



WOOD COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS INC

Minutes of May 6, 2014

The monthly business meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Ken Harris, WA8LLM/Unit 251, and President. There were 22 members and guests present.

A motion to accept the April 1, 2014, minutes, as they were E-Mailed, and after they were corrected, was made by Dave, N8NWV, and seconded by Matt, KD8WHN. 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 Tyler, KD8RKE. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the 147.255 MHz Repeater system. Ken said that he hasn't seen any problems with the repeater lately. He would still like to get some additional remote receivers added to the system, and get the voter balanced so it wouldn't keep selecting the wrong receiver. A short discussion followed.

Terry, KC8TUE, said he still hasn't heard anything back about the Parkersburg Area Foundation grant yet. Everyone figures that no news may be good news.

Terry, KC8TUE, didn't bring any of the donation letters to the meeting this month. He said no one took any of them last month.

Terry, KC8TUE, and Rick, WV8DOC, said they had heard that the new owners of the Mission Manager program are thinking about charging for the service, but nothing has been

done yet. Terry thought we might as well use the program until that happens, then we will make a decision if we want to pay for it.

Ken, WA8LLM, made a list of those who have never had T-shirts, or needs new ones. The group is going to purchase that many for now.

Bill, N8JXO, gave a report on the www.wc8ec.com website. He said he is still working on the site. He has made some additional changes, and that it is as up-to-date as it can be. He wants people to look at the site, and make suggestions for changes.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that we will have to wait until the Health Department gets a new manager, and he/she gets settled in. Then we can talk to them about an insurance certificate so we could start using the building at the airport.

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

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Ken, WA8LLM, said the nine solar panels that he put on the top of the new communications trailer are still working and keeping the batteries charged. From time-to-time he turns on one of the computers and works on the new HSMM-MESH system that he and Sammy, N8SVX, have been working on. Now that the weather is getting better they are going to start installing radios in it. Ken wants to put tinting on the windows.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that on the day of the Challenge at Mountwood Mountain Bike race, he placed a homemade 16 element coaxial antenna on one of the towers at the Sand Hill tower site, and placed the 443.175 MHz repeater on the air. He wanted to see how it worked out there before talking to Tim Miller, WB8MOI, of Miller Communications, about leaving it there. The repeater worked great for the race event and has good coverage around the county. The repeater has about 10 Watts coming out of the transmission line going into the antenna. Ken went to talk to Tim about leaving it there. Tim said if we take down the old Civil Air Patrol antenna that hasn't been in operation for 10 years or more, we could mount the 443.175 MHz Repeater antenna in that location. Ken is going to put together another antenna, make antenna mounting hardware, remove the old CAP antenna, and install the new antenna. When he gets the Motorola repeater that was donated by Rich Dillion, K8VE, working, he will replace the Kenwood Repeater that is being used now. He would like to get the Kenwood repeater re-programmed

for 444.150 MHz, and install it at the Jackson County tower site.

Rick, WV8DOC, said that since there was problems getting the County Commission to help sponsor the CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) program that all CERT activities was suspended until further notice. Those who are CERT trained, can work with the Health Department on their activities.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that Walt Smittle, KD8VLG, the County OES Director and Dave Bradley, N8DWB, wanted to know how they could help to get the 443.150 MHz Repeater in operation, and when we wanted to go to Jackson County and pick up the old Microwave systems that were taken out of service a few years ago. Ken said that he, Dot, KC8HAI, and Sammy, N8SVX, went to the Jackson County Hamfest on the Sunday before the meeting. After the Hamfest was over, they met with Dave and picked up the Microwave equipment. Ken said the old system worked on frequencies in the 950 MHz range. He thinks that with a little work, it can be moved down into the 902 to 928 MHz Amateur Radio range and be used to link the Wood County 443.175 MHz repeater, and the 444.150 MHz repeater in Jackson County together. A short discussion followed.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that since the Vienna Fun Run fell on the same day as the monthly class, there was no official training. But, after the Vienna Fun Run was over some of those who helped with the race meet back at Hardee's and discussed building and operating Race Clocks at the other

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paces the group helps with. Ken had one of the race clocks that he is working on at the meeting for Show-N-Tell. The May monthly communications class may be on the operation of different modes of transmission, such as PSK-31 and CW which will be used at Field Day that will be held on June 28th and 29th.

Terry, KC8TUE, said that he tried to contact a couple other members of the Lubeck Civic Center building about paying last year's, and this year's membership dues, and paying for the rent of the building for the dinners that have been, or will be held, but didn't get any response. He said that he is going to contact his Aunt and Uncle who are also on the board of directors of the Lubeck Civic Center, and see what can be done about paying the rent.

Cathy, KC8DJJ, said that things are coming along good on the Hot Dog Supper which will held on May 24th. She will be using some of the money from the raffle of the generator as working money for the dinner.

