



WOOD COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS Inc.

Minutes of May 2, 2017

The business meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Ken Harris, WA8LLM/Unit 251, President. There were 16 members and guests present.

A motion to accept the April 4, 2017 minutes, as they were E-Mailed, and after they were corrected, was made by Matt, KD8WHN, and seconded by Bill, N8JXO. Motion carried. Printed copies of the minutes and agenda were also available at the meeting.

The Treasures Report was read. A motion to accept the Treasures Report was made by Matt, KD8WHN, seconded by Dave, N8NWV. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he and Sammy, N8SVX, went to the Wirt County tower site on Monday, April 10th to get the DAREN Packet station back on the air. To get it back on the air they changed out the 25 Watt radio with a 100 Watt radio. While at the site Ken climbed the tower and moved the UHF Beam back to where it should be and got the Remote Receiver for the voice repeater back on the air. They made measurements so they could build the new antenna outrigger. When the outrigger is completed they will plan on another trip to the tower site, change out the outrigger and the two VHF antennas to J-Pole antennas. That should take care of the Antenna problem for a few years. Ken said that during the Challenge at Mountwood Mountain Bike Race, a temporary remote receiver was set up at Mountwood using one of the Link Frequencies to get into the repeater. Ken said there is a spare UHF Beam antenna at the site. He said the antenna can be used for a link transmitter for a Remote Receiver on the 146.97 MHz repeater. The Remote Receiver can be set up with a different CTCSS Tone. He will make it available to the Parkersburg Amateur Radio Klub if they want to use it.

Terry, KC8TUE, said that he hasn't heard back from any of the donation letters. He wanted to know if we should keep sending them out. It was decided that we should keep sending them out. Maybe someday we will get some donations.

Bill, N8JXO, said the www.wc8ec.org / www.wc8ec.com website was up-to-date. He talked about some kind of certifications that we may have to get for the website. He will keep track of it and let us know what we may have to do. Terry, KC8TUE, suggested that WCEC activities be posted on the website at least every six months or so. That way those who don't make the meeting can be kept up-to-day on WCEC activities. Ken will give Bill a copy of events.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he stopped by the Communications Trailer, on the day before the meeting and checked out a couple of the radios. The radios worked just fine which means the batteries are still being kept charged by the solar panels. Ken said that when the weather gets better and he has some time from some of the activities, he will mount the solar panels on the top of the trailer.



Matt, KD8WHN, said that he checked out the 443.175 MHz Repeater a few days before the meeting, and it seemed to be okay. That repeater doesn't get used much.

The Jackson County 444.150 MHz repeater is still on hold, waiting to get the Motorola 443.175 MHz repeater working and placed at Mountwood Park.

Ken, WA8LLM, said the Digital Microwave equipment from the Jackson County Office of Emergency Services is still on hold.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he still hasn't got a hold of Randy Thomas, K8KHW, to see if he still needs the temporary Packet Radio NODE on 145.090 MHz. The Packet Node is using the antenna that should be used for the CW Practice Transmitter.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that if anyone needs to upgrade their equipment or privileges, there are Forms available at the meeting and on the website. He talked about the E-Mails that were sent and received from Steve Edwald, WV1X, who is the Supervisor, Field Organization Team, at the ARRL. Ken had asked him if it is a requirement that Amateurs who want to be registered as ARES, have to complete the basic NIMS (National Incident Management System) 100, 200, 700, and 800 courses. Steve said that it is NOT an ARRL requirement. It is suggested and encouraged they take the courses. The driving force behind completing the courses is the local, city, county, or state Emergency Managers that may require ARES members to complete the courses before they would be allowed to work in their Emergency Operation Centers, or be dispatched to disaster scenes. A lengthy discussion followed.

Ken, WA8LLM, reminded everyone to keep track of the volunteer activity hours and turn them into either Terry, KC8TUE, or himself.

Cathy, KC8DJJ, said there has been no one asking for a unit number change.

Cathy, KC8DJJ, asked if anyone had RADA Knives orders or money to turn in. She said she was going to send the orders in on Wednesday.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he has all of the PSQ (Personal Security Questions) and Password for those who wanted them set up in the FCC Database. Anyone else who needs their PSQ and Password set up can contact him. After he got them set up, he has already renewed Dave, N8NWV's license. The next license to be renewed will be renewed will be Matt, KD8GWP.

