

WOOD COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS INC

November 7, 2006

The monthly WCEC meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Ken Harris, WA8LLM/Unit 251 President. There were 25 members and guests present.

Minutes from the October 3, 2006 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 says there is nothing to report which means that it must be doing good. He said that if we get the first grant that we will be busy since a lot of the money is to be used to upgrade the remote receivers.

Since Terry, KC8TUE, wasn't at the meeting, Denise, KC8TUF, gave the report on other grants that we are applying for. Denise said that we should hear something about the grant for the remote receivers and the Packet Radio system by next week. Ken, WA8LLM, said that he and Dot, KC8HAI, went to Leonard's Trailer Sales in Vienna and got a quote for a 6 by 12 cargo trailer with windows on both sides, a drop down tailgate, an 11,000 BTU Air Conditioner, and tandem wheels. The quote was for about \$3800. Denise said a grant for the new communications trailer in the amount of \$5000, which will take care of some other things on the trailer, was turned in on October 30th, but we won't hear anything about it until the middle of February. She has a report on another grant, but it would be brought up under new business.

Ken, WA8LLM, said the kick-off for the county exercise in January has started. Ken said that he got a letter, and a card to send back, asking if we were going to participate in the exercise. He has already returned the participation card. Ken said the exercise would be a pandemic flu. Don, N8NUS, talked about what an outbreak of a pandemic flu would do, and other problems it could cause.

Ken, WA8LLM, says that he hasn't ordered the Dog Tags yet. He wants to talk to the manufacture to see if the unit number on the tag can be stamped bigger then the organization name before he orders them.

There was a discussion about the Power Point program that Gary, KC8ZZS, had made up and sent to Ken, WA8LLM, to be used for Packet Radio

training. Gary said that he thinks he can add the other information on the program which was discussed. Gary said that he would modify the example and E-Mail it to Ken.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the state wide ARRL Simulated Emergency Test which was held October 7th. There was a good turn out from Amateur Radio operators. There was some traffic passed by Packet Radio. A short discussion followed. Ken talked about a Packet Radio Chat Room which has been in operation for about a year, but has not been used much. He said that as soon as he can get the Chat Room station moved to the same location as the Ritchie County DAREN NODE, he would like to start a Chat Room Net so that everyone will get used to using it. He said he would like to operate the net on the first Thursday of the month starting at 6:00 pm. That would be the same day and time as the West Virginia Fone Net and the Mountain State Emergency Net which operate on 3865 kHz.

Ken, WA8LLM, said there was still one more Weather Radio that hadn't been picked up yet. If someone ordered one and didn't get their weather radio picked up, it is still available.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the Mineral Wells VFD Safety Fair which was held a WVUP at the same time as the Simulated Emergency Test. There was several Public Safety agencies with some of their safety equipment at the fair. The Safety Fair would be held on the same weekend next year.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave reports on the High School Cross Country races that were held over the past few week days and week ends. A few minor incidents were reported.

The Thanksgiving Safety Break will be held November 22nd, 23rd, and 24th. A schedule was passed around to have those who could work, fill in the schedule.

#### New Business

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he ordered new ink pins that he wanted to pass out at the Mineral Wells VFD Safety Fair. He ordered them in plenty of time, but they didn't get shipped until the Tuesday after the fair.

Judy, N8UFQ, said that she got a letter from the Department of Highways about having the Safety Break over the Christmas holiday starting at

noon on December 23rd through 6:00 pm on December 25th. Ken, WA8LLM, said that he also got a letter saying that he has the New Years 2007 Safety Break from noon December 30th through 6:00 pm January 1, 2007. Schedules for both holidays were passed around, along with the Thanksgiving schedule.

Denise, KC8TUF, gave a report on a new grant. The new grant will be for the radios that will be installed in the new communications trailer if we get it. The grant can be as much as \$25,000. Ken, WA8LLM, said that he got the prices for the radios to install in the communications trailer from Miller Communications. He gave a list of some of the communications equipment the grant will be covering. Ken said that he needs to contact each of the Volunteer Fire Departments and get a letter from them telling what kind of support that Wood County Emergency Communications provides. Denise said that after we get our first grant, that we can apply for another one which will cover some of the cost of another grant. We have to get the first grant before we can apply for the special one. Ken said that on October 4th, President Bush signed a bill into law that makes Amateur Radio a part of Homeland Security. A lengthy discussion followed.

There was a reminder of the W5YI Testing December 9th.

Gary, KC8ZZS, said that Marietta College is going to be selling computers for \$50 or less.

Tyler, KD8CPP, said he had to change his website, but it is still the same name. The website is KD8CPP.COM. He will have audio news on it. The password is REPEATER.

Don, N8NUS, said that he can have the WCEC forms on the WC8EC.COM. Don would also teach a class on HEPA confidentiality. The class can be taught in an hour or less. This class should be taken so that we can pass patient information at the hospitals. It was suggested that we take it before the exercise. It was suggested that it be part of the Packet Radio class.

Dave, KC8VLK, said that Lubeck VFD would be holding a Christmas auction Saturday December 11th.

Ray, KC8RUJ, brought up for discussion a Christmas Dinner. The organization voted to have a Christmas Dinner. Gary, KC8ZZS, said that he would be in charge of the dinner. The dinner will be at 6:30, a

short business will follow. The dinner will be December 5th. Denise, KC8TUF, said she would help. There will be a gift exchange. Those bringing a gift will get a gift. The gift exchange should not exceed 10 dollars.

#### THOSE IN ATTENDANCE

Ken Harris WA8LLM/Unit 251, Dot Harris KC8HAI/Unit 258, Ryan Riser Unit 299A, Duane Jones N8LDM/Unit 260/ES-2, Scott Jones Unit 299C, Ken Riffle KB8QPW/Unit 268, Tim Dooley, N8WO/Unit 273, Brent Rice KD8DLX/Unit 352, Daniel Ritchie KC8ZLK/Unit 296, Steve Ritchie KB8CCQ/Unit 297, Roger McGee KB8QPX/Unit 271, Loretta DeHavon/Unit 299L, Ray Bodie N8TWV/Unit 278, Dave Wright KC8ZZX/Unit 285, Jeff Scott KC8EEQ/Unit 282, David Stevens KC8VLK/Unit 274, Cathy Wotring KC8DJJ/Unit 257, Ray Johnson KC8RUJ/Unit 292, Carol Johnson KC8TUD/Unit 293, Judy Peterson N8UFQ/Unit 255, Lisa Hendershot KB8UER/Unit 270, Don Williams N8NUS/Unit 1111, Debbie Williams N8VOW, Tyler Lewis KD8CPP/Unit 351, Ryan Thomas KD8EMM/Unit 353,