

WOOD COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS INC
October 3, 2023

The monthly WCEC Business Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Ken, WA8LLM. There were only 9 members and guests present at the meeting.

A motion to accept the September 5, 2023, minutes as they were E-Mailed, and after they were corrected, was made by Bill, N8JXO, and seconded by George, KE8CAF. Motion carried. There were extra copies of the September minutes 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, gave a report on the 147.255 MHz voice repeater system. Ken said he hasn't done anything to it, but the Rockport Remoter Receiver is still down. When he gets time he wants to go to the site to see what might be wrong with it. Other than that 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 Hamfest is on the website. Roger, KE8LCM, is helping Bill keep it up to date. Ken has been sending the DAREN News and ARES Bulletins to Roger. Ken said that his main computer is down and has been falling behind on the News and Bulletins.

Judy, N8UFQ, said the Communications Trailer is still at the Field Day site. Do to some strange activity in the area, she has locked the trailer door.

Ken, WA8LLM, said he has been checking the 443.175 MHz repeater. He says there is very little activity on the repeater. As soon as he can start climbing again, he wants to hang a UHF antenna on the Hendershot Farm tower.

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

Ken, WA8LLM, said there were ARES Registration Forms available at the meeting. If you have made any changes in your equipment, you may want to upgrade you ARES form. Ken said those needing a form can also go on the websites of www.wc8ec.org and www.wc8ec.com and get a form. Ken said the ARRL membership will be going up \$10 after the first of the year, but they will no longer be sending the QST magazine. If you want the QST magazine, you have to pay an additional \$25. Ken said that he may be dropping his ARRL membership. A short discussion followed.

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. A link to the FEMA Training Center is on the websites of www.wc8ec.org and www.wc8ec.com

Ken, WA8LLM, reminded everyone to keep their membership activity hours up-to-date. There should be plenty of hours to report since there are activities about every month. Just keep track of any Amateur Radio rated activities.

Cathy, KC8DJJ, said there is a fund raising activity. The group will be selling 100 tickets for a Smith & Wesson M&P Shield 9MM gun. The tickets will cost \$20 each. Some of the tickets were given out to some of the members who were at the meeting. If we don't get the tickets sold by the Hamfest, we can try to sell them at that time. She said we need to make sure they are sold to people in the state of WV. Who ever wins the gun will need to pick it up at Carls Pawn shop in North End.

Ken, WA8LLM, 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. We did get a donation check from Kroger.

Since Rick, WV8DOC, wasn't at the meeting there was no report on the Everbridge system.

Judy, N8UFQ, said Hendershot Farm Tower it's still up there. Ken, WA8LLM, said that nothing as been done at the site.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the AREDN project. Ken gave a report on the AREDN nodes, with telephones, that were sit up at the Belpre Hamfest on September 16th for show-n-tell. Ken said the system started slowing down somewhere around the 15th or 16th of September. Everyone is trying to figure what the trouble might be. A short discussion followed.

Ken, WA8LLM, said the basic electronic class has been put on hold.

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.

Ken, WA8LLM, said the Waverly School building has been put on hold until later.

Bill, N8JXO, said the Health Department Emergency Operation Center is on hold for awhile, and may not happen. He said they are going to put a new roof on the building. We will need to remove the old loop antenna off the roof. A short discussion followed.

Ken, WA8LLM, said he has been receiving several door prizes that Terry, KC8TUE, has requested from different manufactures for the Hamfest which will be held on October 14th. Ken said that because they couldn't find the radio they want for First place prize, they are going to give away \$500. Ken wanted to thank Lisa, KB8UER, for requesting a donation from Waste Management. The check came in the mail the day of the meeting. A short discussion followed.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the BINGO games that were played at the Volcano Festival that was held on September 22nd, 23rd, and 24th. He said there was very few members helping with the event. He wanted to thank those who helped. A short discussion followed.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the GMRS (General Mobile Radio Services) 462.55 MHz repeater. He said that it seems to be working just fine, although there are very few people using it. He tries to identify on the hour as often as he can to let others know it is in operation. Ken is still wanting to get the 462.675 MHz GMRS repeater installed at the Sand Hill tower site before the weather gets too bad. A short discussion followed.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a short report on the Tailgate/Hamfest that was held at Leavitt's Funeral Home in Belpre on September 16th.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a short report on the Volcano Days Festival Special Event Station that was held by the Parkersburg Amateur Radio Klub.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that two of the 24 foot by 40 foot canopies were set up on Saturday, September 30th, at the Church of Nazarene for use on Sunday, October 1st.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the Chic-Fil-A Cross County High School/Middle School races that were held on September 9th. Ken hasn't heard anything about the two other Cross Country races that should be held a few weeks after the Chic-Fil-A races. A short discussion followed.

There was a short discussion about the pipeline safety class that was held on September 27th. The group that attended the class picked up a few door prizes for the Hamfest.

NEW BUSINESS

The Church of Nazarene wants the use of the canopies on Tuesday, October 31st for the Halloween Party at 5:30 pm. On the 31st the canopies will be set up at about 12:00 noon.

Deerwalk VFD is wanting to start a weekly BINGO game and wants to know if WCEC will operate the games. We need to find out more information. A short discussion followed.

Bill, N8JXO, made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Joe, N8MEV. The meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.

THOSE IN ATTENDANCE

Ken Harris WA8LLM/Unit 251, Judy Peterson N8UFQ/Unit 255, Cathy Orr KC8DJJ/Unit 257, George Orr KE8CAF/Unit 289, Bill Davidson N8JXO/Unit 283, Bob Marlow KC8RSJ/Unit 292, Joe Thomas N8MEV/Unit 291, Kenyon Cox WD8INS, Jeff Scott KC8EEQ/Unit 282,