



WOOD COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS Inc.

Minutes of November 6, 2018

The monthly WCEC Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Ken Harris, WA8LLM/Unit 251, Director. Since it was a political election day, There were only 7 members and guests present.

A motion to accept the October 2, 2018 minutes, as they were E-Mailed, and after they were corrected, was made by Rick, WV8DOC, seconded by Bill, N8JXO. Motion passed. 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 Cathy, KC8DJJ, and seconded by Bill, N8JXO. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Ken, WA8LLM, said the 147.255 MHz Repeater had a problem on October 28th and 29th due to a lack of commercial power at the repeater site. A severe lightning storm when through the area a few hours before the repeater went off the air. He said the back-up batteries should have kept the repeater operational for a few days. The batteries are very old and may need to be replaced. The power came back on Monday October 29th, around 3 PM. The DAREN (Digital Amateur Radio "Emergency" Network) Packet station of RITCWV/HRVLWV, which is at the same site was also off the air. Ken said the repeater controller lost it's memory and needed to be re-programmed. He is thinking about putting a back-up battery on the controller part of the repeater.

Terry, KC8TUE, said that he still hasn't received anything back from the Donation letters that he has sent out.

Bill, N8JXO, said that for some reason we lost the www.wc8ec.com domain website. It had been moved to another server somewhere. He found it and moved it back to where it should be. He said that he hasn't had time to post the DAREN News and ARES Bulletins on both the www.wc8ec.org / www.wc8ec.com websites.

Ken, WA8LLM, said he hasn't purchased a canopy or tarp, and had the time to put it over the Communications Trailer to prevent water from leaking through roof around the air conditioner. He will get that done as soon as possible.

Ken, WA8LLM, said Mountwood 443.175 MHz repeater, which is at the same site as the 147.255 MHz repeater, was also off the air on October 28th and 29th due to the same lack of power as the 147.255 MHz repeater. Terry, KC8TUE, said he thinks he is able to bring the repeater up. A short discussion followed.

The Digital Microwave equipment from the Jackson County Office of Emergency Services



is still on hold until we can find out if the radios can be used on the Amateur bands. It was suggested that we contact Jim Mangus, WB8YST, who is one of the engineers of the SIRN (State Interoperability Radio Network), to see if he has any ideas. A short Discussion followed.

Nothing has been done with the CW Practice Transmitter.

The members were reminded to keep their ARES information up-to-date. ARES Forms were available at the sign-in table and are available on the www.wc8ec.org / www.wc8ec.com websites. There was a short discussion about ARES and the new ARES Strategic Plan. Even though the plan says that it is a Final Copy, we were advised by the WV Section Manager Dan Ringer, K8WV, that any suggestions were still invited. Terry, KC8TUE, said he sent an E-Mail to Dan, who said he forwarded it to the ARRL (American Radio Relay League) who wrote the plan. There was a lengthy discussion.

Terry, KC8TUE, said he may look at trying to get a grant to purchase equipment for the DAREN Packet radio system.

Cathy, KC8DJJ, said there has been no unit number changes requested.

Ken, WA8LLM, reminded everyone that if they want their FCC Password saved in his database to let him know.

Cathy, KC8DJJ, has been busy with other projects and hasn't had time to work on any fund-raising activities yet.

Ken, WA8LLM, reminded those who haven't taken the NIMS ICS 100, 200, 700, and 800 courses, they are accessible through the training link on the www.wc8ec.org / www.wc8ec.com websites.

Ken, WA8LLM, said he did receive a check from Kroger's for the last quarter, and deposited it in the bank. He reminded everyone to talk to their friends and relatives, and to have them register their Kroger Card. Ken said he needs to print up some new fliers with the new registration number of HL123.

Rick, WV8DOC, said the Everbridge system is as up-to-date as it can be with the WCEC Roster. At the meeting he did get updated information from Don, N8NUS, which he will update in the system. A short discussion followed.

The filling out of the WV Surplus application is still a work in progress. Nothing has been done with it lately.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that due to all the rainy weather that he hasn't been able to get with Mark Hendershot about installing the old Tyler County tower at the Field Day site. We want to make sure the tower won't be in the way of mowing the grass.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he purchased a new printer and that he has the pictures for the 2019 ID Cards printed out. He just needs to print the Medical Forms to go in the back of the ID Cards. He is hoping to have the ID Cards at the December WCEC meeting.

Since Matt, KD8WHN, wasn't at the meeting there was no report on the changing of the



Public Safety frequencies.

Cathy, KC8DJJ, gave a report on the Hamfest on October 13th. She forgot to bring the information but was able to give the basic information. Ken, said that after the Hamfest, he purchased three more 800-Watt Generators for door prizes for future Hamfests. With sale fliers from Harbor Freight, he was also able to purchase several smaller door prizes such as Multimeters, Flashlight, and Screw Drivers. He asked everyone to start getting more door prizes together for next year's Hamfest. It was also suggested there need to be some relief operators for those working the ticket sales, computer entree, and door prize drawings, so they can take a break and enjoy the Hamfest and Flea Market. It's not too early to start getting door prizes for next year's Hamfest. A very lengthy discussion followed.

Ken, WA8LLM, said he has received a contract for the BINGO games at the West Virginia Interstate Fair & Exposition. He read the contract to the group. He said he will be getting a telephone call within a couple days asking if we are going to do the BINGO games. Ken said that he has E-Mailed a copy of the contract to all of the members but has only received four responses back. Ken said that he needs more responses back from the members who think we should operate the games and are willing to help. They don't need to work every day. Terry, KC8TUE, suggested that telephone calls be made to all the members asking for their help. There was a very lengthy discussion about operating the BINGO games.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that Kim Snider called him back about the use of one of the 24 by 40 canopies for the Hospice Memorial on October 21st. She said that due to the weather going to be cold and rainy, they would not need the canopy, they were going to hold the memorial in a building somewhere.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the Cross-Country races in October. He has received a donation check for all the races and deposited it in the bank. Ken said that he is rebuilding and updating the racing clock. He is hoping to have them done before the next racing season.

NEW BUSINESS

The group decided to hold a Raffle with one of the new generators purchased after the Hamfest. The drawing will be held at 12:00 noon on December 8th at the Parkersburg North End Library. It was suggested to set up a table outside of a Wal*Mart and sale the tickets. A short discussion followed.

Ken, WA8LLM, has registered the WCEC group, as a non-profit organization with Amazon Smile. Anyone who purchases anything from Amazon Smile, and selects Wood County Emergency Communication as their contribution, Amazon Smile will donate .5% of their purchase to WCEC. It's similar to the Kroger plan, except you don't have to register a membership card, just select WCEC as their charitable organization.

W5YI VE Testing will be held on December 8th at noon Parkersburg North End Library.

There was a reminder the December 4 meeting will also be a covered dish dinner. The



meeting/dinner will be held at the Lubeck Civic Center

Cathy, KC8DJJ, made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Dot, KC8HAI. Meeting adjourned at 8:55 PM.

THOSE IN ATTENDANCE

Ken Harris WA8LLM/Unit 251, Dot Harris KC8HAI/Unit 258, Bill Davidson N8JXO/Unit 283, Rick Sawyer WV8DOC/Unit 262, Terry Mills KC8TUE/Unit 254, Cathy Wotring KC8DJJ/Unit 257, Don Williams N8NUS/Unit 279,