

WOOD COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS INC

April 1, 2008

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

A motion to approve the March 4, 2008, minutes as they were E-Mailed out was made by Duane, N8LDM, and seconded by Dave, N8NWV. Motion carried. Printed copies of the minutes and agenda were also available at the meeting.

The Treasurer's Report was read and a motion to accept was made by Dave, N8NWV, and seconded by Denise, KC8TUF. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the 147.255 repeater system. He said the repeater has been working fine. Tyler, KD8CPP, said he had noticed that during the nets, the audio drops out once in awhile, but seems to be okay most of the time.

Terry, KC8TUE, still hasn't heard anything from the Ross Foundation Grant, and figures we might as well forget about it. He said that he hasn't received any negative letters from the Parkersburg Foundation about a \$6000 grant for a Communications Trailer. Denise, KC8TUF, did get a postcard about a dinner/meeting "suggesting" that Terry, and Ken, WA8LLM, attend on April 8th. She heard the Parkersburg Foundation is down to about 60 applications and that WCEC is one of them. The last time WCEC applied for a grant from them, we were informed within a couple of weeks, of the deadline that we didn't get it. Ken and Terry will be going to the dinner/meeting.

There was a reminder for all members to keep their participation time sheets up to date.

No one has suggested a date to hold a work party to work on the Plastic J-Pole Antennas or other projects. Anytime any member or members wants to work on the projects they should let Ken, WA8LLM, know. Prices of copper pipe was discussed, along with copper wire and cable that is being stolen.

Ken, WA8LLM, hasn't been able to talk to Randy, KB8OHX, yet about the

cameras and a Remote Receiver at Fort Borman Park, but he is going to make an effort to see him in the next few days, hopefully before the next meeting.

Since Don, N8NUS, wasn't able to attend the meeting, there was no report on CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) activities. Ken, WA8LLM, did give a short report on a CERT class that Don is teaching in Tyler County. A short CERT discussion was held.

Duane, N8LDM, has talked to Ed Hupp about a new RACES application. He didn't have a copy of the application, but he did bring Memorandum Of Understandings between Wood County Emergency Management and WCEC & ARES to have signed by Ken, WA8LLM. Duane said that as soon as the new WCEC Operations Plans and ARES Operations Plans are completed that Ed wants a copy of them to put in his County Plan. Duane said that he should have copies of the application at the next meeting.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that nothing else has been discussed about the meeting room at the old Air National Guard Armory building which the CAP (Civil Air Patrol) will be moving into. Ken said that he hasn't talked to Ron Harmon of the CAP for a month or more. Tyler, KD8CPP, said the Civil Air Patrol has to be out of the old CAP building and into the new building by the last of July. No other discussion were held.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he received his portable electronic telephone system on Tuesday, March 25th, and used it at a training class on Thursday, March 27th. Ken also had the system setup at the meeting for some of the members to play with. It looks like the system will be of a lot of use. The system will also be used during Field Day. A description of how the system could be used in a variety of ways discussed. Ken said that he would like to have a class on how to hook the system up and install both wire and cordless telephones in several configurations.

There was some discussion about holding a Hamfest next year. Bill, N8JXO, suggested that a committee of two or three members get together and start looking for a date to hold the Hamfest. Since Max, KC8JHI, wasn't at the meeting, we don't know if he got to talk to Waverly Fire Department about holding it at the fire station. Bob, KB8RNE, also suggested that we should look at purchasing insurance to cover all of the activities that we are involved in. Anna, KC8JWW, said we should

check with the Volunteer Fire Departments and see how they do their insurance. Bill said the ARRL (American Radio Relay League) sells insurance that covers all activities that clubs are involved in. We need to look into the insurance. There was a lengthy discussion about insurance.

There was some discussion about the FEMA Independent Study courses: IS-100, IS-200, IS-700, and IS-800B, that members should try to complete. No date has been set to try to hold any classes to help members complete the courses.

There was a reminder that Field Day will be held June 28th and 29th. It was suggested to talk to other hams and see if we can get them to operate with us. Ken, WA8LLM, said that anyone who wants to convert their Amateur Radio equipment over to Anderson Power Poles connectors, should bring them to the Field Day site on Friday before Field Day.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he hasn't mailed out copies of the WCEC By-Laws to the Board of Directors yet, and he still needs to talk to Roger Bibbee about staying on as a Board Member.

