

WOOD COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS INC

January 5, 1999

Meeting called to order at 7:45 PM by Ken Harris, WA8LLM/Unit 251 President. There were 8 members and 2 guests present.

Minutes from the December 1st meeting were read and approved.

The Treasure's report was read and approved.

OLD BUSINESS

There was a discussion about the By-Laws. Ken said there needed to be a way of removing a member who's involvement in the organization had dropped. It was suggested to have a point system like the one that was used when Wood County RACES was an active organization, followed by a discussion. Ken said he would look over the activities and come back with a point system before the February meeting.

Ken WA8LLM gave a report on the new 147.255 Mhz repeater and how it could be put into operation without having the repeater off the air for an extended period of time. The antenna that will be needed to put the new UHF Link Receivers in operation has been acquired and needs to be installed. He also went through a quick run down on the change out procedure of the old repeater and the work that needs to be done.

Maps for the hospitals are still on the drawing table. Ken WA8LLM gave a brief description of why we need the maps. Don N8NUS said there may need to be some changes made at St. Joseph Hospital since there is construction going on in the area that was being used as the main Command Post.

Ken WA8LLM said the modifications to the scanners for Mobilcom-1 were easy. The scanners are now installed, but still need to have power put to them and an antenna installed so they can be used.

Sam N8SVX said the batteries are installed at the Summit tower site, but he's not sure if the power has been connected to them yet. No one has said anything about paying for them yet. We'll just have to wait till we are sent a bill before we can pay for them.

Ken WA8LLM talked about UHF Walkie-Talkies that need to be capable of operating in the Amateur Radio Band. Ken KB8QPW had a Walkie-Talkie

that only cost about \$200 dollars , and is operational on preassigned business frequencies. Don N8NUS talked about the UHF Walkie-Talkies and Midland Repeater that belongs to the West Virginia Special Olympic, but he keeps them with him so he will know where they are at. There was a discussion about making all of the Walkie-Talkies operate on GMRS Channel 6, and add additional Walkies-Talkies. It was suggested to purchase batteries for the Walkie-Talkies that Don has and get some dry battery packs. Sam N8SVX said he would work on getting a license for GMRS Channel 6 for WCEC. There will be further discussion on the Walkie-Talkies.

Nothing much else has been added to the inventory list.

Ken WA8LLM gave a report on the radiation shield that needed to be added to the portable weather station. Ken says he still needs to purchase a compass and level to go with the station. He also needs to get the box built to store the station in.

The ARES/Data "FINDER-1" didn't get put in service yet since the station that it was going to be installed with was used for the Packet station at the Safety Breaks. The station that was normally used at the Safety Breaks was owned by Ken WA8LLM and was stolen out of his car in October. The Packet station that was used this time was the one that Ken WA8LLM uses at the telephone company. There was a discussion about purchasing a Packet station and a Voice station that would be left in the concession trailer.

The 75 Meter and 40 Meter antennas are installed on Mobilcom-1. One of the Ten-Tec 555 Scout has been installed in Mobilcom-1 and is in operation. The station has been used several times to check into the West Virginia Phone Net.

Ken WA8LLM gave a report on the Civil Air Patrol building. Ken WA8LLM and Ken KB8QPW went to the building to see how much room was available. The room which would be assigned to WCEC wasn't big enough to install very many Public Safety radios. There was going to be a restriction on

how the antennas could be installed. If the room was only going to be used for an HF and/or VHF station/s there would be plenty of room. They were only going to allow one person to have a key to the building, which was going to be inconvenient for others that would want to go to the building and do additional work from time to time. It was the general consensus of the group to hold off making a commitment on the use of the building for the time being, and search for a location without so many restrictions. There was a short discussion about the community building on Laurel Creek road.

There was another holdup on the installation of the antennas on the Quincy Hill tower. Sam N8SVX says there will have to be another sector added to the tower.

#### NEW BUSINESS

The radiation shield has already been purchased and installed on the weather station.

Ken WA8LLM told about the Rockport receiver being missing, followed by a short discussion.

A 450 Mhz antenna has already been purchased for use as a receive antenna at the Sand Hill tower site for the repeater Link Receivers.

W5YI testing will be February 13, 1999 at Eastwood Fire station at 6:00 pm.

Mobilcom-1 update was given. A new alternator and belts were installed because of the intermittent problem of charging and discharging.

Ken WA8LLM would like to hold a Trustee's meeting, but do to the bad weather only one of the Trustee's was at the meeting. Ken gave a report on how records are kept up.

Since the Packet and Voice stations that used to be in the concession trailer were installed in Mobilcom-1, there was a discussion about purchasing new ones to install in the trailer. Bob KB8RNE made a motion to purchase a new Voice and Packet station, seconded by Phil KB8GBE and pasted by all.

Letters need to be sent in to request the Safety Breaks for 1999. Ken KB8QPW will send a letter for DAREN of West Virginia, Ken WA8LLM will

send one for WCEC, and Sam says he will send one for ARES.

There was a discussion about getting Mobilcom-1 painted. Bob KB8RNE said he would check around and try to find a place to get it painted. There still needs to get some body work on it.

It was suggested that an investigation back ground check be added to the By-Laws, and also to have a lawyer or Ginny Conley look them over. Ken WA8LLM will work up a release paper that can be used to authorize a back-ground check.

#### THOSE IN ATTENDANCE

Judy Peterson N8UFQ/Unit 255, Ken Harris WA8LLM/Unit 251, Ken Riffle KB8QPW/Unit 268, Don Williams N8NUS/Unit 1111, Sam Mercer N8SVX/Unit 256, Bob Smith KB8RNE/Unit 264, Phil Newhart KB8GBE/Unit 275, Lisa Hendershot KB8UER/Unit 270, Ray Bodie N8TWV, guest.