

WOOD COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS INC
January 2, 2024

Before the meeting started two Amateurs took their General Class license exams and passed.

The monthly WCEC Business Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Ken, WA8LLM. There were only 8 members and guests present at the meeting.

A motion to accept the December 5, 2023, minutes as they were E-Mailed, and after they were corrected, was made by Rick, WV8DOC, seconded by Roger, KE8LCM. Motion carried. There were extra copies of the December minutes available at the meeting.

The Treasures Report was read. A motion to accept the Treasures Report was made by Rick, WV8DOC, and seconded by Bill, N8JXO. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the 147.255 MHz voice repeater system. Ken said that he wants to get back up to the Miller Communications tower site in St. Marys to get the Remote Receiver link antenna in a better location so we can get the Remote Receiver in operation. He also wants to get the DAREN packet station installed. Ken says he still needs to get to the Remote Receivers at Williamstown site, the Hendershot Farm site, and the Limestone Hill sites back on line. Other than those problems, the repeater seems to be working fine.

Bill, N8JXO, gave a report on the websites of www.wc8ec.org and www.wc8ec.com He said the websites are still up and running and the digits are still flowing.

Ken, WA8LLM, said he checked out the Communications Trailer when he went to Hendershot Farm tower site to check out the solar panels a batteries. The trailer still has a lot of radio equipment stored in it.

Ken, WA8LLM, said he didn't check out the 443.175 MHz repeater lately, but he would check it out before the next meeting.

Ken, WA8LLM, said the 800/900 MHz equipment is still on hold for a little while.

Ken, WA8LLM, said if you have made any changes in your equipment, you may want to upgrade your ARES form. Ken said the form can be found on the websites of www.wc8ec.org and www.wc8ec.com

Ken, WA8LLM, reminded everyone if they haven't completed the Federal Emergency Management System (NIMS) ICS 100, 200, 700, and 800 courses, and any other NIMS communications courses, they should try to get them completed.

Ken, WA8LLM, reminded everyone to keep their membership activity hours up-to-date. The hours will be down until about March or April.

For fund raising, Ken, WA8LLM, said the Junior, KE8WOX, gave the group an NRA ammo box that we can sale raffle tickets, but there wasn't enough people that show interest in a raffle. We decided to hold off until more are at the meeting and discuss it. It was suggested that we keep it for a door prize at the Hamfest this year.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he received a donation check from Kroger and it will be deposited in the regular checking account in the next day or so. He wanted to remind everyone if they have friends or relatives who haven't

registered their Kroger Card, to ask them to register it, and show WCEC as the donation recipient.

Rick, WV8DOC, said there has been a software update to the Everbridge system, so they must be going to keep it in operation. The system seems to be working well.

Ken, WA8LLM, said he went to the Hendershot Farm tower site. The solar panels doesn't have any regulator on it, but there's not enough sun to over charge the batteries. There are two 100 watt panels, and seven 25 watt panels that are keeping the batteries charged. Ken said he needs to put a Remote Receiver back in operation for the 147.55 MHz repeater system. A short discussion followed.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the AREDN Project. There was a discussion on how Terry, KC8TAM, who lives in Leachtown, out Route 47, is getting into the AREDN system. Ken is planning to install a node on a 20 foot mast pipe at the farm of George, KE8CAF's aunt. The system will be solar powered. Ken brought, and demonstrated one of the 2.397 GHz filters which he has been designing, an built. The filter will be used to block the interfering signals that are causing problems on the system.

Ken, WA8LLM, said the basic electronic class has been put on hold until we can find a place and time to hold the classes.

Ken, WA8LLM, reminded those at the meeting if they want to make a copy of their COVID-19 Vaccination Card, he will put it in their WCEC records.

Bill, N8JXO, said that it's on the list to work on the Health Department EOC. Bill said they still haven't received the feed line for the radios.

Ken, WA8LLM, said the radios that are going to be used on the Sand Hill 462.675 MHz GMRS repeater were given to Sammy, N8SVX, to be programmed, but Sammy passed away before he got them programmed. Sammy's brother Randy got the radios back to Ken. Ken has given the radios to Kevin, KC8OXY, to get them programmed. Ken said that Earl, KB8HRG, has the duplexers tuned up and ready to go. Ken is planning to link the Sand Hill repeater to the Summit 462.575 MHz GMRS repeater together. A short discussion followed.

Winter Field Day will be held on January 27/28. Nothing was discussed at the meeting.

Ken, WA8LLM, described how he would like to install the 30 or 40 foot tower at George, KE8CAF's aunt farm. A lengthy discussion followed.

NEW BUSINESS

Joe, N8MEV, and Bobbie, KC8RSJ, installed a new building at the tower site of the old 147.39 MHz repeater. At the present time the building houses an AREDN node and a Remote Receiver on the 147.255 MHz repeater system. Plans are to install a Packet Radio station on the DAREN system.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he bought some tape, drill bit sets, and batteries at Harbor Freight, to be used for door prizes a the Hamfest in October. He said there still door prizes left over from last year's Hamfest.

George, KE8CAF, made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Bill, N8JXO. The meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm.

THOSE IN ATTENDANCE

Ken Harris WA8LLM/Unit 251, George Orr KE8CAF/Unit 289, Cathy Orr KC8DJJ/Unit 257, Bill Davidson N8JXO/Unit 283, Rick Sawyer V8DOC/Unit 262, Roger Radcliff KE8LCM/Unit 281, Jeff Scott KC8EEQ/Unit 282, Steve Campbell KL8T/Unit 288