Ken, WA8LLM, reminded everyone that hasn't completed the basic NIMS courses of 100, 200, 700, and 800 should work on them. Rick, WV8DOC, said there are a couple more courses such as the 242 and 802 that should be taken. Ken passed around a list of NIMS courses that he has certificate for in a folder. If you have a NIMS certificate that is not on the list, Ken would like to get a copy of it. A short discussion followed.

Ken, WA8LLM, reminded everyone to get their friends and relatives to register their Kroger Card on line. The more people we get registered, the bigger the donation we will get. Kroger fliers were available at the meeting. Tell them to use the registration number: 81343

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he hasn't talked to the 911 officials about getting a class set up



for the Everbridge system. Rick, WV8DOC, said that if he can get the permission to work on the system that he thinks he will be able to figure it out. It was suggested that if he can figure it out, he can teach the others who will be authorized to use it. Ken will try to contact the 911 Official before the next meeting.

The cleaning of the Miller Communications, Mountwood tower site, is still on hold for a little longer. The weather needs to get a little better.

The ordering of the promotional ink pens is being held off until later in the activity period of the season.

Ken, WA8LLM, said he handed out several Parkersburg/Wood County Hamfest fliers at the Athens Hamfest on Sunday, April 30th. Ken said that we need to start going around getting donations for door prizes. The main prizes have already been acquired.

Ken, WA8LLM, said the WV Surplus application is still a work in process. It is a lot more complicated than he thought.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that has completed the IRS Tax Exempt 501c3 Tax Report. We have it finished for this year. The report needed to be done by May 15th.

There was a report on the W5YI VE Testing on April 8th. Two people took their Technician and passed, and one took an upgrade to General, and passed.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the Vienna Fun Run. They were able to communicate during the run even though there was a lot of garbage on the repeater that started just as the race started, and ended when the last Mile Marker cleared their location. A short discussion followed.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the House Ride held in Ritchie County. He said those from Ritchie County and Wood County, helping with the ride, set up a temporary remote receiver into the 147.255 MHz repeater. There were some dead spots, but they were covered by the Ritchie County Repeater on 147.300 MHz. The ride was a support fund raiser for St Jude Hospital.

There will be a One Day Technician Class Radio Class at Parkersburg Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on May 6th. There may be between 15 to 20 people taking the class. A short discussion followed.

Ken, WA8LLM, said the Chic-Fil-A Road Run will be held on May 20th, There will be another type of repeater system used for the race. It is planned to put a couple temporary cross band repeaters set up at the church parking lot on the top of Broad Street Hill at 27th Street. A short discussion followed.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he needs to talk to Anna, KC8JWW, about putting up the 105 foot tower we took down in Tyler County. We would like to put it up at the same location as the Field Day site. The tower cannot be used for any antennas during Field Day. The tower would be used for a back-up transmitter for any of the local voice repeaters, packet stations, or whatever we would need it for. Power for the site may be solar or wind power, but that needs to be decided, when and if we put it up at that location.



There was reminder that W5YI VE Testing on June 10th, at the North End Parkersburg Library.

NEW BUSINESS

Cathy, KC8DJJ, said that Cliff Buckley has the name of someone who want the use of both 24 by 40 canopies and 26 tables and maybe chairs for a wedding on October 7th. The wedding will be on Radcliff Run Road. The girl who wants the canopies, tables, and possibly the chairs would like to have it set up on October 5th. A short discussion followed.

There will be a SKYWARN Class on May 9th, at 6:00pm. If anyone is interested in attending the class you need to call 304 424-0911 to get a reservation since space is limited.

The FCC is making some changes to the Personal Radio Service which includes Family Radio Service (FRS) and General Mobile Radio Service (GMRS). A short discussion followed.

Matt, KD8WHN, made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Brad, KC8TYU. Meeting adjourned. Meeting over at 8:45 pm

Show-N-Tell for this month was three cross-band repeaters.

THOSE IN ATTENDANCE

Ken Harris WA8LLM/Unit 251, Dot Harris KC8HAI/Unit 258, Cathy Wotring KC8DJJ/Unit 257, Terry Mills KC8TUE/Unit 254, Dave Wright N8NWV/Unit 285, Bill Davidson N8JXO/Unit 283, Brad Carabine KC8TYU/Unit 259, Joseph Rice KD8YVB/Unit 275, Rick Sawyer WV8DOC/Unit 262, Ken Riffle KB8QPW/Unit 268, Tammy Smith Unit 299M, Barbra Nohe KD8SQY/Unit 375, Matt Lamp KD8WHN/Unit 265, Kristie Lamp KD8WHM/Unit 264, Gabriella Lamp Unit 299G, Jeff Scott KC8EEQ/Unit 282