

WOOD COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS INC
March 4, 2003

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm by Ken Harris, WA8LLM/Unit 251 President. There were 28 members and guests present.

Minutes from the February 4, 2003 meeting were read and approved.

The Treasurer's report was read and approved.

OLD BUSINESS

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the 147.255 repeater. He said that with the little skiff of snow that we have gotten in the last month has prevented him from making a trip to the tower site. He has however been working on one of the plug-in cards that will be used for alarms and courtesy beep. The courtesy beep, under normal conditions, will be in CW the letter "N". If there is a fuse blown somewhere in the repeater system the courtesy beep will change to the letter "F". If the commercial power goes off at the tower site, the courtesy beep will be the letter "P". During any net the courtesy beep will be change to the letters "N E T". If the repeater transmitter stays up for four continuous minutes, it will time out and quit transmitting. About thirty seconds before the four minute time out, the courtesy beep will change to "4 BEEPS". Ken also explained about the 123.0 hz encoding tone that is transmitted anytime there is a received signal. The tone can be used for those who use cross-band repeat, and also allow other repeaters to be linked together.

Ken, WA8LLM, says that we will not be able to do anything on the Base of Operation building until Spring when the ground dries up.

Lisa, KB8UER, brought copies of a Map of Area Amateurs that would be passed out. If there are any changes or additions to the map, let Lisa know.

Ken, KB8QPW, gave a report on the Website. He says that new links and topics are being added to the site each month. Ken says the best way to find out what is on the website is to connect to it and look around.

Ken, WA8LLM, says he is still working on a letter to the Wood County Commission so that we can purchase surplus material on the Federal side at Dunbar. Ken says we need to make a trip to Dunbar to see if there's anything is worth purchasing.

Ken, WA8LLM, said the Parkersburg Amateur Radio Klub is teaching an on the air code class and that we should hold off starting another class until they are finished with their class. The class is being held at about 8:00 pm every Tuesday on the 147.39 repeater.

Ken, WA8LLM, explained what all has been done to get insurance for MOBILECOM-1. He found a company that will provide insurance, but it's \$1400. About 25 percent of the cost has been paid, and there will be nine monthly payments of \$128.05. After Ken had already got the insurance, Ron Harmon, suggested that he talk to Craig Little of Allstate insurance. Ken found out that Allstate won't provide coverage for a commercial vehicle, but if MOBILECOM-1 was in an individual's name that he could provide the insurance at a cost of from \$50 to \$450 a year, depending on how often the vehicle is used. Ken said the insurance would be suspended during the times it's not used. All we would have to do is call Allstate anytime that we're going to put it on the road, anytime of the day or night. Ken made a proposal to buy, on paper only, MOBILECOM-1, and purchase the insurance. Al, N8UBG, made a motion to sell MOBILCOM-1, on paper only, to Ken, WA8LLM, motion seconded by Jennifer, KC8UYB. Motion passed by all. There was a discussion whether the WC8EC license plate could still be left on the vehicle, since Ken is the trustee of the Amateur license. Ken said that he would see what could be done.

Ken, KB8QPW, is still working on E-Mail addresses, and putting them on the "Members Only" area of the Website.

Ken, WA8LLM, is working on the BINGO applications. He doesn't want to send them in until we get MOBILECOM-1 insurance straightened out. It's going to cost us \$300 for the licenses, \$100 each.

Ken, KB8QPW, said that he has ordered the Emergency Communications books and they should be coming any day. Ken, WA8LLM, said he had a little concern about ordering the books since he had heard on the West Virginia FONE Net there may be a six week delay due to the printing of the new books. When he ordered the books, KB8QPW also ordered a movie about Amateur Radio. The movie is only about six minutes long.

There was a short discussion on where we would operate Field Day. There were several locations suggested, but there was no determination if we are going to operate Field Day. There is a new rule that would allow us to operate Field Day at an Emergency Operations Center.

The Pamphlets "Citizens' Preparedness Guide" which were supposed to be at last month's meeting were available at this month's meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Ken, WA8LLM, said that we do have the Safety Break over the Easter Holiday weekend, April 18th, 19th, and 20th. A Safety Break Schedule was passed around for those who could take a shift.

There will be W5YI testing on April 12th at 6:00 pm at the E-911

Center.

Ken, WA8LLM, talked about starting some kind of short training session maybe a half hour or so, after the meeting. There are a lot of little things that can be taught, or gone over. Items like what kind of equipment is in MOBILECOM-1, how to set up some of the Portable Packet stations, the weather station, or antennas that are in MOBILECOM-1. Ideas on what can be taught can be brought up at the meetings.

Ken, WA8LLM, talked about an 800 mHz radio for the Joint Emergency Management (JEM) Net. Jim Rose of the Ohio Valley Health Department wanted to know if we were going to install a JEMNET radio in MOBILECOM-1. At the present time Marietta Memorial, Camden Clark, and St. Joseph's Hospitals are on the system. There are radios at the Parkersburg and Marietta Red Cross, the Ohio Valley Health Department, and at the E-911 Center. There are plans to install 800 mHz radios in the Wetzell and Tyler County Hospitals, and the Personal Care Center in Wirt County. Jim Rose has been talking to the Parkersburg Police Department about programming their 800 mHz radio for the JEMNET. Ken told Jim that at the present time WCEC couldn't afford buying the radio. Ken, KB8QPW, suggested that we lease or rent to own a radio from Miller Communications. A short discussion followed.

Duane, N8LDM, and Terry, KC8AOF, wanted to know if any of the members of WCEC wanted to fill out applications to be members of a Wood County Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES). By being registered as RACES, members would be covered under the Wood County Emergency Services Workmen's Compensation. There was a short discussion about the RACES program. Several WCEC members filled out RACES applications and turned them back in.

Duane, N8LDM, had a video tape of "Shelter In Place" that was shown after the meeting.

THOSE IN ATTENDANCE

Ken Harris WA8LLM/Unit 251, Dot Harris KC8HAI/Unit 258, Cathy Harris KC8DJJ/Unit 257, Paul Brillman KC8UHH/Unit 262, Charlie Helmick W8JZN/Unit 286, Dannie Jones KC8VSR, Tricia Magyarosi KC8VLI/Unit 294, Krista Mills KC8VLJ/Unit 295, Denise Magyarosi-Mills KC8TUF/Unit 290, Brad Carabine KC8TYU/Unit 287, Rick Greene KC8VLM/Unit 265, Jennifer Greene KC8UYB/Unit 264, Judy Peterson N8UFQ/Unit 255, Anna Hendershot, KC8JWW/Unit 262, Lisa Hendershot KB8UER/Unit 270, Mike Davis KC8SIP/Unit 279, Pam Davis KC8VPN, Larry Wotring KC8TRQ/Unit 261, Al Harris N8UBG/Unit R-25, Ray Bodie N8TWV/Unit 278, Carol Myers KC8TUD/Unit 293, Ray Johnson KC8RUJ/Unit 292, Duane Jones N8LDM/Unit 260, Roger McGee KB8QPX/Unit 271, Mike Lott KC8JWR/Unit 267, Ryan Riser, Kyle Riser, Ken Riffle KB8QPW/Unit 268,

