

WOOD COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS INC

November 6, 2007

The monthly WCEC business 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 October 2, 2007, 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 was contacted by Dirk Burnside, WD8PAD, about a problem he was having with the Department of High Ways radio system in Wirt County and wanted to know if he would work with their radio technician by turning off the Wirt County DAREN Packet Radio NODE and the Remote Receiver for the repeater system. Ken and Dot, KC8HAI, went to the tower and removed both systems on a temporary basis. The stations will be re-installed when the technician confirms whether the WCEC equipment is causing the problem or not.

Terry, KC8TUE, said that he has never received the paper work to apply for any mini grants through the Parkersburg Foundation. He called them and found they had all ready granted two thirds of the annual allotment for the year. They changed the rules on how much a mini grant can be applied for. Grants can now be only \$1000 or less, and it needs to be on a necessary basis. He said the only one we are waiting for is the Ross Grant which we should hear from by the end of the year. Terry said the only thing left that we can do is just mail out donation letters to the plants and civic organizations.

Denise, KC8TUF, said that she is still receiving reports from some of the members for the hours they participate in WCEC and other communications activities. She says she still hasn't received any reports from some of the members.

Terry, KC8TUE, went over some of the changes that he suggested to make on the By-Laws. It was decided that Terry make the changes in the By-Laws and bring them to the next meeting, passed out and voted on, or hold till the January meeting since the next meeting will also be the Christmas dinner. The main reason for the By-Laws update is for the

Board of Directors. At the present time the Board of Directors is getting a copy of the monthly minutes. Additional changes can still be made in the By-Laws after members gets a Draft copy.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the Safety Fair which was held at Ericson Field. He said he felt the attendance at the event was down from last year even though there were two helicopters. Ken said the officials at the event asked WCEC for the GPS coordinates for the helicopters.

Ken, WA8LLM, also gave a report on the SET (Simulated Emergency Test) that was held the same day of the Safety Fair. Most of the WCEC members who participated in the SET learned a few things that could come in handy in an actual event. It was suggested that a class be held on how to fill out and use the ARRL (American Radio Relay League) message form called RADIOGRAM. No date, or location, has been set to hold the class.

There was a discussion about the building of the Plastic Pipe J-Pole antennas. It was suggested that we use Dave, N8NWV's garage to build the antennas. Dave said there wasn't enough room at the present time to work in his garage. The members will be discussing a time and location to meet and build the antennas. Gary, KC8ZZS, said that we could use his shop at Marietta College on a Saturday or Sunday. No date has been set.

Ken, WA8LLM, passed a list of E-Mail address that he used to mail out the October WCEC Business Meeting Minutes and Agenda. He asked the members to look over the list and make changes or corrections, or add their E-Mail address if they want WCEC information sent to them via the Internet. Also on the list some of the members put any changes to their telephone numbers. Ken said that he would continue to E-Mail the minutes and the agenda a few days before the monthly meeting. Ken said that he would also forward the monthly CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) newsletter whenever he gets it.

Ken, WA8LLM, said he still hasn't met with the County Commissioners about installing a Remote Receiver at Fort Borman Park yet. Ken says he would like to talk to Randy, WB8OHX, at Miller Communications about the Security Cameras they are going to install at the park. Ken will have some idea how they are going to be installed and he might have a better chance of getting permission to install the Remote Receiver.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he and Terry, KC8TUE, installed a new DAREN NODE at the Roane County 911 tower site. The new NODE has helped the Mid Ohio Valley Health Department station in Spencer get into the State Wide DAREN System a lot better. The installation didn't help the Health Department station in Grantsville, as Ken had hoped it would.

The schedule for the Thanksgiving Safety Break was passed around for all to see and make any changes. There is still one shift left to fill. Anytime that a couple of people want to split a shift, that neither can cover the whole shift, they can work that out. The Safety Break will be held November 21, 22, 23.

Krista, KC8VLJ, gave a report on the Halloween Party that was held at the Mills'. The date had to be changed from October 27th to the 28th. There was about 30 people that showed up for the event. Krista wanted to thank the organization for the use of the 24 by 40 foot canopy, PJ2H, and the Public Address system.

Before the meeting started Ken, WA8LLM, took pictures of those members who wanted a new picture for their ID Cards. Ken said that he would start printing them up and would have them at the next meeting. He also passed out a copy of the medical form that has each member's medical information on it. Ken needs to get a verified and/or modified medical form back before he will finish the ID Card.

Ken, said that he has not heard anything back from the Eagles Club about a donation from them to go to the Volcano Days festival. Ken waited until October 26th to pay the Volcano Days Committee the 10% of the BINGO game proceeds and sent a BINGO report to the West Virginia Tax Department. It doesn't look like we are going to get any donation from the Eagles. If we do happen to get a donation, Ken will contact the Volcano Committee asking to keep some of the money.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he went to the Shirt Factory and talked to them about T-Shirts for the organization. They gave him a price of six dollars each for a quantity of 50 shirts. They also said that for each "X", above "XL" on the shirts there would be an extra dollar added. The group decided to order two T-Shirts for each of the active members. Ken verified the T-Shirt sizes which is on the roster of those members at the meeting, and will order the shirts.

NEW BUSINESS

W5YI Volunteer Amateur Radio Examinations will be held on December 8th at the E-911 Center. That location may have to change since the meeting room may be in use as a Communications Room while the new E-911 equipment is being installed in the regular Communications Room.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he forgot to pass information about PJ2H being loaned to the Wood County Fire School in September. It was used at Eddie's Auto for the Extraction Class. Mike Daley, Chief of Eastwood VFD asked to use it, since they had forgot to order one for the class. Ken just wanted to make sure that it was on record.

