

## WOOD COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS INC

February 5, 2008

The monthly WCEC Business Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM, by Ken Harris, WA8LLM/Unit 251, President. There were 24 members and guests present.

The January 8, 2008, monthly business meeting minutes were approved as E-Mailed out. Printed copies of the minutes and agenda were available at the meeting. Some members said they did not receive the February Agenda with the minutes in their E-Mail.

The Treasurer's Report was read and approved.

### OLD BUSINESS

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the 147.255 repeater system. He said the repeater has a strange problem. He said that you will be talking on it, and then all of a sudden it doesn't work.

Terry, KC8TUE, said that he hasn't heard anything from the Ross Foundation Grant yet. Terry said the Ross Foundation is located in the same building that Denise, KC8TUF, is located, so she went down to talk to them. They just haven't made any decisions on the grants yet.

Terry said that sometimes, no news is good news. Terry said that he talked with Jay Parson, the Chief of Mineral Wells VFD. He is going to meet to Jay in the next few days to see if he can give any ideas. Don, N8NUS, said that Terry should also contact Nancy Ancell, the wife of Jim Ancell, the training coordinator at West Virginia RESA 5. Don also gave a report on how Homeland Security Grant money will be handled within the state. Ken, WA8LLM, talked about a grant from United Way Alliance that Don had given him to look at. WCEC would meet most of the information on the grant except our records that need to be certified by CPA. Ken, KB8QPW, said that he has a Nephew that he would talk to, and might be able to help with that part.

Jeff Sandy, who is running for the Sheriff of Wood County was at the meeting and was given time to introduce himself and give his background history. Jeff has a background in communications since he was the communications person when he was a Special Agent for the US Treasury for 26 years, and installed numerous Motorola Radio systems.

There was a reminder for all members to keep their participation time

sheets up to date.

There was a vote on the updated By-Laws. Don, N8NUS, made a motion to accept the By-Laws as they have been made from last month's meeting and that any additional changes could be made in the future. Motion seconded by Matt, KD8GWP. Motion carried. Ken, WA8LLM, said that when he gets a signed and dated copy of the By-Laws from Terry, KC8TUE, that he would put together copies, with the cover sheet, and pass them out at the next meeting. Copies will also be sent to the Board of Directors.

There has been no date set for members to get together a work party and work on the Plastic J-Pole Antennas, or any other project. The members can decide when they want to work on them.

Ken, WA8LLM, saw Randy, KB8OHX, while at his mother's funeral. Randy talked about several different projects that he is working on, but Ken didn't feel like talking to him about the cameras and a Remote Receiver at Fort Borman Park. Ken will wait for awhile to talk to Randy.

Ken, WA8LLM, also needs to talk to Randy, KB8OHX, about the 200 foot tower that is free for talking down. He needs to find out when the antennas will be taken off and the tower needs to be removed.

Don, N8NUS, gave a report on the CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) class that he has been teaching in Ritchie County. Due to a conflict of another class at the Ellenboro Fire Station, the last day of the CERT class will be held on Sunday, February 10th at 1:00 pm. The final class will be a tabletop mock disaster. Any one wanting to go to the class would be welcome. Don says that he could use some help. Don also gave a report on the CERT ID Cards. He said there is no money available to get the ID Cards for those taking the class, but if a CERT Team has the money and wants to do the paperwork that is needed, the ID Card can be acquired. Bob, KB8RNE, wanted know if there will be any upgrade or refresher CERT classes available. Don, said that anytime a group of CERT members want to take a refresher course, that he would teach one.

Duane, N8LDM, wasn't at the meeting, due to an illness in the family, so he couldn't report on the new RACES (Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service) registration form. Ken, WA8LLM, explained why RACES was created in the early 1950's.

There was a reminder that W5YI VE Testing would be held on Saturday, February 9th at 6:00 pm at the E-911 Center.

Ken, WA8LLM, brought and passed out the new Communications T-Shirts to the meeting.

Ken, WA8LLM, got two more E-Mail addresses to be added to the members E-Mail addresses.

