

WOOD COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS INC

November 3, 1998

Meeting called to order at 7:03 PM by Ken Harris, WA8LLM/Unit 251 President. There were 10 members.

Minutes from the October 6th meeting were read and approved.

The Treasure's report was read and approved.

OLD BUSINESS

Corrected versions of the By-Laws were passed out. Everyone needs to look them over and report back next meeting or the January meeting since the Christmas Dinner may be next month on the meeting night.

The schematic drawings for the new 147.255 Mhz repeater are being worked on. There was a short discussion about the interference on the repeater. Ken WA8LLM said we need to get the new Remote Receiver for Quincy Hill ready since there are antennas being installed on the new tower. Sam N8SVX is going to check to make sure that we are still on the list of antennas that are to be installed.

The maps for the hospital communication operating locations are still on the drawing board. Sam N8SVX hasn't talked to Donna at Marietta Memorial Hospital yet about installing permanent antennas on the hospital.

Ken WA8LLM gave an update on Mobilcom-1. There have been two new batteries installed in the battery compartment. The battery compartment has rust in it, but that has been repaired and new battery brackets have been installed to keep the batteries held in place.

The scanners for Mobilcom-1 have a different type of antenna jack than is needed, so adaptor plugs are going to be used. The pins on the adaptor plugs that we have are too short, so modifications may have to be done to them. Sam N8SVX said he would see if he can find the proper adaptors to be used.

Ken WA8LLM gave a report on how much money was made at Volcano Days BINGO since we didn't have the records for last month's meeting. Records show that we made \$1020.50.

Sam N8SVX says that Millers hasn't installed the new batteries at the Summit Tower site yet. Once Millers get the batteries installed then we will have to pay for them.

Ken KB8QPW gave a report on the Christmas dinner. He still has a few things to get done. Bob KB8RNE told Ken that if he needed any help calling the other members or anything else that he would help.

The UHF Walkie/Talkies are still being discussed, but no particular ones have been decided on yet. Sam N8SVX said that he has received some H/Ts from GE Plastics, but he hasn't had time to look them over to see what he has. He thinks the H/Ts are all High Band, but are not programmable. We may have to buy crystals for them.

Ken WA8LLM gave a report on the Williamstown Cross Country Race. Ken said it went off better than the September races. It was suggested that we need to have a critique after each of the activities so we will know what to expect the next time. Followed by a short discussion.

A schedule of events for the last part of 1998 and all of 1999 were handed out. Ken WA8LLM reminded everyone that some of the dates are not firm dates, and are subject to change.

Sam N8SVX gave a report on the Lubeck Fun Run. He said the officials were very well organized and dual communications were helpful since there were several Fire Fighters helping. It was mentioned that when we are contacted by an organization to provide Safety Communications that we ARE NOT traffic control people, that we aren't trained for that.

Ken WA8LLM gave a report on the inventory list. The list keeps getting longer as more equipment is being located. Ken feels the members should know where all of our equipment is at and how it is being used.

The new ARES/Data system "FINDER-1" is still being worked on. There's a chance the new system may be installed at the telephone company where it will have back-up power and can be watched on a daily basis. Hopefully by the next meeting the system may be in operation.

The 75 and 40 Meter Fiberglass antennas are in Mobilcom-1. Lisa KB8UER was curious about an antenna for the second Ten-Tec 555 Scout that will be used as a portable in the field. There was a short discussion about

building some kind of antenna that could be kept with the radio. The antenna needs to be as portable as possible. It was discussed about using "Lay-up" sticks that are used by the power company, telephone company, and cable company as a support for the antenna. Ken will see if he can find were to get any of them. The portable HF station will be equipped with the radio, an antenna, battery, and a power supply.

Ken WA8LLM gave a report on the Walk for Women Breast Cancer Awareness, which was held in the City Park on October 17th. For the walk we decided to use a simplex frequency. We used the frequency of 147.525 Mhz. It should be easy to remember since the last 3 digits are the same as the output of the repeater, except they are scrambled.

Ken WA8LLM gave a report on the retrieval of the eight Public Safety Radios which were purchased by WCEC and installed at the Wood County Emergency Operations Center when it was being built. He also gave a report on how the EOC looked. There was a discussion of using the radios as temporary radios to go into vehicles that may need radios when helping with a disaster. We now have five High Band (150-170 Mhz), two Low Band (30-40 Mhz), and one Low Band (40-50 Mhz) radios setting on a shelf and on the inventory list.

Bob KB8RNE talked about a green light on Mobilcom-1. The light needs to be adjustable so that it can raised identify where the Mobile Command Post is.

NEW BUSINESS

W5YI testing December 12th at 6:00 pm at Eastwood Fire Station.

The Safety Break schedules for Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Years were pasted out. We need to get to work on the Thanksgiving schedule as soon as possible.

Ken WA8LLM brought up for discussion about the purchasing of an MFJ-259B Antenna Analyzer. The cost of the unit is about \$250 dollars.

Bob KB8RNE made a motion, and Sam N8SVX seconded the motion to purchase the unit.

Ken WA8LLM also brought up for discussion about the purchasing of ten MFJ-1274 Dual Band Magnetic Mount antennas at a price of \$14.95, that can be loaned out when one is needed for any emergency radio installation, or when someone forgets theirs. The antennas could be

used with radios such as the Five High Band radios from the EOC. Harold KC8JHG made the motion and, Jeff N8WQO seconded the motion to purchase the antennas.

Ken WA8LLM told about the GPS unit was stolen out of his car along with his mobile packet, cell phone, three walkie-talkies, and all his tools.

Ken WA8LLM said that Don N8NUS made a suggestion to check with the Civil Air Patrol about the use of their building at the Wood County Airport as a home base. Ken wanted to know what the feeling of the group would be since the building is quite a ways out of town. The group thought we should check on the building.

Pictures for ID cards need to be taken, since the present ones will expire December 31st. A few pictures were taken before the meeting started. Ken WA8LLM reminded those present the ID cards are to be used for official use only, and not be used for personal use.

Bob KB8RNE brought up for discussion about a weather monitor to be used at the Safety Breaks. There was a lengthy discussion about purchasing a weather station that can be used at all activities when working in the public and can be taken to HAZMAT incidents to monitor the weather. It was suggested that a weather station which can be used to read rain fall and barometric pressure be purchased. Lisa KB8UER made a motion to purchase a Davis Weather Monitor II, seconded by Harold KC8JHG.

THOSE IN ATTENDANCE

Ken Harris WA8LLM/Unit 251, Judy Peterson N8UFQ/Unit 255, Lisa Hendershot KB8UER/Unit 270, Al Harris N8UBG/Unit 1125, Ken Riffle KB8QPW/Unit 268, Tim Dooley KC8JHE/Unit 273, Harold Dooley KC8JHG/Unit 266, Bob Smith KB8RNE/Unit 264, Sam Mercer N8SVX/Unit 256, Jeff Newton N8WQO/Unit 277