

WOOD COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS INC

April 4, 2023

Before the meeting started there were two VE Exams given, one for Technician, and one for Extra Class.

The monthly WCEC Business Meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Ken, WA8LLM. There were only 11 members and guests present.

A motion to accept the March 7, 2023, minutes as they were E-Mailed, and after they were corrected, was made by Rick, WV8DOC, and seconded by Steve, KL8T. Motion carried. There were extra copies of the March 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 Rick, WV8DOC. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the 147.255 MHz voice repeater. Ken said that on Saturday after the meeting last month he, Bobbie, KC8RSJ, and Joe, N8MEV, went to the Limestone Remote Receiver site, and put the Link Receiver station back on the air. A few days later the commercial power went off in a large area of the county, and the repeater needed to be shut down. When the power came back on the repeater was turned back on, and everything was working okay. Ken said that had changed out the two Link Frequency Receivers at the Sand Hill tower site to eliminate the re-broadcast of the public safety agency transmitters. Since he changed out the Link Frequency Receivers, he found another problem which means he needs to change out the receivers again.

Since Bill, N8JXO, wasn't going to be at the meeting, he called Ken, WA8LLM, on the phone and let he know the websites of www.wc8ec.org and www.wc8ec.com are up and working okay.

Ken, WA8LLM, said the Communications Trailer is still sitting at Hendershot Farm. He said nothing has been done with it.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he tried to talk to Joe, N8MEV on the 443.175 MHz voice repeater, but couldn't get any audio through it. Ken said that he tested the repeater with a couple handheld radios, and it was okay.

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

Ken, WA8LLM, said that ARES Registration forms are available on the websites of www.wc8ec.org and www.wc8ec.com if anyone wants to change the list of any of the communications, or other equipment.

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 A lengthy discussion followed.

Ken, WA8LLM, reminded everyone to keep their membership activity hours up-to-date. Several activities events are starting to get scheduled. Just keep track of any Amateur rated activities.

Cathy, KC8DJJ, had to leave the meeting early, but she said no fund raising activities are being planned yet.

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. A deposit was just made this week from Kroger.

Rick, WV8DOC, says he has a list of members E-Mail, which he can now add to the Everbridge system, as another way to contact WCEC members.

Ken WA8LLM, said he still needs to replace some of anchor clamps on the guy wires of the Hendershot Farm tower. The tower is still secure and no problem of falling, he just wants to make sure the guy wires are tight. Ken said he installed a GMRS antenna on the tower at about 45 feet, and it there was no problem with the tower. Ken is building new antennas to be mounted on the tower as soon as the weather gets better. A lengthy discussion followed.

Ken, WA8LLM, said he received another E-Mail from Amazon about the canceling the Smile.Amazon project. The E-Mail said they are going to establish another kind of program, but any donations will be given to other type of organizations. A short discussion followed.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the AREDN system. Ken said he didn't think there has been anyone new on the system. If you have something you would like to try to use the system, you are welcome to play with it. A short discussion followed.

Ken, WA8LLM, said the basic electronic class is still on hold for awhile, until we can get one scheduled.

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 General Class Radio class hasn't been scheduled yet, but he wants to hold one before the latest question pool runs out on June 30th. There a few people wanting to take a General Radio class.

Ken, WA8LLM, said he hasn't talked to Conard, WV8JCR, lately about what is happening with the old Waverly School building, so he doesn't have anything to report.

Bill, N8JXO, wasn't at the meeting, but he told Ken, WA8LLM, that he is wanting to purchase the coax for the radios that have already been moved from the fourth floor to the first floor Emergency Operations Center of the Health Department. They want to get the coax before the end of the fiscal year. A lengthy discussion followed.

Ken, WA8LLM, reminded everyone that help is needed at the Challenge at Mountwood Mountain Bike Race. The race will be held on Sunday, April 16th.

The Chic-Fil-A Road Run will be held on Saturday, June 24th at 8:00 am. The race will be on the first day of Field Day. We should be done long before Field Day starts at 2:00 pm. Most of the Field Day equipment should be ready to go.

Field Day will be held on June 24th and 25th. A short discussion followed.

The building for the Parkersburg/Wood County Hamfest has been reserved. The price of the building went up to \$300, from \$280. The Hamfest will be held on Saturday, October 14th at the Wood County 4-H Camp Ground on Butcher Bend Road, Mineral Wells.

Parkersburg Homecoming BINGO will be held August 18th and 19th. The BINGO license needs to be ordered.

Volcano Days BINGO will be held September 22nd through September 24th. BINGO license needs to be ordered.

The Challenge at Mountwood Mountain Bike Race will be held on Saturday, April 16th at Mountwood Park.

Ken, WA8LLM, said he has got his GMRS (General Mobile Radio Services) repeater back on the air after the wind storm in June 2022, damaged his 120 foot tower. The frequency is 462.550 MHz with a PL Tone of 146.2 Hz. He is using a split site. Right now the receiver is at the Hendershot Farm tower, and the transmitter is located on his 84 foot tower out back of his house. As soon as his damaged tower get repaired, the receiver will be moved to it, and the transmitter will be moved to the Hendershot Farm tower site. A lengthy discussion followed.

The 501c3 tax report needs to be reported by May 15th.

The WCEC Business License has been renewed for the year.

Ripley Hamfest is Sunday, May 7th at the Ripley Middle School, in Ripley.

NEW BUSINESS

Athens Hamfest is Sunday, April 30th.

The Vienna Fun Run will be held on Saturday, April 22nd.

A One Day Technician Class radio class will be held on April 29th.

Brianna Harris Unit 299B, now has her Amateur license. Her call is KE8WUN

Roger, KE8LCM, made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Brent, KD8DLX. The meeting adjourned at 8:36 pm.

THOSE IN ATTENDANCE

Ken Harris WA8LLM/Unit 251, Cathy Wotring KC8DJJ/Unit 257, George Orr KE8CAF/Unit 289, Rick Sawyer WV8DOC/Unit 262, Bob Marlow KC8RSJ, Joe Thomas N8MEV, Brent Rice KD8DLX/Unit 272, Tim Dooley N8WO/Unit 273, Roger Radcliff KE8LCM/Unit 281 Jeff Scott KC8EEQ/Unit 282, Steve Campbell KL8T/Unit 288