BUSINESS

There was nothing to report on the By-Laws.

Nothing to report on the new 147.255 Mhz repeater. Ken WA8LLM said he has learned a few things about building the weather transmitter that can be used on the 147.255 repeater. The same type equipment will be used on both systems. Sammy N8SVX has at least 8 of the GE MASTR II radios that will be used for receivers. When we get time they will be tuned up and connected to the UHF Walkie-Talkies. Crystals still need to be ordered for the Walkie-Talkies.

The weather transmitter is in operation, but there is a slight problem with the way it receives the signal from Spencer and relays it over to the transmitter. A couple of the UHF radios that will be used for the 147.255 repeater was used to link the weather receiver to the transmitter. It was suggested the weather receiver may be moved to Annie's house.

Nothing has been done on the painting of the chairs. Bill Unit 271 said to bring the chairs to his house and we can try to get the chairs painted there.

Ken WA8LLM says he still needs to talk to John Loudon, Chief of Eastwood Fire Department about using the Fire Station for the Amateur Radio classes. Ken explained the class will be from 6 to 8 weeks.

Nothing has been done about insurance since we want to look at the new law called "Volunteer Protection Act OF 1997" which went into effect June 18, 1997. Each member present was given a copy of the law. Bill N8JXO got the information off the Internet. There was a discussion on the law. Additional copies of the law was made and a copy will be given to each Volunteer Fire Department at the next association

meeting.

Sam N8SVX has the new UHF radio that will be installed in MOBILCOM-1. He is having trouble getting the upper channels to program.

Ken WA8LLM says the 30 amp power supply that was purchased for the weather transmitter works like a charm. For such a small power supply it's a very good job. Sam says he will try to come up with a receipt for the 120 foot tower.

There was a lengthy discussion of the weather transmitter. It was discussed about re-transmitting the Charleston weather transmitter when the Spencer transmitter is off the air. Ken says that he has talked to Mike Washington about the alerting on the Weather Transmitter. Mike is supposed to be going to a meeting November 17 about the EAS system. He's supposed to let us know if the weather service is going to pull out of the EAS system. If they do the weather transmitter may be taken off the air since one of the big reasons to have it on the air is to alert the communities in Wood County about all hazards, not only weather.

The new 120 foot tower is still laying on the ground. A new base plate needs to be ordered before the tower can start up. There's a 50 foot tower where the new tower will be going. The 50 foot tower needs to be taken down, another hole needs to be dug, and a new concrete base poured. Ken says he also needs to dig six new holes and install guy anchors. He may not have to dig a new hole for the base since it may be big enough to handle the new tower.

Ken said that MOBILCOM-1 ran great after Bill Unit 271 put the new carburetor on it. Ken says he hasn't talked to Jim Beckett, the Parkersburg Fire Chief yet, since we don't know who is going to be the new Fire Chief after the new mayor gets into office. He said that a little after the last meeting Jim had his hands full with the Dudley's Florist fire and his dad also just passed away.

Bob KB8RNE wanted to know if there would be a cost of the Amateur Radio class. He was informed the only cost would be the cost of buying a book from Radio Shack. Ken WA8LLM said he may purchase some books and those taking the class may buy them.

Ken WA8LLM passed out a list of activities that will be coming up next

year. Leo WA8BMA added a couple of items to the list. The Homecoming and Christmas parade line-ups weren't on the list.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Ken WA8LLM said the hospital disaster committee wants to hold two communication exercises next year. At the present time the drills will be held in January and March.

Next Wood County Fire Fighters Association meeting will be held November 10th at Wood County Emergency Services.

There was a discussion about having a Christmas dinner this year. All that were present agreed to have one. The dinner will be held either December 6th or the 13th at the Telephone Company. Ken KB8QPW and Bob KB8RNE will be in charge of putting it together. Communications Inc. will provide the turkey, ham, and drinks.

We now have a water tank to put into the trailer to use on the Safety Breaks. Ken needs to make a frame to hold the tank. It should be done by the Thanksgiving Safety Break.

Sammy N8SVX talked about Tim Miller putting up a new tower. He says that Tim is going to allow Amateurs to install a repeater on the new tower, followed by a short discussion.

Annie Unit 262 reminded everyone that if you need some kind of assistance, to just make an announcement on the radio of what you need, because someone is almost always listening.

Ken WA8LLM says he would like to have a special newsletter that will describe who WCEC is. It will be a membership drive newsletter. The newsletter will have a list of who gets our newsletter and our activities.

Bob KB8RNE said he got a call from Jennifer at Red Cross. They are having a luncheon for volunteers November 13 at 13:00. You need to give them a call to confirm if you are going.

Leo WA8BMA hasn't heard when the Christmas Parade will be held.

#### THOSE IN ATTENDANCE

Ken Harris WA8LLM/Unit 251, Judy Peterson N8UFQ/Unit 255, Ken Riffle

KB8QPW/Unit 268, Sam Mercer N8SVX/Unit 256, Leo Pabst WA8BMA/Unit 259,  
Anna Hendershot Unit 262, Al Harris N8UBG/Unit 1125, Bill Burd Unit  
271, Bob Smith KB8RNE/Unit 264