

WOOD COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS INC
September 1, 2009

The monthly WCEC Business Meeting was called to order at about 7:05 PM, by Ken Harris, WA8LLM/Unit 251, President. There were 29 members and guests present. The meeting was delayed starting so we could check the WV Pick 3 Lottery Number for the Radio-A-Day Give Away. It was the first of 26 drawings for the month. The Radio-A-Day Give Away is based on the WV Pick 3 Lottery Numbers for the month of September. The numbers were 317, and that number has not been registered yet.

A motion to accept the August 7, 2009, minutes as they were E-Mailed, was made by Bob, KB8RNE, 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 Jenny, KC8UYB, seconded by Rick, KC8VLM. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the 147.255 MHz Repeater system. Ken said that since most of the major activities were over he has a couple of weeks to try to get the repeater sounding more like a repeater. The repeater will still have the same problem about selecting which Remote Receiver is being re-transmitted. The UHF Link Receiver will still be scanning. Ken said he met with Jerry, KD8JNH, and Mark, AB8WV, at the tower site to correct a problem with the repeater after some other technicians had to do some rearranging of other equipment and power at the tower site.

Terry, KC8TUE, said there still hasn't been anything heard back about any of the grants. He wants to ask if anyone would like to participate on the Grant committee. Anyone is more than welcome to help putting grants together and submitting them.

Brandon, KD8JXY, made copies of the Member Hours Form. Several of the forms were picked up at the August Meeting. Ken, WA8LLM, just wanted to remind the members to keep track of their hours. Hours that count are any hours for attending meeting, and travel to and from them. All radio nets, Safety Breaks, BINGO activities, communications for all activities, Hamfests, and about anything related with communications.

Dave, N8NWV, said the best thing to do if someone wants to work on some kind of project in his garage, is to call him and make an appointment. Dave's work schedule is not predictable.

The 200 foot tower is still on hold. Due to a lightening strike at the Mason County 911 Center, Ken, WA8LLM, said he would hold off making contact with the 911/OES Director for awhile.

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

Terry, KC8TUE, said that Gary, KC8ZZS, wasn't going to be able to make it to the meeting. Gary said that everything is still on schedule for the Hamfest. Terry said the biggest hold up right now is getting access to the building where the Hamfest will be held. The committee group will try to get together before the next business meeting.

Don, N8NUS, said there's been nothing happening with the Citizens Emergency Response Team (CERT), but he said the LEPC may be giving up their Citizens Corp program so that it can go to the Volunteer Action Center. The LEPC members have to vote on it, and then Citizens Corp has to approve of the change. No CERT Classes have been scheduled. He says there is still grant money available, and they are coming out with more money. Tom Cooper, OES Director of Tyler County, received grant money for a trailer to be used for training purposes. Don says the money is out there, we just need to find the right combination so that we can put together a communications trailer for the WCEC group.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the Radio-A-Day Give Away. Ken said that we had received an E-Mail from Paypal saying that we were in violation of using Paypal for Lottery and Raffle gaming. He had talked to Bill, N8JXO, about the E-Mail. Bill said there was nothing about gaming on the agreement when we first started the Give Away. He said the rules of the agreement have been changed. Bill has removed all the links, and references of Paypal from our website. The money that was in our Paypal account has been transferred to our Regular Checking account. As soon as it shows up in the Regular Checking account, the money will be transferred to our Raffle Checking account to keep our records straight. It was decided that since we have no way of selling the tickets except in person at different events, we would do away any advertisement about the Give Away. Anyone who still sees any advertisement can still go to the www.wc8ec.com website and E-Mail us about the tickets. There won't be as many tickets sold. Ken said that we can go ahead and sell tickets and hold the Give Away, then if someone wins we would award the prize, or we can call it quits and return the money to those who have already purchased tickets. It would be a gamble for us that some of the tickets could be drawn, and we would lose all the money that we took in. Right now we have about \$400 dollars invested in the venture, not counting the cost of sending checks to all of those who have already purchased tickets. With no further discussion, Ken, KB8QPW, made a motion to keep the Give Away going and take a chance of not going in the hole. Jenny, KC8UYB, seconded the motion to go ahead and hold the Give Away. Motion carried. A short discussion was held on other ways that we might consider getting money, but nothing was planned.

