

WOOD COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS INC

November 1, 2005

The monthly WCEC meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm by Ken Harris, WA8LLM/Unit 251 President. There were 20 members and guests present.

Minutes from the October 4, 2005, 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. Ken said that he didn't get the new UHF replacement receiver put in the repeater yet. The UHF replacement receiver was to replace the one which got hit by lightning. He did say there seems to be some kind of problem with the repeater. The repeater keeps being keyed up, and no one is identifying. He thinks there may be a problem with one of the remote receivers since all of them now have tone access, and shouldn't be receiving signals without the access tone.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he was concerned about not having a mobile communications unit available, if one was needed, after he had a problem trying to keep MOBILECOM-1 running. Ken said that he was getting MOBILECOM-1 ready for the activity at WVU-P when he found the batteries needed to be replaced, which he did, and it took care of the problem. He said that if we ever need to have a mobile communications unit, and MOBILECOM-1 isn't available, that we still have the Concession Trailer which can be used. The Concession Trailer used to be the mobile communications vehicle before MOBILECOM-1 was put into service. It still has most of the radios installed in it. Just some additional equipment would need to be put back. It wouldn't have all of the equipment and supplies like MOBILECOM-1, but for the most part the Concession Trailer would work for most events. There was a little discussion about a new communications trailer, and it was decided that a 16 foot trailer should be the maximum length. Denise, KC8TUF, said that we still need to get a budget together so that we can apply for a grant. Copies of the 2002, 2003, 2004, and 2005 WCEC bank statements were made, and given to Terry, KC8TUE. Terry said that since he had some time on his hands, that he can start putting a budget together. Denise is still looking for any grants that would allow us to get a trailer. Ken explained about being called to help search for some lost kids on Progress Ridge. MOBILECOM-1 was ready to roll at that time,

but the kids were found before we responded. Several Members were ready to respond to the search.

There was another reminder about the Medical Information which will be put in the back of the all new ID Cards. Ken, WA8LLM, said that he had several forms, and will start putting them together. He said that he will make up ID Cards for those who have turned in their medical forms. Ken said the information on the form is private and for the member's benefit. There was Medical Forms available at the meeting for those who haven't filled one in yet.

Ken, WA8LLM, said there will be an Amateur Radio Class at the Civil Air Patrol building. The class will start on November 8th, at 7:00 pm. Ken said he has 20 copies of the question pool that needs to be put together. We may have a few more Amateurs in the area, but their primary concern will be Civil Air Patrol. The class will run for 3 or 4 weeks depending on how long it will take to go through the 500 questions in the Question Pool. The class won't have much training on the theory of electronics since it is such a short period of time before the next W5YI Testing. Ken said that he still needs to do an Amateur Radio class for the Heath Department, to get some of their employees licensed.

Terry, KC8TUE, said that he has a grant to help get the money to purchase Alinco DR-135s and DR-435s for the 147.255 repeater system ready to go. All that he needs is a copy of the budget that should be ready within the next month or so.

There was a little discussion about the NIMS IS-700 training which 24 WCEC members took. There was a discussion about taking the NIMS IS-100 course. Duane, N8LDM, said the goal of the State Office of Emergency Services is for all Public Safety employees, and volunteers to have a State Wide ID Card.

Cathy, KC8DJJ, wasn't at the meeting, but was able to make copies of the licensing course disk. This should help those who want to study for their Amateur license, and not have time to attend a formal class. She has ten disks available.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave reports on the cross country races. Ken said that since he's never went around the race course at the Fair Grounds, he's not sure of what areas are blind from one location to another. Some of

those working the race said there needs to get additional radio operators in some of those blind locations. Several times we did provide some emergency communications during the races.

A report was made on the electronic yard sale. There was a lot of good buys.

There was a reminder about the Criminal Justice exercise which will be held on November 11th at WVU-P. Ken, WA8LLM, will give Shawn Kaftanic a phone call, and see what equipment she wants us to bring. Those who can help at the exercise should let Ken know.

Ken, WA8LLM, says he still needs to talk to Rick Modsett about a letter to the West Virginia Surplus. He needs to do this before Rick leaves as a County Commissioner. Ken's not for sure what is really needed, since it was the IRS that said we couldn't get any equipment from the Federal side of surplus, since WCEC doesn't receive any money from our county government.

NEW BUSINESS

Letters has been received from the Department of Highways showing that we have the Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Years Safety Breaks. A schedule for each of the safety breaks was passed around so the members could see what is available, and that we have someone on each shift. Split shifts can be worked out. The shifts are 8 hours long, and run from 0600 to 1400, 1400 to 2200, and 2200 to 0600.

Christmas Dinner was discussed. The Christmas Dinner will be held on December 6th at the E-911 Center during our regular business meeting. The dinner will be covered dish, WCEC will buy the meat and drinks. There will be a gift exchange for those who want to bring a gift. Those who bring a gift will get a gift, at a maximum of 10 dollars. All the kids will get a gift. It was suggested that we also invite the E-911 and Emergency Services Directors and Assistant Directors to the dinner.

It was brought up about going to the Golden Coral on November 14th, and sitting up an Amateur Radio station. Ken, WA8LLM, wanted to know if anyone was interested in participating in the activity. Ken said that if he gets the time, he will to go talk to the manager and see what can be worked out. He will then get in contact with those who will want to help.

It was brought up about using your CERT Card to get a discount at some locations.

THOSE IN ATTENDANCE

Denise Magyarosi-Mills KC8TUF/Unit 290, Terry Mills KC8TUE/Unit 289, Krista Mills KC8VLJ/Unit 295, Tricia Magyarosi KC8VLI/Unit 294, Bob Smith KB8RNE/Unit 267, Ken Harris WA8LLM/Unit 251, Dot Harris KC8HAI/Unit 258, Cathy Wotring KC8DJJ/Unit 257, Colt Wotring Unit 299G, Kymber Wotring Unit 299I, Daniel Ritchie KC8ZLK/Unit 296, Steve Ritchie KB8CCQ/Unit 297, Ken Riffle KB8QPW/Unit 268, Rick Greene KC8VLM/Unit 265, Jennifer Greene KC8UYB/Unit 264, Ryan Riser Unit 299A, Kyle Riser Unit 299B, Ray Bodie N8TWV/Unit 278, Dave Wright KC8ZZX/Unit 285, Lisa Hendershot KB8UER/Unit 270