

WOOD COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS INC
August 1, 2023

Before the meeting was held the group enjoyed their annual group picnic.

The monthly WCEC Business Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Ken, WA8LLM. Due to the picnic, a short meeting was going to be held. Introductions were held. There was 23 members and guests at the meeting.

A motion to accept the July 4, 2023, minutes as they were E-Mailed, and after they were corrected, was made by Roger, KE8LCM, and seconded by Steve, KL8T. Motion carried. There were extra copies of the July minutes available at the meeting.

The Treasures Report was read. A motion to accept the Treasures Report was made by Bill, N8JXO, and seconded by Brent, KD8DLX. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the 147.255 MHz voice repeater system. Ken said a little work has been done on the repeater this past month. He said the repeater seems to be working okay. Plans are to put a remote receiver tower at Bill, KE8GGV's, location on Blennerhassett Heights since the tower is complete. The remote receiver has been put back in service at the Elizabeth Hill site. Ken said that he and Earl, KB8HRG, have changed out two 25 watt solar panels with one 100 watt panel at the City View Drive water tank site. They have also increased the battery capacity so that a remote receiver can be placed at that location. Ken thinks the power supply at the Rockport site may have went bad, and the batteries have died. He needs to make a trip to that site.

Bill, N8JXO, gave a report on the websites of www.wc8ec.org and www.wc8ec.com He hasn't had much time to work on them

Ken, WA8LLM, said a report on the Communications Trailer will be held off until next month.

Ken, WA8LLM, said the 443.175 MHz repeater is still working fine. He is hoping to hang a 440 MHz antenna on the Hendershot Farm Tower to be used for the transmitter when using a split site.

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. 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, 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 are no fund raising activities 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.

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

Ken, WA8LLM, said that nothing as been done at the Hendershot Farm Tower site.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the AREDN project. Ken said that as soon as they start installing antennas on the Blennerhassett tower, a new AREDN node will be installed there. Bobbie, KC8RSJ and Joe, N8MEV, are wanting to install a temporary node in their area to see if they can get a better signal to the 4-H Camp Ground node.

Ken, WA8LLM, said the basic electronic class is on hold until next month.

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 more about the old Waverly School building. A short discussion followed.

Bill, N8JXO, said the Health Department Emergency Operation Center is on hold for awhile.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on Field Day. He read off the contacts and points. He has finished sending the report to the ARRL. The report will be in the December issue of the ARRL QST magazine,

Ken, WA8LLM, said we need to continue getting door prizes ready the Parkersburg/Wood County Hamfest which will be held on October 14th.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he has received the BINGO licenses for the Parkersburg Homecoming, to be held on August 18th and 19th, and Volcano Days festival to be held on September 22nd, 23rd, and 24th. We need to get the sandwich signs made up for Volcano Days, so people will know where the BINGO games are at.

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. He has heard there are a couple more repeaters that will be going on the air. Ken wanted to remind everyone about the Peppers Net that is held on the 462.565 MHz repeater with a PL Tone of 103.5 Hz. The net is held at 8:00 pm on the First Sunday of each month. Max Barker, KC8JHI, who started a Mid Ohio Valley General Mobile Radio Service Users Group talked about the group. His meeting is going to held at same location as the WCEC meeting, but at 6:00 pm before the WCEC meeting at 7:00 pm. A lengthy discussion followed.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a reminder, 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 HF Radio.

There was a reminder for the canopy at Mother Earth Foods on Saturday, August 26th.

The Parkersburg Amateur Radio Klub will be holding their Volcano Days Special Event Station at Mountwood Park on September 23rd from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm.

NEW BUSINESS

It was suggested that we might hold a gun Raffle. Lisa, KB8UER, made a motion to hold a gun raffle, seconded by Brent, KD8DLX. Motion carried, Ken WA8LLM, said he will print up the tickets. A short discussion followed.

UHF Hand held radios and a UHF repeater were donated to WCEC from Bureau of Fiscal Services.

Some old equipment cabinets were donated to WCEC from Miller Communications.

Bob Lyons, KB8EFB, has donated a bunch of new and used equipment for the Parkersburg/Wood County Hamfest.

Three activities will be held on September 9th, All three activities will be needing canopies. There will be Give-a-way at the church in Waverly, Chic-Fil-A Cross County High School Races, and a Pig Roast at the Mineral Wells Fire Department.

Roger, KE8LCM, made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Bill, N8JXO. The meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.

THOSE IN ATTENDANCE

Ken Harris WA8LLM/Unit 251, George Orr KE8CAF/Unit 289, Cathy Orr KC8DJJ/Unit 257, Steve Campbell KL8T/Unit 288, Bill Davidson N8JXO/Unit 283, Nina Yoho KC8PPS/Unit 280, Anna Hendershot KC8JWW/Unit 263, Micheal Cross KE8UOF, Pam Lott KE8RSZ, Joe Thomas N8MEV, Bob Marlow KC8RSJ, Judy Peterson N8UFQ/Unit 255, Jim Peterson, Tom Breen KE8YGH, Chase Breen KE8YGG, Lisa Hendershot KB8UER/Unit 270, Amy Cross. Max Barker KC8JHI, Kelly McGill, Brent Rice KD8DLX/Unit 272, Barry Fisher N8DAD, Roger Radcliff E8LCM/Unit 281, Barbra Nohe KD8SQY/Unit 375,