

WOOD COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS INC
September 2, 2003

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Ken Harris, WA8LLM/Unit 251 President. There were 27 members and guests present.

Minutes from the August 5, 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 system. He said the power may be down on the repeater transmitter. He has had a few reports that said the repeater doesn't sound as strong as it used to. He said the Rockport Remote Receiver may be off the air. There have been some mobiles going through that area that were not able to get into the repeater from that location. He will make a trip down there as soon as he gets his truck back from repair. While he was at the Jackson's Mill Hamfest, he got to talk to Dirk Burnside, WD8PAD, who works for the State of West Virginia Department of Highways. Dirk said that we could mount a cabinet on the side of the transmitter building at the Elizabeth Hill tower site. The site would be used for a remote receiver for the repeater and a DAREN Packet NODE/PBBS. He said that we could also re-install a cabinet on the Wetzel County tower site and mount new antennas on the new tower. The tower site at Wetzel County would be used for an Army MARS Packet Station. Max Barker, KC8JHI, has a site that he is installing a tower for some of his radio work. Several WCEC members went to the tower site on Sunday and helped clean up the site. Those who helped were Kevin, KC8OXY, Terry, KC8TUE, Denise, KC8TUF, Brad, KC8TYU, Tricia, KC8VLI, Krista, KC8VLJ, Don, N8NUS, and himself. Trees were cut and holes for the tower and guy wire anchors were dug. Ken is going to install a sixty foot tower that would be used for a remote receiver for the 147.255 repeater. That might be a good spot for a local receiver for the repeater since it's only a couple of air miles from the repeater transmitter. All we have to do is pour concrete. The only problem with the site, is there is no electricity. We will need to use an alternate power source such as solar panels. It won't take much power, maybe a 100 millawatts to get to the transmitter site. He also talked about the Pleasant County remote receiver. The Pleasants County Emergency Services Director said a new tower is going to be built, and that we can move our remote receiver, and DAREN Packet station to that site. It is a higher location than where we are now. We now have plenty of tower sites, but we need to find some dual band radios to be used for remote receivers. Miller Communications made a survey of the Quincy Hill tower site and found there was no more room for any antennas or transmission line. Randy, WB8OHX, has an idea of using the Parkersburg PD antenna as a receive antenna for other services by using a set of duplexers and

filtering out the signals of the Parkersburg PD transmitter. It's possible that we may be able to tap off of the Sheriff Department receive antenna. Duane, N8LDM, said that Terry, KC8AOF, approved the use of the E-911 tower on a temporary basis until we can get Quincy back on.

It was discussed about the Jack Whittaker Foundation grant. Since the foundation may not be in existence any more, it was decided not to do any more with it.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the Homecoming BINGO games. We were down about 400 dollars from last year, and last year we were down around 400 dollars from the previous year. Ken passed around a paper that showed the amount of money that we have made on BINGO and Safety Breaks from 1992.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the Half Marathon. There was a little bit of a problem at the start, but it went pretty good.

The FT-1500 radios went from 180 dollars down to 160 dollars. Four of them have been purchased. Three of them were installed in MOBILECOM-1 the week before the Homecoming. The radios were used to monitor the activities after the fireworks display went wrong. The fourth radio will be installed in the dash of MOBILECOM-1 when we can find a way to mount it. The two Johnson radios that were replaced will be re-mounted in MOBILCOM-1 on slide-in mounts so they can be put in the concession trailer whenever it goes somewhere. That way the concession trailer can be used as a second mobile communications unit.

There was a reminder of the W5YI testing on October 11th.

Duane, N8LDM, passed out the T-Shirts from the Vienna Road Race.

There was a reminder of the Volcano Days BINGO September 26th, 27th, and 28th, and the PEPSI/Volcano Day Cross County race on the 27th.

NEW BUSINESS

There will be High School Invitational Cross County races on September 27th, at the Wood County Fairgrounds in Mineral Wells. Sammy, N8SVX, will coordinate the races at the fairgrounds. Sammy needs anyone that won't be going to Volcano Days to help with the races. On Tuesday, September 30th, the High School Cross County finals will be held at the same location. Help will be needed at them too. They will be held in the evening.

Denise, KC8TUF, had an idea of purchasing folding Sports Chairs to be sold at the Parkersburg Homecoming. She worked with Wal*Mart and purchased 50 plus chairs for 150 dollars. There were enough chairs

sold at 10, 8, or 6 dollars to covers the cost of the chairs. The rest of the chairs could be sold at Volcano Days at 5 or 6 dollars. We can now also purchase additional equipment at Wal*Mart using our tax exempt status.

Ken, WA8LLM, talked about Boy Scout Jamboree On The Air (JOTA). Ken talked to the Boy Scout Council about holding the activity. JOTA will be held October 18th and 19th.

Ken, WA8LLM, talked about the Level One Emergency Communications Course. He thinks he will try to teach the course and then have a test group come to Wood County and do the testing.

Ken, WA8LLM, passed around a Simulated Emergency Test (SET) award that Wood County Emergency Communications won by having the highest score last year during a disaster drill. We can keep the plaque for one year and then send it back, unless we can get the highest score again this year.

There was a reminder of the Advanced Skywarn class which would be held on Tuesday at 7:00 pm, September 23rd, 2003, at the Civil Air Patrol building at the Wood County Airport.

Judy, N8UFQ, took digital pictures of some of the members who were present so that we can start making up ID Cards for next year.

THOSE IN ATTENDANCE

Judy Peterson N8UFQ/Unit 255, Anna Hendershot, KC8JWW/Unit 262, Cathy Harris KC8DJJ/Unit 257, Charlie Helmick W8JZN/Unit 286, Dannie Jones KC8VSR/Unit 260, Duane Jones N8LDM/Unit ES-2, Dot Harris KC8HAI/Unit 258, Ken Harris WA8LLM/Unit 251, Ken Riffle KB8QPW/Unit 268, Kevin Harris KC8OXY/Unit 253, Addie Boyles, Ray Bodie N8TWV/Unit 278, Roger McGee KB8QPX/Unit 271, Carol Myers KC8TUD/Unit 293, Ray Johnson KC8RUJ/Unit 292, Mike Davis KC8SIP/Unit 279, Pam Davis KC8VPN/Unit 281, Terry Mills KC8TUE/Unit 289, Denise Magyarosi-Mills KC8TUF/Unit 290, Krista Mills KC8VLJ/Unit 295, Rick Greene KC8VLM/Unit 265, Jennifer Greene KC8UYB/Unit 264, Sam Mercer N8SVX/Unit 256, Ryan Riser, Kyle Riser, Jeff Scott KC8EEQ/Unit 282, Charles Dotson WB8NSL