

WOOD COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS INC

July 6, 1999

Meeting called to order at 7:03 PM by Ken Harris, WA8LLM/Unit 251 President. There were 12 members present.

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

The Treasure's report was read and approved.

OLD BUSINESS

Work on new 147.255 repeater is continuing on at a dedicated pace. Ken WA8LLM gave a report on the problems that he and Sam N8SVX found on June 12th when they went to the tower site. He said that three out of the four link receivers that were out of service, on the old repeater, were power problems on the receiver boards and were able to be fixed, but the fourth receiver for St Marys link has an audio problem and needed additional repair. He also gave a report on the changing of the batteries at the Sand Hill tower site. The auxiliary receiver shelf was also installed in the old repeater cabinet to get ready to cut over to the new repeater.

Sam gave a report on the UHF Walkie-Talkies that we may get is on hold right now, it seems there is a person at the same plant who is trying to get the Walkie-Talkies for his fire department. He is in the process of getting the proper FCC License Form and instructions for the GMRS license.

Ken WA8LLM says the installation of the ARES/Data system FINDER-1 is on hold for awhile due to a lot of other activities and since there is a computer on the main system (FINDER) that operates on batteries and should stay in service.

Sam N8SVX gave a report on the properties that he has looked at for a place to build a base of operations building and possible tower site. So far he hasn't found what we are looking for, in the price range that we can afford.

Sam gave a report on the tower on Quincy Hill. He says the new section of tower hasn't been installed yet, so none of the antennas that are to go on it are installed, including the one for the 147.255 Remote Receiver. The longer the old tower stays in place the more time we

have to get the new Remote Receiver ready for the move.

Judy N8UFQ gave a report on the Half Marathon coming up August 21st. She says she has a couple of Water Stops and a couple Mile Markers that still need to be covered. The T-Shirts have been ordered, hopefully she will have the right size T-Shirt for anyone wanting to help now. Judy wanted to know what size Al N8UBG wears since he did write a program that saves the race committee many hours worth of work.

Reports were given about the Independence Day safety break. The next safety break will be Labor Day if we get it.

The Triathlon will be on July 10th, four operators have already said they will go Blennerhassett Island and would like to have one more, since the foot race and bicycle race will be held on the island. Anna KC8JWW said she would go to the island. A short discussion followed.

Ken KB8QPW gave a report on the River Sweep that was held June 19th.

Ken WA8LLM told about a letter that was received from Mountwood Park, thanking us for the communications help at the Challenge at Mountwood Bike Race.

Ken WA8LLM gave a report on the Mountain Classic 10K road run and 4K walk held on June 12th, 1999. Mobilcom-1 was positioned on top of Broad Street hill to have a better advantage of communications, since the race communications was held on a Simplex frequency. The new Family Radio Service radios were used as a back-up radio to see how they would work around the course. Ken KB8QPW talked about riding in the lead vehicle (a police cruiser) and a short conversation between him and the Police Officer about getting a trunking radio installed in Mobilcom-1.

Reports on Field Day were discussed. Items like the new Inverted "V" antennas were discussed and the minor problem with the new UPS' not being able to operate from the generators that were used. It was explained how the problem was overcome. Ken WA8LLM said he will bring one of the UPS' to the next meeting. It was discussed about operating six meters next year at Field Day and maybe more transmitters if we can get the help to operate them. It was discussed about running a 100 watt radio using a 5 amp power supply and how it worked using two 25

amp batteries.

Bob KB8RNE wanted to know if there would be any boats available at the TRIATHLON to help rescue any victims. He was informed that there will be Coast Guard and DNR boats on the river, and there should be radio communications with them. If we have extra radio operators there and they want to, they could go on the boats, if the boat operator had room.

Bob also wanted to know the status of painting of Mobilcom-1. He said that Deaton's Garage on Route 2 above the Hill House would like to see Mobilcom-1 and they would try to give us an estimate. Their telephone number is 485-3460. Ken WA8LLM said that he would take Mobilcom-1 to Deaton's after the TRIATHLON for them to look at.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Ken WA8LLM said that he purchased 10 more of the Family Radio Service walkie-talkies. Ken talked about one of the walkie-talkies not wanting to turn off, so it may be used as a Simplex repeater.

Ken WA8LLM told about some Motorola UHF business repeaters that may be available from AT&T. AT&T no longer uses UHF radio since they are now using Satellite Cellular Telephone. While Ken was over talking to AT&T he picked up UHF mobile units that were going to be headed for the land fill. A few days later AT&T had another box of junk they were going to get rid of. There were three Motorola HT-220 walkie-talkies with chargers. One of the guys that is helping us get the radios is wanting to get one for himself to make an Amateur repeater. There is supposed to be somewhere between 6 and 10 of the repeaters available. Ken has already promised one to the AT&T radio technician. When and if we can get our hands on the UHF Repeater Ken is hoping to strike a deal with Miller Communications about getting some of them on the air as community repeaters and have access to each of them for use by the organization.

Ken also talked about another possibility of getting radios from the Wayne National Forest. He will be sending a letter to them so that we can get on the list of receiving used VHF Hi Band radios when they change out their old system. Other agencies will have first refusal on the radios before we get a chance at them.

Anna KC8JWW says that Walk for Women Breast Cancer is October 9th,

further information will come in the future.

Harold KC8JHG talked about JUST a possibility of acquiring the tower site on Lee's Hill when Route 50 goes through that area. He's not for sure about any of the particulars but the cable company MAY abandon the site since they may not be able to get to it. He suggested that we get in contact with Earl KB8HRG, followed by a short discussion.

Ryan KC8IOG asked about running a Special Event Station during Volcano Days. He said he will head up the project and contact the Amateur Radio Magazines to let them know about it. Ken WA8LLM will talk to the officials of Volcano Days to let them know what our ideas are. Ryan will research and take appropriate action.

It was also mentioned about getting magnetic signs that could be placed on personal vehicles during communications events. Sam N8SVX said he would check on prices from Scott and Stacy Miller. We also need to check with other sign makers.

Bob KB8RNE made a motion to adjourn, Sam N8SVX seconded.

#### THOSE IN ATTENDANCE

Ken Harris WA8LLM/Unit 251, Judy Peterson N8UFQ/Unit 255, Lisa Hendershot KB8UER/Unit 270, Anna Hendershot, KC8JWW/Unit 262, Tim Dooley KC8JHE/Unit 273, Bob Smith KB8RNE/Unit 264, Sam Mercer N8SVX/Unit 256, Harold Dooley KC8JHG/Unit 266, Al Harris N8UBG/Unit 1125, Ken Riffle KB8QPW/Unit 268, Ryan Sarvis KC8IOG/Unit 271, Don Williams N8NUS/Unit 1111,