

WOOD COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS INC

May 2, 2023

The monthly WCEC Business Meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Ken, WA8LLM. There were 14 members and guests present.

A motion to accept the April 4, 2023, minutes as they were E-Mailed, and after they were corrected, was made by Bill, N8JXO, and seconded by Roger, KE8LCM. Motion carried. There were extra copies of the April minutes available at the meeting.

The Treasures Report was read. A motion to accept the Treasures Report was made by George, KE8CAF, and seconded by Kendale, KD8QAK. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the 147.255 MHz voice repeater. Ken said the Elizabeth Remote Receiver is off the air. Saturday before the Challenge at Mountwood Mountain Bike Race the repeater was keying up on it's own, and it was determined the problem was coming from the Elizabeth Remote Receiver. Bobbie, KC8RSJ, and Joe, N8MEV, made a trip to the Elizabeth site and removed the station. It was found the receiver of the combination was set for carrier squelch instead of tone. Ken is hoping to have the Remote Receiver back on the air shortly. After the Challenge at Mountwood, Ken changed out the UHF Link Receiver so the odd channels are set to PL Tone of 131.8, and the even channels are set to 146.2. The PL tone on a couple of the Remote Receivers needed to be changed. The repeater seems to be working pretty good.

Bill, N8JXO, said the websites of [www.wc8ec.org](http://www.wc8ec.org) and [www.wc8ec.com](http://www.wc8ec.com) are up and working okay. Ken, WA8LLM said he will start sending Bill the DAREN News, and when he finds time from his other work, he will get them on the website. Roger, KE8LCM, said that he would help Bill with the websites if he wanted it. We want to get the websites up to date before we start requesting door prizes for the Hamfest.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that before the Vienna Fun Run he took three of the Racing Clocks out of the Communications Trailer. Ken said that he is still missing one Racing Clock. The Communications Trailer is still sitting at Hendershot Farm. He said nothing has been done with it, but it still has a lot of radio equipment in it from Field Day last year..

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he used a couple Hand Held radios and tested the audio through the 443.175 MHz repeater.

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

Ken, WA8LLM, said that ARES Registration forms are available on the websites of [www.wc8ec.org](http://www.wc8ec.org) and [www.wc8ec.com](http://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](http://www.wc8ec.org) and [www.wc8ec.com](http://www.wc8ec.com)

Ken, WA8LLM, reminded everyone to keep their membership activity hours up-to-date. Just keep track of any Amateur Radio rated activities.

Cathy, KC8DJJ, said she said there no fund raising activities are being planned yet. It was discussed about having a Ramp Supper.

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 he still needs to replace some of anchor clamps on the guy wires of the Hendershot Farm tower. The boards around the concrete pad were removed and used to lay the solar panels on. The tower is being used for three radio systems. There is a Remote Receiver for the 147.255 MHz voice repeater, there is a Node on the AREDN (Amateur Radio Emergency Data Network) project, and the Receiver for the 462.55 MHz GMRS repeater. A short discussion followed.

Ken, WA8LLM, said he hasn't heard any more about the canceling of the Smile.Amazon project. The E-Mail he received said there may be another donation, all we can do is wait and see.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the AREDN system. Ken said the City View node is having a problem. He is planning to work on the station on Saturday. He is going to change out the antenna and the transceiver to see if that corrects the problem. Ken wants to make a new solar panel outrigger to replace the two 25 watt panels, with one 100 watt panel. He is wanting to install a Remoter Receiver for the 147.255 MHz Voice Repeater. Ken said that he and Sammy, N8SVX, are going to take several AREDN station down to the Jackson County Hamfest, and set them up for show-n-tell. A short discussion followed.

Ken, WA8LLM, said the basic electronic class is still on hold for awhile, until we can get one scheduled. Once it get set up it will be a two or three hour a week class for about six weeks.

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 he hasn't heard anything about the old Waverly School building.

