

WOOD COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS INC

March 5, 2002

The meeting was called to order at about 7:03 pm at the E-911 Center, by Ken Harris, WA8LLM/Unit 251 President. There were 16 members and 2 guests present.

Minutes from the February 5, 2002 meeting were read and approved.

The Treasurer's report was read and approved.

OLD BUSINESS

Ken, WA8LLM, reported that he has combined all the link transmitters and link receivers together so they would all be in one location so they can start to be assembled.

Ken, WA8LLM, says that he wants to leave the painting of MOBILCOM-1 on the agenda so that it won't be forgot about, and we will try to get it painted this summer.

Mike, KC8JWR, says he got a price on bulldozer work for the new base of operations building. He says the price is 310 dollars a day. There needs to be no insurance, and they need a two weeks notice to get the bulldozer. All we need to do is get an operator. Judy, N8UFQ, said that if we would rent the bulldozer that Tim Graham would operate it at 75 dollars an hour. She also said that Tim is in the process of getting he license to install septic systems and that he knows someone who can lay blocks. It was decided to have Tim do the work as soon as the weather gets better.

Lisa, KB8UER, had some of the area maps of Amateurs at the meeting. It was discussed about the Latitude and Longitude readings from QRZ. It was explained the Latitude and Longitude readings of the FCC database is that of the Post Office building of the licensee address. The Latitude and Longitude readings need to be taken at the actual house location.

Duane, N8LDM, says he talked to Karen, N8KVU, and she is having trouble with her computer and hasn't been able to get anything built on our website. He said that her computer crashed as well as her server. Ken, WA8LLM, said that he is sending Karen an unstapled, unfolded newsletter.

Ken, WA8LLM, said there was very little updating that needed to be done on the ARES Plan, just the updating of the names of the new Assistant ECs, and a little re-wording. There should be a few copies of the plan at the next meeting.

Ken, WA8LLM, said the unpaid bills can stay there until we get our first Safety Break.

Ken, KB8QPW, says he still has a copy of the letter that needs to be sent to the surplus in Charleston. He says the letter needs to be typed on County Commission letterhead and signed by the County Commission. If Ken, WA8LLM, gets a chance he will try to talk to Ken Merritt about getting that letter signed. Harold, N8KO, says that he would go with Ken Harris to talk to Ken Merritt when the time comes.

A copy of the list of activities was available at the meeting. There was a lot of activities that don't have dates yet. It was discussed about the Easter Safety Break. Everyone was to look over the schedule to see when they could work, just in case we get the Easter Safety Break.

Challenge at Mountwood is still scheduled for April 7. Ken, WA8LLM said that he talked to Craig at Mountwood Park and told him there would be Amateur Radio Operators there to provide the safety communications.

Children's Bike Rodeo will be held on May 4. The only activity there will be the setting up of the canopy, tables, and chairs.

The Brundage School Boy Regatta may be on May 18th. If that's the case there Ken, WA8LLM, and Sam, N8SVX, won't be able to help since that is the Dayton Hamfest weekend. Ken hasn't heard from the organizers of the event since last year.

Harold, N8KO, said he hasn't talked to the girl that he knows about the site in the Rockport area where we may be able to put a Remote Receiver for the 147.255 repeater. It was discussed about getting some more dual band radios to be used as Remote Receivers. Harold asked if it would be better if we just went back to the EMS site to put the Remote Receiver. Ken, WA8LLM said Sam, N8SVX, has tuned up five of the GE MASTR II receivers, and that all we would have to do is interface them with the GE Walkie/Talkies that we have. The only problem would be is walkie/talkies will be on the wrong frequencies and the new repeater would have to be finished before we can use them. Harold also talked about a location on Bogal Ridge just off of Rt 21 that might be a good location for a Remote Receiver. Ken said that we should look in some of the ads for some used dual band radios or some single band UHF walkie/talkies that could used as link transmitters connected to the GE MASTR II receivers, they could be set to any UHF frequency and then be changed when the new repeter gets on line. It was also suggested we check with Radio Shack for discounts on Amateur Radios.

