

# Wood County Emergency Communications

*Serving Wood County West Virginia and surrounding areas*



## Minutes of Monthly Business Meeting February 5, 2013

The monthly business meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Ken Harris, WA8LLM/ Unit 251, President. There were 21 members and guests present.

A motion to accept the January 1, 2013, minutes, as they were E-Mailed, was made by Matt, KD8GWP, and seconded by Rick, WV8DOC. Motion carried. Printed copies of the minutes and agenda were also available at the meeting.

The Treasurer's Report was read. A motion to accept the treasurer's report was made by Rick, WV8DOC, and seconded by Jeff, N8WQO. Motion carried.

### Old Business

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the 147.255 MHz Repeater system. He said Matt, N8MDG, went back to the 911 tower site and corrected the audio level problem that made it sound louder than the other Remote Receivers. Ken said that Tyler, WV8VFD, has about 15 out of the 40 Motorola VHF Hand Held radios programmed for 147.855 MHz. The VHF radios will be used for the Remote Receivers. The VHF Hand Held radios will be connected to the Motorola HT-600 radios that were taken out of service. The VHF/UHF combination will be used as Remote Receivers. The new VHF/UHF Remote Receivers will take the place of the ones that are in operation now. Matt said that he is going to add four more UHF receivers at the repeater site. The voter that he installed on the repeater can handle 8 Remote Receivers. Ken explained about a new UHF Repeater that is being coordinated for WCEC. The frequency will be 443.925 MHz. Matt's repeater is 444.925 MHz. When the repeater is placed on the air, the two UHF repeaters will be linked together. That should give a wide area of Hand Held coverage on UHF. Ken said that on Sunday evenings between about 8:30 and 9:30PM the UHF repeaters can be linked with

the 147.255 MHz system for the WCEC/ARES Net. Also during any communications emergency, the two systems can be linked together better coverage on both VHF and UHF. Ken wants to thank Matt for all the work he has been doing on the repeaters.

Terry, KC8TUE, said he has let the present grants go by the wayside while he is doing research on other grants. Terry said that he had donation letters for both the Hamfest, and for other equipment, for the organization. A short discussion followed. Some of the equipment that is needed is computers and projectors for training.

Ken, WA8LLM, reminded everyone to keep track of their volunteer hours, and mileage. Dave, N8NWV, turned in his hours at the meeting.

Rick, WV8DOC, said that he didn't have all of the dates that the CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) has scheduled for training. He did say that CERT is planning to hold an all day training class on Saturday, April 27th, to teach the NIMS ICS-100, 200, 700, and 800 courses. Ken, WA8LLM, suggested that those who haven't

completed the NIMS courses to think about taking the class on that date.

Terry, KC8TUE, gave a report on the Health Department Communications Trailer. He said that it is still in one piece. None of the radio equipment has been taken out of it to be placed in the new trailer purchased by WCEC, to be used for communications.

Terry, KC8TUE, said that we would better off staying with the company that we have been using for the T-Shirts. We just need to get a list of the ones who need T-Shirts, so we can get them ordered. A short discussion followed.

Since, Bill, N8JXO, wasn't at the meeting, Ken, KB8QPW, said the website looks like it is up-to-date, including all of the Hamfests.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the building at the airport. During the one day Technician Radio Class, Ken was asked by officials of the Health Department about the building. After a lengthy conversation with the Health Department officials, and the problems with purchasing insurance, for the building, the officials are looking into helping WCEC to get the building by placing it under their insurance policy. The Health Department will be looking into how it can be done. For now Ken said that he has left the building in the hands of the Health Department. The officials of the Health Department have a copy of the lease agreement that we received from the Airport Authority.

Ken, WA8LLM, said there are still WCEC patches if any wants one or more. They are \$2.00 a piece. For some reason they weren't at the meeting, but Ken said that he would have them at the next meeting.

There hasn't been any more said about moving the cabinets from one building to another building at the airport. We may try to set up another date to move the cabinets when the weather gets better.

A work group to clean up the Sand Hill tower would be held off until Spring or Sum-

mer, or when the weather gets warmer.

Ken, WA8LLM, said the new Hand Held radios have been programmed and are in operation. He said the additional 10 radios that were purchased are slowly being sold. Ken told about how 12 of the radios have been mounted on a charging board and placed on charge. There are two of the 10 extra radios that haven't been spoken for. The money from the extra radios is being placed back into the regular checking account. A short discussion followed.

