

WOOD COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS INC

January 8, 2008

The monthly WCEC Business Meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM, by Ken Harris, WA8LLM/Unit 251, President. There were 25 members and guests present.

Since the monthly business meeting minutes are being sent out by E-Mail to those members, and Board of Directors, who have E-Mail addresses on file, it was decided to dispense with the reading of the Business Meeting Minutes at the meetings. Copies of the Business Meetings Minutes will still be brought to the meeting for those who do not get them by E-Mail. The minutes from the short December 6, 2007 meeting were approved by the membership, with no changes.

The Treasurer's Report was read and approved with one question, by Lisa, KB8UER, who wanted to know why the Credit Card report wasn't given. The membership was advised that it had been forgotten, but would be on the next Treasurer's Report.

OLD BUSINESS

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the 147.255 repeater system. He said that he and Gary, KC8ZZS, had to go to the transmitter site and make several changes to get the repeater back in good working order. The UHF Link Receivers no longer have a UHF Preamp or UHF rejection filter on the UHF Receive antenna. There are only four UHF Link Receivers in operation at the present time, due to the changes. This should allow the repeater to work until the weather gets better and another repair trip made. The low audio problem, reported at last month's meeting, was coming from of the Deerwalk Remote Receiver, which had been put back on line by mistake. The only Remote Receivers that are on line at the present time are; Rockport, 911, Williamstown, and Laurel Creek.

Terry, KC8TUE, gave a grant report. He said the Ross Grant, which was supposed to be awarded by the middle of December, hasn't been awarded yet. The Parkersburg Community Foundation was opened for submissions the first of January and they need to be in by the end of March. The Parkersburg Foundation will be for a communications trailer. Terry wants to talk with a couple of other grant writers, and have them look over our grants to see if they can make ours look right.

Denise, KC8TUF, has made up a new form for keeping track of Members

Hours. The form is coded for different activities, and can be on a daily basis. Copies of the form were passed out at the meeting. A report doesn't need to be turned in monthly, but does need to be turned in by the November Meeting. Ken, WA8LLM, said that he is keeping a list of the WCEC Members that check into the weekly DAREN Net and the Sunday evening WCEC Voice/Packet Net, but they still should be listed on the new form that Denise made up. It will be up to the members to keep track of other nets they participate in. The records that we are keeping track of is for Grant Reporting.

Another Draft Copy of the modified By-Laws was passed out. Terry, KC8TUE, went over the latest changes. There was a lengthy discussion of reading, and re-wording of some of the By-Laws. These modifications were considered as a second reading of the By-Laws. A new copy of the By-Laws will be brought to the February Meeting to be reviewed and voted on.

Don, N8NUS, said that a work party for the plastic J-Pole antennas, or other projects can be held at his father's house in Williamstown. The house has a large garage and most of the power tools that may be needed. There was no firm date given for a work party, but whenever any of the members want to get together it is available.

There were no additional E-Mails addresses, but there was a couple of telephone numbers that needed to be changed on the roster. Anytime that E-Mails and/or telephone numbers are changed they need to be reported so the roster can be kept up to date. If there are any changes to the roster, a new one will be passed out at the monthly meetings.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that talking with the County Commission is still on hold. He still wants to talk to Randy Kinsolving, WB8OHX, about the security cameras that will be installed at Fort Borman Park. Randy has been busy with the installation of the new E-911 equipment. This is in reference to installing a Remote Receiver for the 147.255 MHz Repeater System. Once he finds out about the cameras, Ken will get on the County Commission Agenda.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the Christmas Safety Break. Nothing outstanding was reported. Most of the shifts were slow, but there was some large donations given.

Some more of the new ID Cards were passed out to those who didn't get them at last month's meeting. Ken, WA8LLM, says he only has a few more to get made as soon as the Medical Forms are turned in.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the December 8th, "I R PHONE HOME", Communications Exercise. It was a good exercise, with a lot of lessons learned. Ken read the copy of the After Action Report that was sent to Jim Rose, Threat Preparedness Coordinator, at the Mid Ohio Valley Health Department. Jim is putting together a combined After Action Report which all participants in the exercise will get a copy of.

Terry, KC8TUE, gave a report on the Christmas Parade which was also held on December 8th. There were some problems that developed with the Packet system, and about half of the information didn't make it to the viewing area. There was a discussion about using a computer monitor to allow the Master of Ceremonies, who was Doug Hess, see a list of the floats before they arrive at the viewing area. It was decided to work on a better system and have it ready before the Parkersburg Homecoming Parade.

Everyone who made it to the Christmas Dinner said that it was good, with no complaints.

The free 200 foot tower is still on hold. Ken, WA8LLM, wants to get some help getting the tower down. As far as he knows, the antennas haven't been moved off of it yet.

Don, N8NUS, said there is a CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) class starting in Ritchie County. It will start Thursday, January 10th, and will run for the next five Thursdays.

Duane, N8LDM, said that since he needed to get rid of his vacation days at the 911 Center, and he hasn't been able to get with Ed Hupp, so he hasn't got a new RACES (Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service) form made up. As soon as he gets it, those members who want to be registered as RACES members can fill out the form.

NEW BUSINESS

A short discussion about communication activities for 2008 was discussed, and some of them were added to the activity list that is handed out at each month's meeting.

It was mentioned that letters for this years Free Coffee Safety Breaks need to be sent in. There are now three locations for Safety Breaks since they are going to have one at the Williamstown Rest Area. We are not going to select which one to try for. If for some reason we end up with all locations, we will work it out.

W5YI VE Testing will be held on February 9th, at 6:00 PM at the E-911 Center.

THOSE IN ATTENDANCE

Ken Harris WA8LLM/Unit 251, Dot Harris KC8HAI/Unit 258, Ryan Riser Unit 299A, Denise Magyarosi-Mills KC8TUF/Unit 290, Krista Mills KC8VLJ/Unit 295, Tricia Magyarosi KC8VLI/Unit 294, Terry Mills KC8TUE/Unit 289, Brad Carabine KC8TYU/Unit 287, Bob Smith KB8RNE/Unit 267, Cathy Wotring KC8DJJ/Unit 257, Daniel Ritchie KC8ZLK/Unit 296, Steve Ritchie KB8CCQ/Unit 297, Anna Hendershot, KC8JWW/Unit 263, Lisa Hendershot KB8UER/Unit 270, Ken Riffle KB8QPW/Unit 268, Duane Jones N8LDM/Unit 260/ES-2, Scott Jones Unit 299C, Ryan Thomas KD8EMM/Unit 353, Tyler Lewis KD8CPP/Unit 351, Matt Wright KD8GWP/Unit 354, Ray Bodie N8TWV/Unit 278, Dave Wright N8NWV/Unit 285, Don Williams N8NUS/Unit 279, Gary Bosworth KC8ZZS/Unit 277, Jeff Scott KC8EEQ/Unit 282