

WOOD COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS INC

January 6, 2009

The monthly WCEC Business Meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM, by Ken Harris, WA8LLM/Unit 251, President. There were 29 members and guests present.

A motion to accept the December 2, 2008, minutes as they were E-Mailed 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 Bob, KB8RNE, and seconded by Dot, KC8HAI. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Ken, WA8LLM, said the 147.255 repeater system still seems to be working okay even with the occasional drop out. Kevin, KC8OXY, said that he and Max, KC8JHI, made a trip to the Deerwalk tower site to work on another radio system. They found the batteries were damaged and needed to be replaced. The Deerwalk tower site is powered by solar panels, and has a very low powered Remote Receiver for the 147.255 repeater system. The Deerwalk Remote Receiver hasn't been operational in the system since one of the voter cards in the system went bad. Ken and Kevin may be going to change the transmitter frequency so the Remote Receiver can still be used on a shared basis with one of the other Remote Receivers.

Terry, KC8TUE, said that he hasn't received any responses back from any of the Letters of Inquiry that he has mailed it. With the starting of the new year grant cycle, we can now apply for grants like the Parkersburg Community Foundation. That will be the first one we apply for. That grant is due on March 1st. The Parkersburg Community Foundation is one grant that we can apply for on every cycle, and it will be used to purchase a communications trailer. The Ross Foundation and Bowan Foundation grants are due in April, and we can also apply for them again in November.

Members were reminded to keep track of their hours and mileage so they can be turned in around November of 2009. Denise, KC8TUF, was out of town over the holidays and didn't have time to prepare the new record form like she had hoped. If you didn't get your hours and miles to

Denise in November, you still have a little time before she and Terry start working on the grants.

Ken, WA8LLM, said no one has showed any interest in working on antennas, and Dave, N8NWV, said with no heat in the garage it might be a little cold working in there. Dave does have plenty of tools to work with.

Ken, WA8LLM, called the Emergency Services Director in Mason County about the 200 foot tower. The tower is still on the ground waiting to see if Putnam County is going to use it. Putnam County is waiting for a propagation site study from Miller Communications before they decide whether they need it or not. Ken will keep checking on the tower.

Denise, KC8TUF, said that she will do the training of a CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) class, but she doesn't have any books or CERT Bags to hand out after the completion of the course. Ken, WA8LLM, said we may be able to get some of the bags that Don, N8NUS, still has in stock. The bags were purchased for Wood County through a grant. Denise said she can set up the class so that it will be two hours a week until completed. There will be further discussions.

Ken, WA8LLM, reminded the members they could still register as a RACES (Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service) member by contacting Duane, N8LDM.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he talked to Joe Peterson, N8DSN, about the use of the old YWCA on Dudley Avenue for the Swap Meet. The Swap Meet is scheduled for October 10. Joe is supposed to get back with Ken to see if the building is available and how much it will cost.

Ken, WA8LLM, reminded everyone to be sure and work on their FEMA NIMS Courses. He would like for every one to have the IS-100A, IS-200A, IS-700, and IS-800B courses completed by the end of the year. The IS-700 course needs to be completed by February 13th. After February 13th the course will be IS-700A. It's possible that a few people can get together and work on the courses. Denise, KC8TUF, said she thought she saw that only 80 percent of an organization needs to have the courses completed before applying for a FEMA Grant.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he has most of the paper work in a box that needs to be organized so that we can get a Financial Statement before

we can apply to become a United Way recipient. The United Way will start taking applications in May.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave reports on the Christmas and New Years Safety Breaks. There were a couple shifts that weren't filled, so they were shut down. It was decided at last month's meeting that we won't apply for the Williamstown Rest Area for any Safety Break. We may take it if we don't get one of the other ones, and they call because of a cancellation. Dave, N8NWV, said to put him down for Christmas Day Safety Break 2009.

Ken, WA8LLM, says that he thinks he has everyone's medical forms for their ID Cards so he should have all ID Cards made up by the February Meeting. Ken wants to have all the WCEC Members records up to date since we are going to be applying as a United Way recipient.

Everyone should have an ARES Form filled out or updated. Be sure to put any equipment which you may have available in case we need it in an emergency. Every member of WCEC is also an ARES registered member. Terry, KC8TUE, is going to put a spread sheet together with all ARES information on it.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the Christmas Parade. The Parade went very well this year since we tried something new. Cards were used to give to the Master of Ceremonies. Additional operators were located half way down the route to verify the information that was being sent to the viewing stand.

A report on the Simulated Emergency Test went very well. There was 20 Amateurs that covered all of the locations that were planned, plus some additional locations. The evaluaters from the Bureau of Public Debt was very satisfied with the exercise and pointed out some things that would make it easier for those in an Emergency Operations Center.

NEW BUSINESS

W5YI VE Testing will be February 14 at 6:00pm at the Wood County E-911 Center.

Ken, WA8LLM, brought up for discussion of a Radio-A-Day Give Away. Their was a lengthy discussion about holding a raffle that would give away one radio a day for a month, using the WV Lottery Daily Pick Three. There would be 1000 tickets sold at a price of \$20 each. The

organization should be able to make \$5000 off the raffle. Kevin, KC8OXY, made a motion to purchase the Raffle License that would cost \$50, to get the project started. Matt, KD8GWP, seconded the motion. The motion carried. A committee of Ken, WA8LLM, Dave, KC8VLK, Kevin, KC8OXY, Terry, KC8TUE, and Bill, N8JXO, was put formed to get all of the information put together so that we could start selling the raffle tickets.

Jeff, N8WQO, made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Dave, N8NWV, motion carried.

THOSE IN ATTENDANCE

Duane Jones N8LDM/Unit 260/ES-2, Dot Harris KC8HAI/Unit 258, Ken Harris WA8LLM/Unit 251, Ryan Riser Unit 299A, Brent Rice KD8DLX/Unit 352, Tim Dooley, N8WO/Unit 273, Ken Riffle KB8QPW/Unit 268, Kevin Harris KC8OXY/Unit 253, Brandon Zickefoose KD8JXY/Unit 356, Jerry Wilson KD8JNH/Unit 357, Bill Davidson N8JXO/Unit 283, David Stevens KC8VLK/Unit 274, Amy Stevens Unit 299H, Carol Johnson KC8TUD/Unit 293, Denise Magyarosi-Mills KC8TUF/Unit 290, Krista Mills KC8VLJ/Unit 295, Tricia Magyarosi KC8VLI/Unit 294, Terry Mills KC8TUE/Unit 289, Tyler Lewis KD8CPP/Unit 351, Bob Smith KB8RNE/Unit 267, Matt Wright KD8GWP/Unit 354, Ryan Thomas KD8EMM/Unit 353, Ray Bodie N8TWV/Unit 278, Dave Wright N8NWV/Unit 285, Jeff Scott KC8EEQ/Unit 282, Daniel Ritchie KC8ZLK/Unit 296, Steve Ritchie KB8CCQ/Unit 297, Jeff Newton N8WQO, Barbra Nohe