

Wood County Emergency Communications

Serving Wood County West Virginia and surrounding areas



Minutes of Monthly Business Meeting January 3, 2012

The monthly business meeting was called to order at about 7:01 pm by Ken Harris, WA8LLM/Unit 251, President. There were 27 members and guests present.

A motion to accept the December 6, 2011, minutes, as they were E-Mailed, was made by Rick, WV8DOC, 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. Although it was late, a motion to accept the treasurer's report was made by Jerry, WV8HAM, and seconded by Rick, WV8DOC. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the 147.255 MHz Repeater system. He said the repeater seems to be working just fine. From time-to-time the repeater will identify, and we still have control of shutting it down when we need to. He will still try to go to the tower site to work on the controller.

Terry, KC8TUE, said the only thing he needs to complete any of the grants he is working on is last year's budget. Ken, WA8LLM, will work with Terry on last year's expenses.

Terry, KC8TUE, said that he has a Donation Letter put together for this year. He said that we should look at delivering the letters in person to the companies who might want to help us.

Ken, WA8LLM, reminded everyone to keep track of their mileage and minutes for grant applications.

Rick, WV8DOC, gave a report on some of the activities that are going to be happening with the CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) this year. Rick said there is a Disaster Child Birth Class coming up on January 23rd at the Health Department. He said that CERT would like to hold another one day Amateur Radio

Technician Class License class before October.

Duane, N8LDM, wasn't at the meeting so we're not for sure what members of WCEC are registered with the RACES (Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service) program. It was also suggested that since WCEC isn't being used by Wood County Emergency Services that we talk with Eric Taylor who is the new Fire Chief of the Parkersburg Fire Department about starting a RACES program through them. RACES programs can be sponsored by any State, County, or City Government. It is a government run program. Ken, WA8LLM, talked about how, and when the RACES program can be used. Ken says he needs to know who all are registered as RACES, so that he can put it on the back of the WCEC ID Card.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he has been seeing more organizations asking their members to take the NIMS IS-100, 200, 700, and 800 courses. The latest one was from Father Joe Peterson, N8DSN, who is the Pastor of the St. Margret Mary's Church on Dudley Avenue in Parkersburg. Ken passed around a list of members and the NIMS courses they have completed, and are

on WCEC records. The list is also being marked if the members are registered as CERT and RACES. All members of WCEC are automatically registered as ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Services). Rick, WV8DOC, said that some time this year he would like to hold classroom classes for IS-100, 200, 700, and 800. He wants to hold the classes for CERT.

Ken, KB8QPW, reported that MECS1 is still parked at the Number 2 Fire Station in Parkersburg. It still has electricity plugged into it. But, since there is no heater to keep it warm, it stays cold all of the time.

Terry, KC8TUE, said the T-shirt business across the street from where he lives is back in business. All we need to do is get him a list of how many, and what size T-shirts that we need, and he will give us a cost. Ken, WA8LLM, said that he will start getting a list of those who are active with activities, and needs T-shirts. There was also a short discussion about those wanting jackets. Rick, WV8DOC, suggested that we also talk to Tom, WV8TOM, who is Emergency Services Director for Tyler County, about getting the T-shirts and/or jackets through the prison company. A discussion followed.

Rick, WV8DOC, said that Rick, KC8VLM, and Jenny, KC8UYB, are willing to store the Aluminum Cans inside their back yard, to keep them from walking away. It was decided to continue the can project to see how it works. Rick, WV8DOC, says he will stay in charge of the project. It wasn't decided which bank account to put the can money into.

Bill, N8JXO, said the WCEC website is as up to date as it can be. Bill said that he needs a copy of the upcoming events to put on the site. It was suggested that advertizing on the website for the VE Testing be dropped back to every other month for this year. VE Testing will be the second Saturday in February, April, June, August,

October, and December. Bill said there is a page with the upcoming Hamfests.

The Pancake Breakfast committee is going to start planning for the breakfast now that things have slowed down for a little while.

Since it's the first of the year, plans should be started on the 2012 Hamfest.

Rick, WV8DOC, said he hasn't had any feedback about the Operations Plan for the Health Department Communications Trailer. If anyone has information that should be added to the plan, to let him know.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he and Dot, KC8HAI, stopped by the building being vacated by the FAA at the airport on the way to the meeting. There were several technicians working in and around the new FAA building. Some of them were testing the new coax transmission lines going to the antennas on the tower. Most of the cold weather work is about done. They just need to get the telephone control lines going to the Airport Control Tower connected up and tested out. From the looks of the job, the FAA should be out of the building by the end of January. Ken said that as soon as they are out of the building he will install the electric meter so we can start paying for the electricity that we will be using. Ken described what the inside of the new FAA building was like.

