

WOOD COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS INC
November 7, 2023

The monthly WCEC Business Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Ken, WA8LLM. There were only 12 members and guests present at the meeting.

Introductions were held since there was a couple new people at the meeting.

A motion to accept the October 3, 2023, minutes as they were E-Mailed, and after they were corrected, was made by Roger, KE8LCM, and seconded by Bill, N8JXO. 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 Roger, KE8LCM, and seconded by Steve, KL8T. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the 147.255 MHz voice repeater system. Ken is hoping to put a Remote Receiver, with a Motorola filter at the Sand Hill site if the weather is good on Saturday. Ken also wants to make a trip to the St Marys site and install a Remote Receiver there. He would like to check out the Williamstown and Rockport Remote Receivers before the weather gets too bad. There plans are to put up a 30 or 40 foot tower, self standing, on the property of George, KE8CAF's Aunt. The tower site will be solar power and have a Remote Receiver. A short discussion followed.

Bill, N8JXO, gave a report on the websites of www.wc8ec.org and www.wc8ec.com. He said the website is still up and running. Ken, WA8LLM, said he is getting behind on the DAREN News and ARES Bulletins, so they aren't on the website.

Judy, N8UFQ, said the Communications Trailer is still at the Field Day site and locked up.

Ken, WA8LLM, said he hasn't checked the 443.175 MHz repeater, but he thinks it's still working. A short discussion followed.

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 it there.

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 link can be found on the training area on the websites of www.wc8ec.org and www.wc8ec.com

Ken, WA8LLM, reminded everyone to keep their membership activity hours up-to-date. The hours will be down until about March or April of next year since most of the groups activities are done for this year. Just keep track of any Amateur Radio rated activities.

Cathy, KC8DJJ, held the drawing for the gun raffle. The winner of the gun was Bob Bennett. He will go up Carl's Pawn shop to pick up the Smith & Wesson M&P Shield 9MM gun. Ken, WA8LLM, will contact Carl's to let them know who won the gun.

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.

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

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he had to make a trip up to the Hendershot Farm tower since the GMRS 1 repeater was down. He ran a heavy duty cable between the batteries and the radio cabinet. He needs to do some more work at the site.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the AREDN project. Ken said that if the weather is good on Saturday when he goes to the Sand Hill tower site he is going to hang a node on the tower. The tower site at George, KE8CAF's, Aunt will have an AREDN node on it.

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.

Bill, N8JXO, said a new roof has been put on Health Department building. We can now figure how to mount the antennas for the radios going into the new Emergency Operation Center.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the Parkersburg/Wood County Hamfest. Bill, N8JXO, said that 135 people bought general admission tickets. There were several Amateurs who bought extra tickets. A short discussion followed.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the GMRS (General Mobile Radio Service) 462.55 MHz repeater. He said that it seems to be working just fine. He tries to identify on the hour as often as he can to let others know it is in operation. Ken is hoping to install the 462.675 MHz GMRS repeater at the Sand Hill tower site this coming weekend. A short discussion followed.

The Church of Nazarene wanted to use the canopies on Tuesday, October 31st for the Halloween Party at 5:30 pm. The group received a donation check for both of the October 1st and 31st events. That was the last of the activities for the season, and the year.

NEW BUSINESS

The Christmas party will be held before the December meeting. It will be a covered dish. The organization will provide the meat and drinks.

It was decided that if the Cross County officials wants to use one of our canopies for a medical tent for next year races, we will provide it.

A 30 or 40 foot tower may be installed on the property of George, KE8CAF's aunt on the Orr Farm in Walker.

Roger, KE8LCM, made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Bill, N8jxo. The meeting adjourned at 8:09 pm.

THOSE IN ATTENDANCE

Ken Harris WA8LLM/Unit 251, Cathy Orr KC8DJJ/Unit 257, George Orr KE8CAF/Unit 289, Bill Davidson N8JXO/Unit 283, Steve Campbell KL8T/Unit 288, Judy Peterson N8UFQ/Unit 255, Bob Marlow KC8RSJ/Unit 292, Joe Thomas N8MEV/Unit 291, Roger Radcliff KE8LCM/Unit 281, Jeff Scott KC8EEQ/Unit 282, Conard Richardson WV8JCR, Chas Carr KE8ZBZ