

WOOD COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS INC

January 3, 2006

The monthly WCEC meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm by Ken Harris, WA8LLM/Unit 251 President. There were 30 members and guests present.

Minutes from the December 6, 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 there seems to be some kind of problem with the repeater. It keys up from time to time with no one giving identification. He can only figure there's a problem with one of the remote receivers. He said that he would like to get the new UHF Link Receiver installed in the repeater. He says he still needs to get the audio coming through the voter lined up properly.

Lisa, KB8UER, said that she found another trailer that might be used to build a communications trailer. Ken, WA8LLM, said that he didn't get a chance to go look at it, but it sounds like it is a heavy duty trailer.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that some of the new ID Cards have been passed out, but some of them still needs to be printed up, as soon as he gets the medical information from some of the members. Ken took some more pictures before the meeting, so there should be some more cards passed out at next month's meeting.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report of the Amateur Radio Class at the Civil Air Patrol. He said the class didn't get completely finished before the W5YI testing on December 10th, but some of those in the class felt they were ready to take the test. A special W5YI test session was held at the Airport on Tuesday following the regular test session, where some others took, and passed their test. Five of those taking the class now have their Amateur Radio License.

Terry, KC8TUE, said that he has sent out four inquiries for grants to purchase the Alinco DR-135 and DR-435 radios to be used as Remote Receivers. The answers that he got back said that if we lived in the areas of the grants, we might have a chance of getting them.

There was a report on the Christmas and New Years Safety Breaks. Ken

said that we didn't make as much money as he would have like to made.

Ken, KB8QPW, gave a report on the Christmas Parade. He said the parade officials were satisfied with our help.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he and Dot, KC8HAI, went to the Fast Pitch Softball meeting that was held in Marietta. He said now there are eight locations they would like to have communications at. There are four locations in Marietta, one in Belpre, two in Parkersburg, and one in Vienna. Ken, told them that we couldn't promise that we would have anyone there since that activity is on the same weekend as Field Day. He said the information about the activity can be seen on the internet at: pfx tours.com. It was suggested that we find radio operators that aren't interested in Field Day, but does like to watch baseball and softball games, and maybe we can get them to provide the communications at the activity. They would like to have radio operators from about 7:00 am to about 6:00 pm on both Saturday and Sunday. They want radio operators to provide communications between the officials at each location and also to be able to provide quick communications to emergency responders.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he talked to Craig at Mountwood about the Challenge at Mountwood, Mountain Bike Race. As of January 16th, Craig will no longer be employed at the park. Craig said the race is still on, but he doesn't know if he will be a part of it.

The letter to Dupont to place a remote receiver at the plant is getting closer, Ken, WA8LLM, said that he is getting caught up on some of the other activities.

NEW BUSINESS

Fund raising activities for 2006 were brought up for discussion. Ken, WA8LLM, asked the group if the organization wants to apply for the safety breaks on the Interstate. There was a lengthy discussion about how much we make and how much we pay out to operate the break. It looks like the new Rest Area in Williamstown might be affecting the South Bound Rest Area. Denise, KC8TUF, said that she talked to someone that was working the North Bound Rest Area, and they said they were doing real good. Ken said that if we apply for the Safety Breaks, he needs to get people to commit to a schedule as early as possible, and not wait till the last minute to decide what shift they want to work. We usually know at least two months before the safety break, so that

should be plenty of time for everyone to know what shift they can work. It was suggested that we apply for the Williamstown Rest Area, but Roger, KB8QPX, said the Williamstown Rest Area is not equipped for a Safety Break. Gary, KC8ZZS, make a motion that we apply for the North Bound Rest Area only, Bob, KB8RNE, seconded the motion. The group voted to ask for the North Bound Rest Area only, since the South Bound is not doing very good. Other fund raising activities were discussed. The three BINGO games are going to be held again this year. We just have to apply for our BINGO licenses which is \$100 each.

There was a lengthy discussion about what kind of training everyone wants. Since the LEPC (Local Emergency Planning Committee) is going to be holding a major disaster exercise sometime in September, they are wanting every Public Safety agency in the county to be involved. The exercise may be a two day event. It was decided that we need to have a Packet Radio Class, and an ARES/Data (FINDER) Class. Denise, KC8TUF ask about the certificates for the IS-700 class which we took in October. Ken, WA8LLM, explained what he was told about the certificates. He was told the answer sheets which we used were the wrong ones, and that's why we haven't got our certificates yet. Roger Bibbee, is going to be taking care of getting it straightened out, but we may have to wait a little longer. Bob, KB8RNE, said that he would like to have a class on participating in an Emergency Operations Center (EOC).

Ken, KB8QPW, suggested that everyone be issued two ID Cards. The purpose of the second ID Card is so it can be left at a central location of a disaster, where the person who is in charge of people and equipment would know who is working at a disaster scene, or other activity.

There was a discussion about changing Unit Numbers of the WCEC Members that are Auxiliary members. It was brought up about members in the same family using the same number, except a letter would be added. Ken, WA8LLM, said that he would look at the list and see who is active and who's unit numbers can be changed to free up additional numbers. It was also suggested that we start using unit numbers from 351 to 399. Amateur Radio operators who are registered with ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Service), and not a member of WCEC, are being assigned a 901 to 999 numbers.

THOSE IN ATTENDANCE

Jennifer Greene KC8UYB/Unit 264, Rick Greene KC8VLM/Unit 265, Ryan Riser Unit 299A, Kyle Riser Unit 299B, Dot Harris KC8HAI/Unit 258, Ken Harris WA8LLM/Unit 251, Anna Hendershot, KC8JWW/Unit 263, Tricia Magyarosi KC8VLI/Unit 294, Krista Mills KC8VLJ/Unit 295, Terry Mills KC8TUE/Unit 289, Denise Magyarosi-Mills KC8TUF/Unit 290, Judy Peterson N8UFQ/Unit 255, Kendale Peterson Unit 299E, Gary Bosworth KC8ZZS/Unit 277, Bob Smith KB8RNE/Unit 267, Ray Johnson KC8RUJ/Unit 292, Carol Johnson KC8TUD/Unit 293, Ray Bodie N8TWV/Unit 278, Emily Bodie KB8YPB/Unit 288, Harold Dooley, N8KO/Unit 266, Jeanna Dooley, N8JMD/Unit 269, Tim Dooley, N8WO/Unit 273, Dave Wright KC8ZZX/Unit 285, Lisa Hendershot KB8UER/Unit 270, Roger McGee KB8QPX/Unit 271, Daniel Ritchie KC8ZLK/Unit 296, Steve Ritchie KB8CCQ/Unit 297, Jeff Scott KC8EEQ/Unit 282, David Stevens KC8VLK/Unit 274, Amy Stevens Unit 299H