Rick, WV8DOC, said that he has placed the E-Mail addresses of all the members that he has on the Yahoo Group. Any member who doesn't want their E-Mail Address on the Yahoo Group can have it removed.

Ken, WA8LLM, said there are still WCEC patches on sale if anyone wants one or more. They are \$2.00 each.

Terry, KC8TUE, is going to take the Yaesu FT-1900R to Gary, KC8ZZS, so he can sell it E-Bay. Gary couldn't make it to the meeting due to a battery problem on his Jeep.

Ken, WA8LLM, passed around an activities list for 2012. The list also has the

member's callsign on it. Those who are able to work on some activities should mark them on the sheet.

Before the meeting got started Ken, WA8LLM, took some more pictures for the WCEC ID Cards. He also put together a list members who have taken the CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) training, and are registered with Wood County RACES (Radio Emergency Civil Emergency Service). Ken is now able to complete some of the WCEC ID Cards. There are still some medical forms that need to be verified, or updated, before the cards can be completed. There was a discussion about putting Bar Codes on the ID Card. If Bar Codes are put on the ID Card they should be the same system as the Fire Departments.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the Christmas Parade. He said that he received a telephone call from Doug, KD8PYD, on the Thursday before the parade. Doug wanted to know if we had been contacted by the radio station about the parade. Ken advised him that we had not been contacted. Doug said that if we didn't want to help that he would understand. Ken played telephone tag with someone at the radio station but they never gave us any paperwork to go by. The numbering system was useless this year since we didn't know who any of the entries were.

There were several lessons learned from the parade. Canopies in the cold weather and high winds can't be used. It was suggested that MECS1 be used at the parade the next time if we participate.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the Table Top Exercise which was held at the Airport. The exercise was basically going over the Airport Emergency Plan. Ken said that he is supposed to get a copy of the Emergency Plan E-Mailed to him so that we can look it over to see how Wood Coun-

ty Emergency Communications fits in the communications section.

Ken, WA8LLM, reminded everyone about Challenge at Mountwood Mountain Bike Race which is scheduled for April 15, 2012. He said to think warm and dry. The bike race is a couple weeks earlier this year.

NEW BUSINESS

Ken, WA8LLM, said that WCEC is scheduled to meet with a contractor who is writing a new Wood County Emergency Plan. The meeting will be to get the information about volunteers in the plan. The meeting will be held at the EOC/E-911 Center at 1:00pm on January 17th. Rick, WV8DOC, will also be going to meeting representing CERT, Large Animal Rescue, and maybe others.

There will be a SKYWARN Class held on March 13th at the Judge Black Annex from about 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

The group was in favor of holding a Hamfest again this year. The Hamfest will be held on October 13th at the Wood County 4-H Campgrounds. Ken, WA8LLM, said that he would go to the Courthouse and get the building reserved. The group needs to start thinking about things that need to be done for the Hamfest and get started earlier this year. A short discussion followed.

Krista, KC8VLJ, asked when we would be holding another One Day General Class License class. Ken, WA8LLM, said that we may hold another one, but it won't be announced as wide spread, unless another group wants to sponsor it. Since the group who sponsors the classes usually provides the snacks and drinks. The New General Class Question Pool just came out July 2011. A lengthy discussion followed.

Bill, N8JXO, made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Bob, KB8RNE. Meeting adjourned.

ATTENDEES

Ken Harris WA8LLM/Unit 251
Dot Harris KC8HAI/Unit 258
Cathy Wotring KC8DJJ/Unit 257
Brad Carabine KC8TYU/Unit 287
Dave Wright N8NWV/Unit 285
Judy Peterson N8UFQ/Unit 255
Kendale Peterson KD8QAK/Unit 369
Kymber Wotring Unit 299J
Colt Wotring Unit 299G
Jerry Wilson WV8HAM/Unit 357
Crystal Wilson KD8LOB/Unit 361
Tim Dooley N8WO/Unit 273
Ken Riffle KB8QPW/Unit 268
Bob Smith KB8RNE/Unit 267

Bill Davidson N8JXO/Unit 283
Tyler Arnold KD8GNW/Unit 355
Tyler Vincent KD8RKE/Unit 373
Tricia Magyarosi KC8VLI/Unit 294
Krista Mills KC8VLJ/Unit 295
Barbra Nohe Unit 299N
Brodi Wilson
Larry Wilson
Olivia Wilson
Ray Bodie N8TWV/Unit 278
Rick Sawyer WV8DOC/Unit 364
Terry Mills KC8TUE/Unit 289
Matt Greathouse N8GDM/Unit 363