Judy, N8UFO, pulled the winning Raffle Ticket for the 800 Watt Generator. The winner of the generator was Sarah, with a last name that couldn't be read, but had a telephone number of (740) 901-1109. Ken, WA8LLM, said he would contact the winner of generator, and make arrangements for getting it picked up, or delivered. The group discussed about holding another raffle. Ken, WA8LLM, asked the group for a show of hands who would sale the raffle tickets. Very few hands went up. Ken said the raffles are one of the things that helps pay the bills, and

that if it doesn't work, the enactment of a membership dues will have to happen. Those who don't support the group, by selling raffle tickets, and helping with other Fund Raising activities, will be the ones who will pay membership dues. Matt, KD8GWP, made a motion to raffle off about \$100 worth of Weather Radios (3 or 4), to be drawn at the July Business Meeting, seconded by Matt, KD8WHN. Motion carried. Ken said that if he can get the Weather Radios on sale, that he would make up the tickets and fliers and get them to the members who will sale them. A lengthy discussion followed.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he and some of the other members have been picking up door prizes for the Hamfest. Ken said that he had made up Hamfest Fliers and has taken them to the Athens County Hamfest, and the Jackson County Hamfest. If you know of anyone who wants to help sponsor the Hamfest, in the form of donations or prizes, we want to get them a donation letter. Waste Management has already sent a donation check. Bill, N8JXO, said that he has the Wood County/Parkersburg Hamfest Page looking good on the www.wc8ec.com website. He wants everyone to look over the Hamfest Page and give him suggestions or corrections. The Hamfest will be held on October 11th. A short discussion followed.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the Challenge at Mountwood Mountain Bike Race held on April 6th. Sixteen radio operators showed up to help with the communications. The donation check from the race has

been deposited. There were no major injuries at the event.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the one day Technician Class license class, and testing that was in Marietta at the Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Church on April 19th. He said that out of 16 people who took the class and test, 15 of them passed the test, and had already got their license. One of those who got their license was Mason Matheny, KD8YLI, who was at the meeting, and has joined the WCEC group. Another person who passed her test, and got her license was Kelly Straley, KD8YLO, of the Eastwood VFD.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the Vienna Fun Run which was held on Saturday, April 26th. There were 15 radio operators that helped with the safety communications. At least 5 of them were needed to call out the times, since several of the official timers didn't show up.

After the Vienna Fun Run race, Ken, WA8LLM, talked to Chip Allman who is the coordinator for the Chic-Fil-A Road Run and the Parkersburg Half Marathon. Ken and Chip discussed the races and donations instead of T-Shirts this year. Ken passed around maps of the Chic-Fil-A race and asked those who wanted to help, where they would like to be stationed. The Chic-Fil-A race will be held on Saturday, May 17th.

Ken, WA8LLM, still hasn't been able to find someone to talk to about operating BINGO games at the Parkersburg Honey Festival.

Nothing has been done with the disposal of MOBILCOM-1.

Cathy, KC8DJJ, gave a report on the selling of RADA Knives as a fund raiser. She is going to be sending in the orders that she has collected. She said the knives would sale better, if they were in hand, and available for sell, instead of having to order them. A short discussion followed.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he didn't have time to check with Wal*Mart, and Sam's about selling Raffle Tickets and knives in front of their stores. Ken, WA8LLM, said that he hasn't got the Onan Generators out of storage to see what he can do with them.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he was going to work on getting the stack of trailer licenses that should be renewed by the next meeting.

There was a short discussion about Field Day, which will be held on June 28th and 29th. Since Field Day falls on the same Saturday as the monthly training class, that weekend will be used as the monthly training class. Those wanting to help set up antennas and stations can come up on Friday before Field Day. Those wanting to camp out can set up their camp any time during the week and camp out.

friend. The said the radios are for sale for \$60 each, or \$100 for both.

NEW BUSINESS

Ken, WA8LLM, said the Parkersburg Half Marathon would be held on August 16th. Ken has started making a list of where some of the members wanted to be stationed. Ken said that he is hoping to have about 10 race clocks ready for the Mile Markers. The radio operators would be able to operate the clocks.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he received a telephone call about the use of the canopies for the Broadway Church of Nazarene, for their community Fund Day. Their activity will be held on the same day as the Eastwood VFD Ice Cream Social, June 7th. Ken hasn't heard anything from Eastwood yet.

Lubeck VFD has asked for the use of the canopies for a concert on June 21st. They will set up behind the fire station on Friday, June 20th.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he has a couple of Hand/Held radios that he is trying to sell for a

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he received a telephone call from an official of the WV Interstate Fair about operating the BINGO games. Ken told them the group isn't interested in operating the BINGO games unless the fair gets a sponsor who would guarantee a minimum income.

A list of High School/Middle School Cross Country races have been added to the Schedule of events. There is a problem with one of the races. The October 7 Cross Country races are on the October WCEC Business Meeting.

Dot, KC8HAI, said the Health Department is holding Food Handler Classes on May 20th. Those taking the class will be reimbursed for the cost of the class.

Matt, KD8GWP, made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Dave, N8NWW. Meeting adjourned.

THOSE IN ATTENDANCE

Ken Harris WA8LLM/Unit 251, Dot Harris KC8HAI/Unit 258, Terry Mills KC8TUE/Unit 289, Dave Wright N8NWW/Unit 285, Rick Sawyer WV8DOC/Unit 364, Scooby Sawyer AK9DOG, Tyler Vincent KD8RKE/Unit 373, Tim Dooley N8WO/Unit 273, Brent Rice KD8DLX/Unit 352, Barbra Nohe KD8SQY/Unit 375, Anna Hendershot KC8JWW/Unit 263, Lisa Hendershot KB8UER/Unit 270, Bill Davidson N8JXO/Unit 283, Ken Riffle KB8QPW/Unit 268, Tammy Smith Unit 299M, Kristie Lamp KD8WHM/Unit 382, Mike Farnsworth KD8VLL/Unit 380, Matt Lamp KD8WHN/Unit 381, Mason Matheny Unit 384/KD8YLI, Ray Bodie N8TWV/Unit 278, Cathy Wotring KC8DJJ/Unit 257, Brad Carabine KC8TYU/Unit 287, Matt Wright KD8GWP/Unit 354, Judy Peterson N8UFQ/Unit 255