

Wood County Emergency Communications

Serving Wood County West Virginia and surrounding areas



Minutes of Monthly Business Meeting May 7, 2013

The monthly business meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Ken Harris, WA8LLM/Unit 251; President. There were 19 members and guests present.

A motion to accept the April 2, 2013, minutes, as they were E-Mailed, was made by Dot, KC8HAI, and seconded by Barb, KD8SQY. 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 Dave, N8NWV, 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 okay. He said that someone was operating in the southern part of the county near Rockport, and wasn't having any problem getting into the repeater, so the Rockport Remote Receiver must be working okay. He thinks the Elizabeth Remote Receiver may be off the air. He has been talking to Matt, N8MDG. Matt thinks it would be better to use mobile transceivers to build new Remote Receivers for the repeater, instead of using the VHF and UHF Handie/Talkies. Matt has already built up four new units that we are hoping to change out as soon as he and Ken can get together to go to the remote locations.

Terry, KC8TUE, said that he is still looking for new grants to apply for. He hasn't had anyone ask for donation letters. He said that he has already sent out E-Mails to the Radio and Electronic companies asking for donation for door prizes for the Hamfest.

Ken, WA8LLM, reminded everyone to keep track of their volunteer hours, and mileage.

Rick, WV8DOC, reported on the CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) training that was held last month. He said that he now has two more CERT Members. He also said that Wirt County had about 21 people taking CERT training last month. He also said that since no one had responded about the NIMS Training that was scheduled for April 27th, and the two people who had taken the CERT Training, had already completed some of the NIMS courses, that the NIMS Training was cancelled.

Terry, KC8TUE, gave a report on the Health Department Communications Trailer. The last time that he checked on the trailer, some of the equipment had been moved around. He wasn't for sure if anything was missing out of it. Ken, WA8LLM, suggested the WCEC lock be changed to see if someone is going

through the door that is controlled by the Health Department. It was suggested that an inventory be performed to check on the equipment.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he and Terry, KC8TUE, stopped by the new WCEC Communications Trailer, on Sunday before the meeting, and discussed how the radio positions and antennas might be installed. Ken needs to talk to Matt, KD8GWP, about a metal frame for the desk tops.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that nothing has been done with the T-Shirt order. He wants to see how many people we get involved with the activities before ordering the shirts. Dan, N8NWV, asked Ken if he had called Zides Sport Shop in Marietta. Ken said that he had the information written down in a different location and forgot about it. He said that he may try to call them the day after the meeting. Matt Lamp gave Ken the telephone number.

Since Bill, N8JXO, wasn't at the meeting, he couldn't give a report on the www.wc8ec.com website. Ken, WA8LLM, said the last time he was on the site that it looked up-to-date.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he talked to Tim Miller at the Health Department about the building at the airport and getting it covered under the Health Department insurance plan. Tim said that he had forgot to check on it. Tim said that he would check on it as soon as he and Ken finished talking.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he still has WCEC patches for anyone who wants them. The patches are \$2.00 each.

There was very little said about the cabinets in the old airport terminal building, since they have been put on hold

until someone says they need to be moved, or WCEC get the building at the airport.

Since the weather is better, and that Matt, N8MDG, wants to add four more Link Receivers to the 147.255 MHz repeater, Ken suggested that clean up of the Sand Hill tower site could be done at the same time. He will work with Mat, and get a day to go to the site. Ken will contact everyone when it gets scheduled.

Ken, WA8LLM, described how the membership dues would be set up, if they are invoked. A final decision won't be made until later in the year. By then, it should be decided if there is enough Fund Raisers and members that help with the activities.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he went to the Court House on Friday, May 3rd, and paid the \$200 rent for the 4-H Building for the Hamfest. The 4-H needs a copy of the WCEC 501c3 IRS Determination Letter each year. He gave a short list of some of the equipment that he already has for Main Prizes and Door Prizes. He is not for sure if the group will get a donation from Waste Management as in the past. He would like to get some businesses that would like to sponsor the Main Prizes.

Cathy, KC8DJJ, gave a report on the Spaghetti Supper. She said that we just about broke even. Cathy and Brad, KC8TYU, said they think they know why the advertisement didn't go very well. They think that a lot of the telephone numbers, and Fax numbers weren't any good.

Ken, KB8QPW, and Tammy, Unit 299M, gave a report on the dance. They said that due to scheduling and short notice with little advertising, the dance was a flop. But since it was the first time, maybe

things can get worked out.

