

WOOD COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS INC

April 6, 2004

The meeting was called to order at 7.00 pm by Ken Harris, WA8LLM/Unit 251 President. There were 25 and 8.9/9 members and guests present.

Minutes from the March 2, 2004 meeting were read and approved.

The Treasurer's report was read and approved.

OLD BUSINESS

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the new 147.255 repeater. He said that he and Ken, KB8QPW, put the UHF Filter that Earl Hulce, KB8HRG, had built, on the UHF Link receivers, and it seems to be working, but only time will tell. They also changed the coupling capacitors that tie the UHF Links Receiver audio to the Voter so the audio won't be so basey. The audio quality of the repeater sounds a lot better. They only changed the capacitors on the first four Link Receivers so as to make sure it was going to work. The other four receivers still need to be modified, but they are not being used yet. He said we now need to get some more Remote Receivers put into operation. There are only three Remote Receivers on the system, one at the 911 Center, one in Williamstown, and the one at his house. We need to go to Ritchie County and change the Link Transmitter frequency on that one, and that may help cover some of the Eastern part of Wood County. He said the antennas are in place at Rockport, Elizabeth, and Deerwalk. The antennas for the receiver site at St. Marys are no longer there. The tower they were on fell during a high wind storm a few days before. We have been given permission to install antennas on the new 180 foot tower in St Marys, when it get installed.

Ken, WA8LLM, said there was no testing for ARRL Level One Emergency Communications Course at the Charleston Hamfest. There was a little discussion about having Dana, WV8G, and Lisa, KB8UER, do the testing, since they are ARRL accredited examiners. If we do the testing we may have to pay the ten dollars to take the exam.

Since there has been a shake-up at Mountwood Park, and that Craig Pyles has been terminated, the shelter that we were planning to build, or having built, is on hold. We might as well plan on using the canopy for BINGO this year at Volcano Days, if there is a Volcano Days activity.

Denise, KC8TUF, said that she hasn't received any more applications for medical cards. Anyone wanting a medical card, to go with their ID card, needs to fill out one of the forms and give it to Denise.

There have not been any more Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) classes scheduled for the general public yet. When there is another class, Roger Bibee will be getting a hold of us.

Ken, WA8LLM, reminded those who are buying the Yaesu FT-1500 radios, that we need to get some more money in the treasury before we have none to pay bills.

There was a reminder that W5YI testing will be held on April 10, at 6:00 pm at the E-911 Center.

The MS-150 bike ride will be coming back to the Parkersburg area. Ken, WA8LLM, sent an E-Mail to the person that is in charge of the bike riding event, and told her that we had helped in the past, and that if she needed help, that we would be willing to help. The event coordinator said that she would be coming to Parkersburg in the near future for a meeting, and that she would let him know, so that he could attend the meeting.

Ken, WA8LLM, said there is supposed to be a Mountain Bike Race held at Mountwood Park on April 17th and 18th, but that may have been put on hold because of the events that are happening at Mountwood, since Craig Pyles was our contact on that race.

There was a reminder of the Athens County Hamfest on April 25th.

There was a reminder of the Jackson County Hamfest on May 2nd.

There was a reminder of the Parkersburg Half Marathon on August 21th.

There was a reminder of the Parkersburg Homecoming BINGO on August 20th, 21st, and 22nd. We need to get the BINGO Licenses for the Parkersburg Homecoming, West Virginia Interstate Fair and Exposition, and Volcano Days. The fair will be held July 12th through 17th. Volcano Days will be held September 24th, 25th, and 26th.

There was a reminder of the Artsbridge Communications which will be

held on Wednesday, May 26th, at WVU at Parkersburg.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he hasn't heard anything for Greg Smith to see if there is going to be an Air Show this year. The last air show was held in September of 2002. They talked about having one every other year.

NEW BUSINESS

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he needs to order the BINGO license, for the WV Interstate Fair, Parkersburg Homecoming, and Volcano Days.

Ken, WA8LLM, said the Income Tax report Form 990 needs to be sent in. He should have it sent by the next meeting. The paper work is easy, as long as we stay under 25,000 dollars a year income. There was some discussion about looking for grant money to help build the Base of Operations.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that after he mentioned to Don, N8NUS, about not hearing anything back about the Children's Bike Rodeo last year, that he received a donation check in the amount of 100 dollars. At a later date, Don said the rodeo would be downsized this year, and the WCEC equipment wouldn't be needed at this year's rodeo. The Bike Rodeo will be held on May 1, 2004.

There will be an Easter Safety Break starting at 12:00 noon on Friday, April 9th, and run through 6:00 pm on Sunday April 11th. All but one shift has been filled. There was a discussion about dropping the Safety Breaks next year, or at least only applying for the weekends that are three days long. That's one of the reasons that we may start applying for grants, because the loss of money from the Safety Breaks.

The River Sweep, may be held on April 17th, but we think that may not be the right date, since it is usually held on June. Ken, WA8LLM, will contact Susan McCloud, with DNR, to confirm the date.

The Challenge at Mountwood Mountain Bike Race, will be held on April 18th at Mountwood Park. Ken, WA8LLM, thinks there may be a 10 mile foot race at Mountwood Park, on April 17th. He will try to find out and let everyone know.

Eastwood Volunteer Fire Department Ice Cream Social will be held on June 5th. WCEC will provide the canopies, tables, and chairs.

Deerwalk Volunteer Fire Department Ice Cream Social will be held on June 12th. WCEC will provide the canopies, and chairs. WCEC will also be operating the BINGO games at the social. We may have to provide all three canopies, since they didn't get the shelter they used last year.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that we need to order two more 24 by 40 canopy tops to replace the heavy blue ones that we have now. The heavy duty fire retardent canopies will be stored away and only used when they are required. He said that he would like to set up 120 feet of canopy at the Parkersburg Homecoming this year.

Duane, N8LDM, said that he has been contacted by Lou Molinaro, who is the race director of the Vienna River Road Race. The race will be held on Saturday April 24th a 8:00 am. There will be a race planning meeting on April 19th at 4:00 pm, at the Vienna Fire Station.

Dot, KC8HAI, said there will be an Easter Egg Hunt at Mountwood Park on April 10th. The hunt will start at 12:00 noon.

Cathy, KC8DJJ, said that Kevin, KC8OXY, and Addie Boyles, will be getting married on May 29th, at the Waverly Fire Station, at 3:00 pm, and everyone is invited.

THOSE IN ATTENDANCE

Ken Harris WA8LLM/Unit 251, Dot Harris KC8HAI/Unit 258, Danni Jones KC8VSR/Unit 260, Duane Jones N8LDM/Unit ES-2, Scott Jones, Larry Lee KC8YMQ, Charlie Helmick W8JZN/Unit 286, Sam Mercer N8SVX/Unit 256, Larry Wotring KC8TRQ/Unit 261, Cathy Wotring KC8DJJ/Unit 257, Roger McGee KB8QPX/Unit 271, Ken Riffle KB8QPW/Unit 268, Carol Johnson KC8TUD/Unit 293, Ray Johnson KC8RUJ/Unit 292, Ray Bodie N8TWV/Unit 278, Emily Bodie KB8YPB/Unit 288, Jeff Scott KC8EEQ/Unit 282, Terry Mills KC8TUE/Unit 289, Denise Magyarosi-Mills KC8TUF/Unit 290, Rick Greene KC8VLM/Unit 265, Jennifer Greene KC8UYB/Unit 264, Ryan Riser, Kyle Riser, Tricia Magyarosi KC8VLI/Unit 294, Krista Mills KC8VLJ/Unit 295, Colt (Winchester) Wotring (unborn, but very close)