Bill, N8JXO, gave a report on the Health Department Emergency Operation Center. A lengthy discussion followed.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the Challenge at Mountwood Mountain Bike Race. He wanted to thank everyone that helped with the race. It was a great day for racing. It was discussed about having an actual radio, as opposed to a hand held for the radio control to use. Steve, KL8T, operated as the Race Control Station this year. There were 12 Amateurs stationed around the race course. There were no major injuries. As the last racer made it to the finish line the rain started, and it went down hill from there. A short discussion followed.

We still haven't got a request from the Chic-Fil-A Road Run officials about the race that will be held on Saturday, June 24th at 8:00 am. We keep it on the activity list just in case they contact us. 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. The solar panels will only be used to operate the radios this year. We just wanted to try operating everything, radios, computers, and lights last year, which we did, but it ran us a little close on power. There was some rule changes last year, and there may be some more this year. A short discussion followed.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he has registered the Hamfest on October 14th with the ARRL. He said he should be receiving a confirmation back shortly from them. He said that we need to start contacting different companies about getting door prizes. He said we should start as soon as we get confirmation from the ARRL. Bill, N8JXO, said he will be able to do the ticket registration again this year. We need to either build or buy a larger ticket tumbler for this year.

Parkersburg Homecoming BINGO will be held August 18th and 19th. The BINGO license still needs to be ordered. Ken, WA8LLM, said he received a telephone call from one of the officials wanting to know if WCEC is planning to hold the BINGO games. We will be at the same location. We may make the canopy a little shorter. A short discussion followed.

Volcano Days BINGO will be held September 22nd through September 24th. Ken, WA8LLM, said he has talked to the event official, and we will be located at the same location as last year. We need to make up signs to make sure people can find us. The BINGO license needs to be ordered.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the GMRS (General Mobile Radio Services) 462.55 MHz repeater. He says he does a manual identification about every hour. He still needs to put an electronic identifier on it. He said the repeater is operating split site. The receiver is only up about 45 feet located at Hendershot Farm, and the transmitter is operating full power on the 84 foot tower on Communications Drive. He is wants to raise the receiver up to about 95 feet this summer. A short discussion followed.

The tax exempt 501c3 report with the IRS has been completed.

Jeff, KC8EEQ, gave information on the Ripley Hamfest that will be held on Sunday, May 7th at the Ripley Middle School, in Ripley.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the Vienna Fun Run. It was cold and rainy all day. We just had enough people to cover all of the locations.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the one day Technician Radio class held on April 29th. There were nine people who took the class, and all nine of them took and passed their exams.

There will be a free give-away at the Church in Waverly on May 20th at 8:00 am. The WCEC group will be sitting up one of their 24 foot by 40 foot canopies. There will be another give-away in October, the week after the Parkersburg/Wood County Hamfest. A short discussion followed.

#### NEW BUSINESS

There will be an outside Tailgate/Hamfest at Leavitt's Funeral Home in Belpre on September 16th. There will be a drawing for an FT-891 Radio.

There will be a one day General Radio License class held on Sunday, May 21st. The class will be held at the concealed gun permit class building, 2611, Love Hill Road, Waverly.

A basic Amateur Radio Packet class will be held on Saturday, May 27th. The class will be held at the Sheet Metal Training Center near State Electric in Parkersburg South Side. The class will start at about 9:00 am, after the BYOB (Buy Your Own Breakfast).

Roger, KE8LCM, made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Bill, N8JXO. The meeting adjourned at 8:32 pm.

#### THOSE IN ATTENDANCE

Ken Harris WA8LLM/Unit 251, Cathy Wotring KC8DJJ/Unit 257,  
George Orr KE8CAF/Unit 289, Bill Davidson N8JXO/Unit 283,

Steve Campbell KL8T/Unit 288 Roger Radcliff KE8LCM/Unit 281  
Kendale Peterson KD8QAK/Unit 369, Judy Peterson N8UFQ/Unit 255,  
Anna Hendershot KC8JWW/Unit 263, Tim Dooley N8WO/Unit 273,  
Brent Rice KD8DLX/Unit 272, Jeff Scott KC8EEQ/Unit 282,  
Cindy Hillen Waiting for her call, Terry Place K3TWP