Matt, KD8GWP, asked about a CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) Class that is supposed to be held. He was informed the class would be held November 10th and 11th at the E-911 Center. Those interested in taking the class should contact Roger Bibbee at 420-0911.

Ken, WA8LLM, explained about a letter that was faxed to the officials of the CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) about the \$250 that was given as a grant. Denise, KC8TUF, said that she has a copy of the original grant application, and what they wanted us to do with the money. Ken feels the officials screwed up and is hoping those who received the grants can show how the money is being spent. Ken read the letter that he wrote about how the money was spent. Since he has faxed the letter to the CERT officials, he has heard anything else from them.

After Ken, WA8LLM, and Terry, KC8TUE, finished installing the new DAREN Packet Radio NODE in Roane County they went to, and replaced the antenna for, the Jackson County DAREN NODE. The original antenna was in very bad shape.

Ken, WA8LLM, said there will be a Communications Exercise coming up on December 8th at WVU-P. The exercise will allow all communication groups and agencies to work together and work out any equipment problems and procedures they may identify. So far communications vehicles and operators from the State of West Virginia and Ohio, both Military and Public Safety, as well as Kanawha County have said they will be there.

The same day of the exercise, December 8th, will be the Parkersburg Christmas Parade. Ken, WA8LLM, says that we need to come up with a plan on how to work the Packet Radio at the parade and also attend the

communications exercise.

Denise, KC8TUF, said that she would make the telephone calls for the Christmas Dinner. The group may not be able to hold the dinner at the E-911 Center meeting room since it may be in use as a communication center while new equipment is being installed in the regular communications room. The dinner will be held on December 4th. Cathy, KC8DJJ, checked on the Vienna Community Building. The cost for the building is \$50, but, it has already been reserved by another organization. Ray, KC8RUJ, and Terry, KC8TUE, know of a couple places that we may be able to use if we can't have the dinner/meeting at E-911 Center. We should know in a few days if E-911 will be available. There will also be a gift exchange for those who are interested. The cost of the gifts should not exceed \$10.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he has a location of a 200 foot tower the organization can have for taking it down. Ken will be looking for some one to help take it down, if he decides to take it. The tower still has antennas on it that need to be transferred to another tower before it is available.

Schedules for the Christmas and New Years Safety Breaks were passed around for members to select a shift, just in case the organization would happen to get either or both holidays.

Duane, N8LDM, says the RACES (Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service) registration forms are out of date and new ones need to be printed up. He said that he should have the new forms at the next meeting. Ken, took a list of names of those members who said they wanted to be registered as a RACES member. The word RACES would be on their new ID Cards.

Ken, WA8LLM, said the members should update their ARES resource list. It should be done at least once a year, and any time there is a major increase, or decrease of equipment.

Since the January WCEC Business would be falling on January 1st, there was a discussion on what to do. Ken, KB8QPW, made a motion to move the meeting date to January 8th. Motion seconded by Dave, N8NWV. Motion was carried. The January meeting will be held on January 8th.

Bob, KB8RNE, wanted to know if there was a special parking arrangement

when WCEC members goes to a disaster drill or actual incident. Ken, WA8LLM, said that it's up to the Incident Commander of each incident as to where those participating at a drill or an actual incident should park.

Bob, KB8RNE, wanted to know if there was a GPS (Global Position System) receiver in MOBILECOM-1. It was suggested that one be purchased and left in there. Ray, KC8RUJ, said that he could get one, at no cost, and donate it to the organization.

Bob, KB8RNE, questioned if we should have a FAX machine in MOBILECOM-1. It was decided to hold off on a Fax machine and instead, put together a computer system that would have internet access, with a machine that could Print, Scan, Copy, and be used as a FAX machine.

THOSE IN ATTENDANCE

Dot Harris KC8HAI/Unit 258, Ken Harris WA8LLM/Unit 251, Ryan Riser Unit 299A, Denise Magyarosi-Mills KC8TUF/Unit 290, Terry Mills KC8TUE/Unit 289, Tricia Magyarosi KC8VLI/Unit 294, Krista Mills KC8VLJ/Unit 295, Brad Carabine KC8TYU/Unit 287, Tyler Lewis KD8CPP/Unit 351, Ryan Thomas KD8EMM/Unit 353, Bob Smith KB8RNE/Unit 267, Judy Peterson N8UFQ/Unit 255, Kendale Peterson Unit 299E, Anna Hendershot, KC8JWW/Unit 263, Kevin Harris KC8OXY/Unit 253, Steve Ritchie KB8CCQ/Unit 297, Ray Johnson KC8RUJ/Unit 292, Carol Johnson KC8TUD/Unit 293, Duane Jones N8LDM/Unit 260/ES-2, Scott Jones Unit 299C, Lisa Hendershot KB8UER/Unit 270, Tim Dooley, N8WO/Unit 273, Ken Riffle KB8QPW/Unit 268, Dave Wright N8NWV/Unit 285, Ray Bodie N8TWV/Unit 278, Matt Wright KD8GWP/Unit 354, Cathy Wotring KC8DJJ/Unit 257, Gary Bosworth KC8ZZS/Unit 277, Jeff Scott KC8EEQ/Unit 282, Bill Davidson N8JXO/Unit 283,