

## WOOD COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS INC

March 4, 2008

The monthly WCEC Business Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM, by Ken Harris, WA8LLM/Unit 251, President. There were 26 members and guests present.

A motion to approve the February 5, 2008, minutes as they were E-Mailed out was made by Tyler, KD8CPP, and seconded by Duane, N8LDM. 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 Brent, KD8DLK, and seconded by Dave, KC8VLK. Motion carried.

### OLD BUSINESS

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the 147.255 repeater system. He said the repeater has been working fine since the last report. He said it should be okay until the weather gets better and he can spend some time at the repeater site doing some work on it.

Terry, KC8TUE, said that he still hasn't heard anything from the Ross Foundation Grant, but it doesn't look good. He says that since they are new at grants, they are having trouble getting their act together. Denise, KC8TUF, said that she turned in a grant application to the Parkersburg Foundation on Thursday, February 28th. The application needed to be turned in by March 1st. The Parkersburg Foundation is in the amount of around \$6000 and is for a Communications Trailer. Ken, KB8QPW, said that he talked to his nephew, who is a CPA, about looking at the our records, he said that his nephew wasn't interested. There was a possibility of applying for a CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) grant, but it needed to be turned in by March 7th. There wouldn't be enough time to get it put together, and it could not be used to purchase any equipment. Terry thinks there is another grant that will be opening up in June, we need to discuss some more about it.

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

Copies of the new By-Laws were available for the members to pick up. Ken, WA8LLM, says that he needs to get a copy of the By-Laws to the Board of Directors. Ken needs to talk to Roger Bibbee about staying on

as a Board Member. His position as planning coordinator with Wood County Emergency Management has been eliminated, but he is going to be an E-911 Telecommunicator.

There has still been no date set for members to get together a work party and work on the Plastic J-Pole Antennas, or any other projects. Dave, N8NWV, said that as soon as he gets his garage cleaned out, people could go down to his house to work on the antennas or other projects. There was a short discussion about portable antennas.

Ken, WA8LLM, hasn't been able to talk to Randy, KB8OHX, yet about the cameras and a Remote Receiver at Fort Borman Park. Randy has been spending a lot of time out of town going to conferences. Ken also needs to talk to Randy about the 200 foot tower, free for taking down.

Don, N8NUS, gave a report on the CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) class that he taught Ritchie County. He said there are other classes that he is getting lined up in Jackson, Roane, Tyler, and Wirt Counties.

Duane, N8LDM, says he still hasn't been able to talk to Ed Hupp about a new RACES application. Duane said that he will put something together and let Ed look it over. He said he may be able to have it at the next meeting.

Some more of the T-Shirts were passed out at the meeting to those who were there.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he hasn't talked to Ron Harmon of the CAP (Civil Air Patrol) any more about a meeting room at the old Air National Guard Armory building. Until we can find a way to make enough money to rent the space, that project is on hold.

Ken, WA8LLM, hasn't heard back from the vendors who are supposed to provide him with the portable electronic telephone system. Ken said that he would like to get the system as soon as possible so that he could learn how it works, and use it at a couple of exercises that are coming up in May and June.

Some of the members have talked about holding a Hamfest. Max, KC8JHI, said that he would talk to Waverly Fire Department about holding a Hamfest at their fire station. There was ideas about the fire

department providing, and serving the food. A Hamfest is still in the talking stages. It wouldn't be held this year, but maybe for next year. Dave, KC8VLK, made a motion to try to hold a Hamfest next year. Tyler, KD8CPP, seconded to motion. Motion carried. A date needs to be obtained, but it should be held on a Saturday. A committee needs to put together this Summer.

Ken, WA8LLM, talked about holding some classes so the members can complete the FEMA Independent Study courses: IS-100, IS-200, IS-700, and IS-800B. No one has to be certified to teach the courses. All they need to do is go over the information and have the class work on the answers. They can then take the official test on the internet. If we ever hope to get any FEMA grant money, the organization needs to be NIMS compliant.

Field Day will be held June 28th and 29th. The rules for 2008 Field Day are already on the ARRL Website. We need to look them over and decide what all we want to do this year. We don't have any problem getting a served agency representatives, but we would still like to have an elected official. We need to talk to other Amateurs who would like to participate with us.

Terry, KC8TUE, has been working on the Wood County ARES Plan and the Wood County Emergency Communications Plan. 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.

Challenge at Mountwood is April 12th for the Downhill, and the main race is April 13th.

#### NEW BUSINESS

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. We may want to hold our own exercise. A short discussion was held.

Charleston Hamfest March 15th.

Athens Hamfest April 27th.

Cathy, KC8DJJ, has started a hidden word puzzle that she hopes to keep up every month. The puzzles will have twenty words in each one. The answers to the word search will be brought to the next month's meeting.

Ken, WA8LLM, also got the license renewals from the Department of Motor Vehicles for five of our trailers. He will do the renewals in the next week or two.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he will have to renew the WC8EC License that runs out in June. He's going to try to renew it on line. He has received letters from both the ARRL and W5YI, saying they will renew the license for 7 dollars.

Artsbridge at WVUP will be held on Thursday, May 22nd.

A Skywarn Class will be held at the Belpre Training Center on Wednesday, March 26th.

Dave, KC8VLK, said that Lubeck VFD would like for us to have MOBILECOM-1 at their Ice Cream Social. They are trying to get other groups to bring some kind of display. The Lubeck Ice Cream social will be held on June 21st. They also want to use our 24 by 80 canopy as in the past.

Bob, KB8RNE, wants to know when we can schedule a training class on how to set up MOBILECOM-1 and some of our equipment. It was suggested that we wait until the weather gets better and that we do the training at the Parkersburg City Park.

THOSE IN ATTENDANCE

Dot Harris KC8HAI/Unit 258, Ken Harris WA8LLM/Unit 251, Ryan Riser Unit 299A, Tyler Lewis KD8CPP/Unit 351, Bob Smith KB8RNE/Unit 267, Ken Riffle KB8QPW/Unit 268, Tricia Magyarosi KC8VLI/Unit 294, Krista Mills KC8VLJ/Unit 295, Denise Magyarosi-Mills KC8TUF/Unit 290, Terry Mills KC8TUE/Unit 289, David Stevens KC8VLK/Unit 274, Amy Stevens Unit 299H, Cathy Wotring KC8DJJ/Unit 257, Lisa Hendershot KB8UER/Unit 270, Anna Hendershot, KC8JWW/Unit 263, Don Williams N8NUS/Unit 279, Max Barker, KC8JHI, Ray Bodie N8TWV/Unit 278, Dave Wright N8NWV/Unit 285, Matt Wright KD8GWP/Unit 354, Jeff Scott KC8EEQ/Unit 282, Brent Rice KD8DLX/Unit 352, Tim Dooley, N8WO/Unit 273, Duane Jones N8LDM/Unit 260/ES-2, Scott Jones Unit 299C, Steve Ritchie KB8CCQ/Unit 297