Terry, KC8TUE, has been working on the WCEC and ARES Operations Plans. He wants the members to look them over and see what they think. Ken, WA8LLM, will E-Mail the plans out to the members. If anyone sees something they would like to change, add, or delete, they will need to get back with Terry or Ken.

There was a reminder the Challenge at Mountwood is April 12th for the Downhill, and Time Trials, and the main race is April 13th. Those working the races need to be on location by Noon. Duane, N8LDM, will mark the locations where radio operators need to be located. Ken, WA8LLM, said to dress for warm and dry. Dave, N8NWV, suggested that we also get and wear an orange hat for identification. Ken, KB8QPW wanted to know if Shirt Factory does hats. Harold, N8KO, said that before we order any hats, to let him check on them. Maybe when we start getting additional funds, we may get a hat for those who work events such as the Challenge at Mountwood. A short discussion followed. There was a reminder that W5YI Testing April 12th, 6:00 pm at the E-911 Center.

Jeff, KC8EEQ, said the Jackson County Hamfest will be held May 4th at the Ripley Middle School.

Lisa, KB8UER, said there was going to be some kind of cleanup at Mountwood Park on April 12th, the same day as the Downhill Bike races.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he got a letter from the Department of High Ways about a Safety Break over the Easter Holiday. The Safety Break will be held March 21st, 22nd, 23rd. Ken called the DOH and found that one of the organizations had cancelled, and that we were next in line. A Safety Break schedule was passed around for all to select a shift.

Ken WA8LLM, talked about two exercises that will be coming up. One will be held May 6th, 7th, 8th, and the other one will be in two parts. The first part will be June 9th and 10th, the second part will be June 16th and 17th. Ken doesn't know if WCEC will be asked to participate in the exercises. Duane, N8DLM, said that if he can find out anything, he will let us know. We may want to hold our own exercise. We may have a Packet Radio refresher course if we are going to participate. A short discussion was held.

There was a reminder the Athens Hamfest would be held April 27th.

Cathy, KC8DJJ, wasn't at the meeting, but she sent this month's hidden word puzzle, and the answers to last month's puzzle.

Ken, WA8LLM, said he has received the license plate stickers for the WCEC support trailers. He just needs to put them on. The stickers are good for three years.

Ken, WA8LLM, said the WC8EC Amateur License has been renewed.

There was a reminder that Artsbridge at WVUP will be held on Thursday, May 22nd.

There was a reminder the Lubeck VFD would be held on June 21st, and we will have MOBILECOM-1 and a 24 by 80 foot canopy at their Ice Cream Social.

NEW BUSINESS

Harold, N8KO, said that we need to take as many pictures of any activities that we are participating in.

There was a disaster drill at WVUP on March 25th, but WCEC wasn't asked

to participate.

THOSE IN ATTENDANCE

Duane Jones N8LDM/Unit 260/ES-2, Scott Jones Unit 299C, Tim Dooley, N8WO/Unit 273, Judy Peterson N8UFQ/Unit 255, Anna Hendershot, KC8JWW/Unit 263, Lisa Hendershot KB8UER/Unit 270, Ken Harris WA8LLM/Unit 251, Dot Harris KC8HAI/Unit 258, Ryan Riser Unit 299A, Matt Wright KD8GWP/Unit 354, Tricia Magyarosi KC8VLI/Unit 294, Krista Mills KC8VLJ/Unit 295, Terry Mills KC8TUE/Unit 289, Denise Magyarosi-Mills KC8TUF/Unit 290, Ray Bodie N8TWV/Unit 278, Dave Wright N8NWV/Unit 285, Bill Davidson N8JXO/Unit 283, Gary Bosworth KC8ZZS/Unit 277, Bob Smith KB8RNE/Unit 267, Jeff Scott KC8EEQ/Unit 282, Harold Dooley, N8KO/Unit 266, Ken Riffle KB8QPW/Unit 268, David Stevens KC8VLK/Unit 274, Tyler Lewis KD8CPP/Unit 351, Ryan Thomas KD8EMM/Unit 353