Ray, N8TWV, talked about the Cellular Tower hearing at the County

Commission. The commission is not going to do anything to affect antennas owned and erected by Amateur Radio. Ken, WA8LLM, explained about the PRB-1 legislation that is pending at state level.

Duane, N8LDM, said that everything is a go with the old REACOM consoles that were at the city building. He said that we need to take a pick-up truck to Fairmont and bring back the consoles that are over there. Ken, WA8LLM, asked Duane what ever happened to the other radios that were over at the old EOC. Duane said that he had taken the Ten-Tec HF radios to his house to try and get them to work.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he and Dot, KC8HAI, went to the Wood County Court House to listen to Governor Wise talk about the Homeland Security program, called WV WATCH, that is being started in West Virginia. Ken said that Bob Tebay, told him that this is a program that WCEC needs to get involved with.

Mike, KC8JRW, gave a report on the Incident Command System class that will be held on March 23rd and 24th. Any one wanting to take the class needs to show up 8:00 am at the RESA V training center in South Side.

NEW BUSINESS

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he and Ken, KB8QPW have been doing some work at the Red Cross. They have now set aside a room that is being turned into a communications room. WCEC has purchased a new eight foot table and installed in the room. Holes have already been drilled so that coax cable can be ran to the roof. They have installed a new lock going into the communications room. Don Hale, N8EVP, gave us a working computer that has been installed for the packet station. All of the equipment located in the communications room will belong to WCEC. Ken and Ken talked about putting up an HF antenna and possibly installing a 47 mHz station so that we can talk to the ERV-1071. We need to spend a day down there working on the Red Cross generator to get it to run. Harold, N8KO, says we need to make start a log that can be signed when someone has made a visit at the Red Cross communications room.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that when he talked to Craig at Mountwood Park, Craig said that Adventure Pursuit was going to hold their Triathlon on Saturday, July 6th at Mountwood Park this year. They changed the location because they couldn't use the Blennerhassett Island, and be off of it by 10:00 am as requested by the Island Manager.

The schedule for the Easter Safety Break was pasted around to be filled out just in case we get the Safety Break.

Ken, WA8LLM, talked about using the copy machine to make copies of the newsletter. He has taken two blank toner cartridges to Fanelli Boys to have them refilled. A new cartridge cost about \$137, a refilled

cartridge costs \$49.95. It's going to be cheaper to have them refilled. Ken said that as soon as we get the Internet site in operation, the newsletter will be put on there and the newsletter mailing list will be cut down.

Harold, N8KO, asked about the ARRL Emergency Communications training, levels One, Two, and Three. Ken, WA8LLM talked about the State Office of Emergency Services possibly issuing a State Wide ID card. It's possible that those wanting to carry a State ID card will have to take and pass the ARRL Emergency Communications Level One. Ken says that Skip, K8SOR, is taking a course that will make him an instructor. If he becomes an instructor he will be able to teach the course and the only cost of the course will be minimal. Duane, N8LDM, said that at one of the state meetings that he attended, it was mentioned that training may become available for communications, and that Amateur Radio was mentioned. A short discussion followed.

THOSE IN ATTENDANCE

Ken Harris WA8LLM/Unit 251, Dot Harris KC8HAI/Unit 258, Cathy Harris KC8DJJ/Unit 257, Mike Lott KC8JWR/Unit 267, Lisa Hendershot KB8UER/Unit 270, Ken Riffle KB8QPW/Unit 268, Jeff Newton N8WQO/Unit 277, Harold Dooley N8KO/Unit 266, Tim Dooley, N8WO Unit 273, Ray Bodie N8TWV/Unit 278, Anna Hendershot, KC8JWW/Unit 262, Al Harris N8UBG/Unit R-25, Judy Peterson N8UFQ/Unit 255, Duane Jones N8LDM/Unit 260, Ray Johnson KC8RUJ/Unit 292. Guests: Judy Dugan, Charlie Helmick W8JZN, Jane Harris