Ken, WA8LLM, reminded everyone to work on their FEMA NIMS Courses. He said that Brandon, KD8JXY, downloaded the IS-100, 200, 700, and 800 courses of the web. We also have the tests which are the same as the ones given on line. We can now teach a class and take the test. Those passing the test could then go on line and fill in the test answers from their own test. We still have a few activities left for this year, but classes could be held after they are completed. Ken would like for everyone to have the IS-100A, IS-200A, IS-700, and IS-800B courses completed by the end of the year. Terry, KC8TUE, wanted the group to know there is another NIMS course out there that is for communications only. The course is IS-704.

Cathy, KC8DJJ, said that she just received an E-Mail from Crystal, KD8LOB, stating that Chris, KC8QKO, is in intensive care at Marietta Memorial Hospital with blood clots in both arms.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he still needs to get some ID Cards made up. He will try to get them put together by next month. We need to start getting new pictures and medical forms updated to get ready for next years ID Cards.

Ken, WA8LLM, reminded everyone the Volcano Days BINGO will be held on September 25th, 26th, and 27th. Ken said those wanting to help set up

the canopy, tables, and chairs, needs to be at Mountwood Park on Thursday the 24th at about 5:00 pm. Dot, KC8HAI, said that someone requested soup beans, chili, and onions to eat at the event. She said she would have the beans and chili, a very explosive combination, and that no one would be allowed in the BINGO office trailer after eating.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the Parkersburg Homecoming. He said that we were down about \$150 from last year, but we made \$100.50 more then the fair. We made more at the homecoming in three days, than we did in five days at the fair. The Homecoming Committee asked if we would want to move up to the Farmer's Market Tent so we could be closer to the activities. Ken felt we would be better off staying where we were. There would be a lot of disadvantages moving up there. We couldn't sit up the equipment until after 5:00 pm on Friday, which is when we normally start planning the games. Also we would have to figure a new way to install lights and hook up speakers. He said that when the construction was done with the new Ampa Theater at the floodwall point, most of the activities would move back down there, and we would be in the center of the act ivies again. Ken also wanted to thank everyone who helped set up the canopies and tables while he was at the funeral home for his mom.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the Parkersburg Half Marathon. He said that it worked like a charm. All of the timers got their clocks set with no problem or interference. He wanted to thank Emergency Services for the use of their portable UHF Repeater. Ray, N8TWV, said that he saw some of the race officials with a sign in their windshield, he suggested that we also get such a sign in case we have problems getting to our locations. Ken said he would talk to the officials at the next meeting he attends. The race committee holds their meetings the same day as our communications meeting, but he can talk to them any time.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he still needs to get a donation letter written to John, W8WEJ, for the crank-up tower. Ken, KB8QPW, Terry, KC8TUE, and himself went to John's house and did some tower work for him. Dave, N8NWV, said that Jim, K8BOT, has the crank handle for the cable crank, and other parts for the trailer, Jim will try to get the equipment to the WCEC group.

Ken, WA8LLM, said the Weather Chat Room password needs to be reset.

Ken, WA8LLM, said the Health Department communications trailer, now has the Internet Dish mounted on the top. Ryan, KD8EMM, is one of those trained on the operation of it. The Internet Dish will also have the capability of one Dial Tone telephone line. The Health Department maintenance personnel are installing the cabinets. The Health Department is still waiting for the \$10,000 grant money from Grainger to become available, and all of the radio and computer equipment can be ordered. The grant money will be awarded to WCEC, but it is all earmarked to go to the trailer. Grainger couldn't give the money directly to the Health Department, so it will be coming to WCEC.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he hasn't registered the new Network Version of the Field Day logging program yet. For some reason the WCEC Credit Card doesn't seem to work. Ken is going to call Capital One to find out if there is some kind of problem. Ken, KB8QPW, said that Capital One credit card company was sold out to another company, and there may just have been some kind of glitch. It may be okay now.