Ken, WA8LLM, said the Packet Radio interface project that he and Sam, N8SVX, have been working on is just about done. Ken has been using his HF radio to test it out. He has a few changes that he wants to make, and then he will hold a work party for those who want to build the unit and get on Soundcard Packet radio. He is thinking about holding a Printed Circuit Board class/work party at the Eastwood Volunteer Fire Department.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the 6K Vienna Fun Run. He said there were 14 communicators at the race, the race officials said that only needed 9. Everything went just fine. The race was over by 10:00 am.

There was a reminder the Chic-Fil-A Road Run would be held on May 18th. There will be a very little change in the races route, at the end of the race. Those wanting to help with the race needs to be at the Field House, on 20th Street, by 7:00 am. They need to be on location by 7:30 am. The race will start at 8:00 am, and should be over by 10:30 am.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the Challenge at Mountwood Mountain Bike Race. He said there were 13 communicators that provided the Safety Communications around the race course. There were no major problems encountered at the race.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the Health Department sponsored Table Top Exercise, called Operation Spring Storm. At least six members of WCEC participated in the exercise.

Cathy, KC8DJJ, gave a report on the General Class License class that was held on April 13th. There were seven

Amateurs from around the area that took the class. Out of the seven that took the class, five of them upgraded to General at the regularly scheduled W5YI VE Testing that was held after the class. At the testing, two people took their Technician Class test and passed. One of them was Cathy's daughter Kymber, who is now KD8UQR. Also Sammy, N8SVX, upgraded to Extra.

New Business

Cathy, KC8DJJ, said the St Margaret Mary Church Activity Center has been reserved for June 29th. Her activity group is planning to hold some kind of activity on that date. If they can get one of the shelters at the Parkersburg City Park, they may hold the activity there instead of the church. They are thinking about holding some kind of event like a carnival. The date may be different then June 29th. They are still working on the details.

Ken, WA8LLM, has been talking to the official who contacts the group when they need communications for the road run and races. Since it's a challenge of trying to figure out who is going to participate in the races, how many are going to show up, and T-Shirt sizes, they have been working on a deal to donate money to WCEC, instead of giving T-Shirts. When the race officials ask for just so many communicators, it's hard to turn down any of the extra ones who show up. There was no official vote on the change yet, but Ken is still working out a deal with the officials. The change would affect all events where communications or WCEC equipment is needed.

The Broadway Church of Nazarene wants to use the groups two 24 by 40 canopies for an activity they are holding on June 8th. The canopies need to be set up after 5:00 pm on Friday, June 7th. They

usually give a sizable donation for the canopies. Ken, WA8LLM, said that putting up and taking down the canopies could be classified as a fund raising event.

To make it official Ken, WA8LLM, reminded the group about Field Day which will be held on June 22nd and 23rd.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he has been talking to the Frequency Coordinator about a new UHF Repeater. He had applied for a frequency of 443.925 MHz a few months back. The coordinator said that frequency couldn't be used since there was another repeater just 67 miles away on it. Ken gave him a list of other frequencies that he has been looking at. When coordinated and put in service, the new repeater will be linked to the 444.925 MHz repeater on a permanent basis. Then on Sunday evenings between about 8:30 and 9:30 pm, the UHF repeaters will be linked to the 147.255 MHz repeater system for the weekly WCEC/ARES Net. During disasters, drills, or SKYWARN weather, the repeaters could also be linked together for wide area coverage.

Ken, KB8QPW, talked about an Arm Forces Crossband radio event. The Amateurs would receive on MARS government frequencies and transmit on Amateur frequencies. The event would be held on May 11th.

Ken, WA8LLM, said the group received a Thank You card for the flowers that were sent for the daughter of Dave

Dave, N8NWX, made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Ray, KC8RUJ. Meeting adjourned.

Attendees

Ken Harris WA8LLM/Unit 251, Dot Harris KC8HAI/Unit 258, Tim Dooley N8WO/Unit 273, Brent Rice KD8DLX/Unit 352, Roy Green KD8PYC/Unit 372, Matt Lamp, Cathy Wotring KC8DJJ/Unit 257, Brad Carabine KC8TYU/Unit 287, Dave Wright N8NWX/Unit 285, Rick Sawyer WV8DOC/Unit 364, Barbra Nohe KD8SQY/Unit 375, Ken Riffle KB8QPW/Unit 268, Tammy Smith Unit 299M, Raymond Johnson KC8RUJ/Unit 292, Carol Johnson KC8TUD/Unit 293, Larry Stevens KD8PYN/Unit 370, Ray Bodie N8TWV/Unit 278, David Stevens KC8VLK/Unit 274, Terry Mills KC8TUE/Unit 289
Tim Dooley N8WO/Unit 273
Brent Rice KD8DLX/Unit 352