

WOOD COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS INC
February 5, 2002

The meeting was called to order at about 7:01 pm at the E-911 Center, by Ken Harris, WA8LLM/Unit 251 President. There were 16 members and 6 guests present.

Minutes from the January 2, 2002 meeting were read and approved.

The Treasurer's report was read and approved.

OLD BUSINESS

Ken, WA8LLM, reported on the present 147.255 repeater. He described how he was able to remove the intermod problems with the remote receivers, by using rebuilt filters out of old Motorola two-way radios. Since he has been working on the intermod problem, he hasn't done anything to the new 147.255 repeater.

Ken, WA8LLM, says that nothing has changed about getting MOBILCOM -1 painted before next Spring.

Ken, WA8LLM, says that Sam, N8SVX, hasn't got back to him about the dozer operator, that may be able to dig the basement of the new base of operations building. It will have to be done when the weather gets better.

Lisa, KB8UER, said she's got some of the Latitude and Longitude readings from some of the area Amateurs. She just needs to put them on the map of area amateurs.

Duane, N8LDM, says he talked to Karen, N8KVU about setting up a Website site for the organization. Later in the meeting Karen came to the meeting and there was a lengthy discussion on how she would be able to help us get a website set up.

The updating of the ARES Plan can now be done, Ray, KC8RUJ, is the Assistant Emergency Coordinator representing the Parkersburg Amateur Radio Klub.

Ken, WA8LLM, said the unpaid bills are no problem, they will be paid when we have one of our Safety Breaks.

Ken, WA8LLM, said he needs to find the letter that Ken, KB8QPW, has typed up. The letter needs to be taken to the County Commission to get their signature stating that we are an integral part of county before we can get permission to purchase material from the Federal surplus. Ken said that we had received four new State Surplus cards in the mail with no pictures, and no explanation of what they are for.

Ken, WA8LLM, reminded the group of the W5YI testing on February 9. Anyone passing their code will be receiving one of the new code certificates.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he picked up the walkie/talkies that was given to the organization. There was nine radios and they came with a rack charger that holds 12 radios. They also have some of the vehicular chargers with speakers and microphones. The walkie/talkies are two channel radios that require crystals. They also have no batteries with them. There are no immediate plans on what will be done with the radio since it will cost about a 100 dollars apiece to get crystals and batteries to get them into operation. If nothing else, they could be taken to a Hamfest and be sold.

Three of the Safety Break letters have been delivered to the Department of Highways. Don, N8NUS, is supposed to get the dates and times so that he can mail one in to make a total of four. The first safety break, if we get it, will be Easter which will be the end of March.

Ken, WA8LLM, said he has started a list of activities for 2002. He will be making contact with some of the activity coordinators.

Judy, N8UFQ, reminded everyone the Parkersburg Half Marathon is going to be held again this year, but under new management. The race will be held on August 17th.

We haven't heard anything about when Craft 2000 will be holding their activity and will be needing our canopy.

Lisa, KB8UER, asked about the Amateur Radio classes that we had talked about. Ken, WA8LLM, said that he had received a telephone call from Blaine, WA8IOE, about not holding a class, since the Parkersburg Amateur Radio Klub would be starting their class on February 12th.

NEW BUSINESS

Ken, WA8LLM, says that he received a letter from Mountwood Park, stating there will be a Challenge At Mountwood, Mountain Bike Race. The race will be held on Sunday, April 7th. They also would like to have our canopy in case the weather doesn't agree with them. Ken will be making contact with them to let them know we will be there. The letter also says there will be a Volcano Days Pepsi Run to be held on September 28, 2002.

Ken, WA8LLM, says the Children's Bike Rodeo will be held on May 4th, the only way that WCEC gets involved is the use of the canopy, tables, chairs, and Public Address system.

Ken, WA8LLM, said the Brundage Schoolboy Regatta will be held on May 18, but that is also Dayton Hamfest weekend.

Harold, N8KO, asked about the remote receiver site at Rockport or Limestone Hill. He may have a location to install a remote receiver, but he needed to know how much power it would run. Ken, WA8LLM, said that as a general rule of thumb, it takes about the same amount of power as a 50 watt light bulb. Ken said that we need to talk to Rick Bibee about the EMS Site at Rockport since we still have the two antennas on the tower. We need to look for some dual band radios since we know we can do away with any intermod problems. We would like to install a remote receiver at St. Marys at the same site as the DAREN NODE on top of Rt 16 Hill. Ken would also like to talk to the Ritchie County telephone company about installing a remote receiver on their tower site where there are already two antennas hanging.

Ray, N8TWV, says the Public Hearing for the Cellular Tower Ordinance will be held at the Court House on February 14, 2002, at 10:00 am. We need to have some support at the hearing to make sure they don't remove the Amateur Radio antenna exceptions. Ken also said there is a bill in state legislation about making sure that counties in West Virginia, make sure that they accommodate Amateur Radio as far as towers and antennas are concerned.

Terry, KC8AOF, talked about getting the used consoles that are no longer being used by REACOM. The consoles could be installed in the new Base of Operation building when it is ready. He said there may be some other consoles in Wheeling or Morgantown that may also be available. The equipment would need to be turned over to Wood County Emergency Services, and then it could then be turned over to WCEC. They could then be connected to Public Safety radios and could be used as a back-up communications system. Terry explained how the county back-up communications system would work at the present time.

Harold, N8KO, talked about Ohio setting up a Homeland Security program. He thinks that West Virginia may be starting the same thing. He says that each county is to have a planning committee. He thinks there should be a representative from WCEC that would be a member on that committee. Terry, KC8AOF, says that Wood County already has a Anti-Terrorism plan that has been in the making for the past three years. Ed, KG8JR, talked about the Ohio Homeland Security. A lengthy discussion followed

Mike, KC8JWR, said his mother (Regena Lott) would teach an Incident Command Class, if the group would be interested. The class would be a two day class (16 Hours) and she could teach it in March. Mike will get a firm date on which weekend she would be available.

There was a discussion about SKYWARN classes. There is none scheduled at this time.

THOSE IN ATTENDANCE

Ken Harris WA8LLM/Unit 251, Dot Harris KC8HAI/Unit 258, Lisa Hendershot KB8UER/Unit 270, Cathy Harris KC8DJJ/Unit 257, Mike Lott KC8JWR/Unit 267, Judy Peterson N8UFQ/Unit 255, Anna Hendershot, KC8JWW/Unit 262, Harold Dooley KC8JHG/Unit 266, Ray Bodie N8TWV/Unit 278, Tim Dooley, N8WO Unit 273, Jeannia Dooley N8JMD/Unit 269, Ken Riffle KB8QPW/Unit 268, Duane Jones N8LDM/Unit 260, Ray Johnson KC8RUJ/Unit 292, Kevin Harris KC8OXY/Unit 253, Karen Stump, N8KVU/Unit 261. Guests: Ed Reno KG8JR, Charlie Helmick W8JZN, Carol Myers, Danni Jones, Scott Jones, Terry Brown KC8AOF/WCES-1.