Two of the letters for the Safety Breaks have been mailed. Ken, KB8QPW, had a copy of the letters of the agencies who will be operating the Safety Breaks over the Easter Holiday. Since our letters hadn't been sent in at the time, the first chance of getting a Safety Break will be the Memorial Day Holiday. Since there is a Safety Break at the Williamstown Rest Area, we need to go by that location over the Easter Holiday and see where the trailer is setup.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he meet with Ron Harmon of the CAP (Civil Air Patrol) about a meeting and operations room. There are two different rooms that are available in the old Air National Guard Armory building where the CAP will be moving into around June or July. Ron says that we can have the use of one of the rooms for \$100 dollars a month. There needs to be some discussion about using one of the rooms. Ken talked to Ron about holding a Hamfest at Armory. Ron thought it would be a good idea and that we could split the money 50/50. Ken has already talked to Gary, KC8ZZS, who said he would coordinate the Hamfest. There were some ideas tossed around, but nothing was decided. There needs to be a lot of discussion about both items. Ken ask what the feeling of the membership was toward the projects. Most of the members were in favor of following up with the projects. Don, N8NUS, said he would show the building to anyone or a group that wants to go look at the it. He suggested that we might even hold one of our business meetings at the Armory.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he is going to purchase a portable electronic telephone system for himself that would have 20 extensions with all kinds of features. It will be about a month before he will have it.

If at a later date WCEC wants to purchase it, it can be sold. There was a lengthy discussion about the system.

Ken, WA8LLM, talked about FEMA Independent Study (IS) Courses. He suggested the members of WCEC should take as many of the courses as possible. For WCEC to be NIMS compliant all the members need to have taken IS-100, IS-200, IS-700, and IS-800, or in the process of taking them. By being NIMS compliant may allow us to apply for Federal Grant money when it becomes available. These four courses can be taken on the Internet. The IS-300 and IS-400 can also be taken in a state sponsored class, but most of the members won't need them. To find the courses on line all you have to do is GOOGLE the words Independent Study, IS-100, or FEMA.GOV, and it will take you to a site where you can take the courses. It was suggested that we have a class on each of the courses. A short discussion followed.

Field Day will be held June 28th and 29th. The rules for 2008 Field Day will soon be available on the ARRL Website.

Lubeck VFD has changed the date of their Ice Cream social from the weekend before the Parkersburg Homecoming to June 21st. Eastwood VFD Ice Cream social will be June 7th.

Ken, WA8LLM, brought an emergency light that Steve at Dick's Automotive Paint & Supply on 7th Street is selling. Any one wanting to purchase one of the lights needs to talk to Steve, he is selling them to emergency organizations for \$19.95 plus tax.

Ken, WA8LLM, talked about updating the Wood County ARES Plan and the Wood County Emergency Communications Plan. These plans aren't something that needs to be voted on, but anyone having ideas can help. Ken and Terry, KC8TUE, will be looking them over and making changes.

#### THOSE IN ATTENDANCE

Ken Harris WA8LLM/Unit 251, Dot Harris KC8HAI/Unit 258, Ryan Riser Unit 299A, Judy Peterson N8UFQ/Unit 255, Tyler Lewis KD8CPP/Unit 351, Ryan Thomas KD8EMM/Unit 353, Lisa Hendershot KB8UER/Unit 270, Anna Hendershot, KC8JWW/Unit 263, Gary Bosworth KC8ZZS/Unit 277, Ken Riffle KB8QPW/Unit 268, Cathy Wotring KC8DJJ/Unit 257, Kymber Wotring Unit 299J, Tim Dooley, N8WO/Unit 273, Brent Rice KD8DLX/Unit 352, Ray Bodie N8TWV/Unit 278, Dave Wright N8NWV/Unit 285, Matt Wright KD8GWP/Unit 354, Don Williams N8NUS/Unit 279, Bill Davidson N8JXO/Unit 283, Jeff Sandy (Running for Sheriff), Bob Smith KB8RNE/Unit 267, Brad Carabine

KC8TYU/Unit 287, Terry Mills KC8TUE/Unit 289, Krista Mills KC8VLJ/Unit  
295