Ken, WA8LLM, said the ID Cards were on the sign-in table. Ken said that he may take new pictures for ID Cards during the year.

Ken, WA8LLM, said the license and title for the new WCEC Communications trailer are in hand. He had them at the meeting. He gave the license to Matt, KD8GWP, to place on the trailer since it is sitting at his house. He said the title would be placed in the file cabinet with the rest of the WCEC trailers. It was suggested that we should get a vanity license, or an Amateur Radio license for the trailer. Ken said that he would try to find out some time in the future if it could be done. Ken explained about some of the modifications that will be done to the trailer to make it usable for communications. Matt has already been doing some modifications to the trailer. A short discussion followed.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the one day Technician Radio Class held at the Health Department on January 24th. Out of the 27 people who took the class, 22 passed their test, and are waiting for their license. While at the testing, after the class, Brad, KC8TYU, took his Extra Class and passed it. Colt, Unit 299G, took his test and passed it. There were two people who passed the Technician Class, and then took their General test and passed them.

Ken, WA8LLM, talked a little bit about membership dues. There has been some discussions about how to charge membership dues. One way is to have a flat fee of about \$15. The dues would be prorated so the mem-

bers who are working the fund raising events would pay a lower dues, or none at all, depending on how many hours they work during the events. If there are membership dues, they won't take effect until January, 2014.

There was a reminder there will be a Hamfest on October 12th. Ken, WA8LLM, needs to stop by the Court House to pay the rent for the building. Ken has been collecting some of the door prizes. He said he also has a generator for a door prize, and a 2 Meter Transceiver for a main prize. He said that we need to contact Harbor Freight to get donations from them. It was discussed about giving away the same radios for main prizes, if they are still available. A short discussion followed.

Cathy, KC8DJJ, gave a report on the Spaghetti Supper that she and a few others are planning to hold. She said the supper would be held on April 6th at the Community Activity Center (old YWCA) across the street from the St Margaret Mary Catholic Church on Dudley Avenue. The dinner will run from 3:00pm to 7:00pm. The group needs to purchase a one day insurance for \$100, and after the dinner they need to donate \$100 to the church that owns the building. A short discussion followed.

Tammy Smith, Unit 299M, gave a report on a Dance the group is planning to hold. No times or locations have been made yet. A short discussion followed.

## **New Business**

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on a road race that was held on January 13th in Belpre. He was notified of the race a few days after the last business meeting.

Ken, WA8LLM, said there would be another road race held in Vienna on February 17th. He would send out an E-Mail asking for help as soon as he gets more information.

Ken, WA8LLM, talked about a packet radio project that he and Sammy, N8SVX, have

been working on. As soon as they get the project perfected he is going to hold a workshop to allow those interested in packet radio build their own packet radio computer interface. Matt, KD8GWP, had an idea of getting the power for the interface from the computer. A short discussion followed.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he spent most of the day before the meeting getting the WV Business License Report completed and paid for, and the SERA (SouthEast Repeater Association) membership renewed.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he will work on the IRS 501c3 Tax Report the day after the meeting.

Dave, N8NWV, made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Matt, KD8GWP. Meeting adjourned.

## **Attendees**

Ken Harris WA8LLM/Unit 251  
Dot Harris KC8HAI/Unit 258  
Dave Wright N8NWV/Unit 285  
Rick Sawyer WV8DOC/Unit 364  
Cathy Wotring KC8DJJ/Unit 257  
Brad Carabine KC8TYU/Unit 287  
David Stevens KC8VLK/Unit 274  
Amy Stevens  
Emily Stevens  
Anna Hendershot KC8JWW/Unit 263  
Judy Peterson N8UFQ/Unit 255  
Kendale Peterson KD8QAK/Unit 369  
Ken Riffle KB8QPW/Unit 268  
Tammy Smith Unit 299M  
Krista Mills KC8VLJ/Unit 295  
Terry Mills KC8TUE/Unit 289  
Ray Bodie N8TWV/Unit 278  
Jeff Scott KC8EEQ/Unit 282  
Jeff Newton N8WQO/Unit 298  
Matt Wright KD8GWP/Unit 354  
Barbra Nohe KD8SQY/Unit 375