Ken, WA8LLM, ordered the new tops for our 24 by 40 or 24 by 80 foot canopies, which Eastwood VFD helped to fund. He had a problem with the Credit Card, but was able to get the new canopies and 200 bungee ball holders. The canopies were first used at the Parkersburg Homecoming.

Dot, KC8HAI, said she took the two Kroger Gift Cards to Kroger and purchased four cans of coffee that will be used at our Safety Breaks, Field Day, Volcano Day, or what ever activity we want.

NEW BUSINESS

A check needs to be written to the City of Vienna as a donation for the use of McDonough Park for our annual picnic. Tim, N8WO, will take the check to the Vienna City Building.

Bob, KB8RNE, reminded the group of the Chic-Fil-A High School/Middle School cross county foot races which will be held September 5th at the Butcher Bend 4-H grounds. The first race will start at 9:00am. We need to be on location by 8:00am.

Dot, KC8HAI, said the Mineral Wells VFD will be holding their Pig Roast on September 12th, and they will probably be wanting to use one of our 24 by 40 canopies, even though they haven't called yet.

Dot, KC8HAI, said the Hamfest Committee needs to find someone to do the food at the Hamfest. That needs to be done shortly. If any one wants to take on that project, the money they make will be their own.

Lisa, KB8UER, brought up as a suggestion about getting a chartered bus to take to the Dayton Hamfest. Those wanting to go would divide up the cost of the bus. That way they could relax on the trip up, and back, and the bus would be available when the Hamfest was over. A short discussion followed.

Terry, KC8TUE, said that he had received reports of activities at some of our events that is a bad reflection on the organization. He talked about the trailer being closed up and the light off, at one of

our Safety Breaks, like we were not in operation. He also had reports about people auguring between themselves, and using inappropriate language in front of our BINGO customers, and other such incidents. While we are in the public's eye, we need to conduct ourselves in a proper manner doesn't make the organization look bad.

Jenny, KC8UYB, made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Rick, KC8VLM. Motion carried, meeting adjourned.

THOSE IN ATTENDANCE

Dot Harris KC8HAI/Unit 258, Ken Harris WA8LLM/Unit 251, Ryan Riser KC8KLZ/Unit 358, Ryan Thomas KD8EMM/Unit 353, Tyler Lewis KD8CPP/Unit 351, Tyler Arnold KD8GNW/Unit 355, Lisa Hendershot KB8UER/Unit 270, Cathy Wotring KC8DJJ/Unit 257, Bob Smith KB8RNE/Unit 276, Duane Jones N8LDM/Unit 260/ES-2, Tim Dooley N8WO/Unit 273, Jerry Wilson KD8JNH/Unit 357, Matthew Greathouse KD8KWJ, Brandon Zickefoose KD8JXY/Unit 356, Joshua McKnight, Mark Stull AB8WV/Unit 291, Judy Peterson N8UFQ/Unit 255, Kendale Peterson Unit 299E, Anna Hendershot KC8JWW/Unit 263, Bill Davidson N8JXO/Unit 283, Ray Bodie N8TWV/Unit 278, Dave Wright N8NWV/Unit 285, Ken Riffle KB8QPW/Unit 268, Rick Greene KC8VLM/Unit 265, Jennifer Greene KC8UYB/Unit 264, Ken Roberts, Jeff Newton N8WQO/Unit 298, Jeff Scott KC8EEQ/Unit 282, Josh Morgan KD8LKE/Unit 360