



WOOD COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS INC.

Minutes of April 7, 2020

Due to the Coronavirus outbreak and social distance guidelines, the monthly business meeting wasn't held at the Lubeck Civic Center but was held by teleconference. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Ken, WA8LLM. There were 10 members and guests on the conference call.

A motion to accept the March 3, 2020 minutes, as they were E-Mailed, and after they were corrected, was made by Cathy, KC8DJJ, and seconded by Kendale, KD8QAK. Motion carried.

The Treasures Report was read. A motion to accept the Treasures Report was made by Bill, N8JXO, and seconded by Kendale, KD8QAK. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he hasn't done anything to the 147.255 MHz Repeater system. He said the repeater seems to be working okay. Ken said that he and Sammy, N8SVX, are working on some plans to change how the remote receivers will be tied into the repeater transmitter.

Bill, N8JXO, said the websites of www.wc8ec.org and www.wc8ec.com. are as up-to-date as they can be. Bill, said he will get the bill for the website domain names turned in the first time we can meet in person.

Ken, WA8LLM, said the Communications Trailer is still sitting down at the bottom of his driveway. Ken said that he has checked to see if there are any leaks in the roof and hasn't seen any. He wants to remove the license plate from the trailer to make sure they don't disappear like they did at the Parkersburg Homecoming. He also wants to check the tires to make sure they are okay so the trailer can be taken to the Field Day activity in June.

Ken, WA8LLM, said the 443.175 MHz repeater is working okay. It may not have the coverage that he would like, but it is only transmitting about 17 watts. Roger, KE8LCM, and Nick, KE8GCN, are trying to get Rogers AllStart system to work through it. Ken said the repeater may have better coverage when the Hendershot Farm Tower is completed, and the repeater is moved to that location.



The Digital Microwave equipment from the Jackson County Office of Emergency Services is still on hold. Ken, WA8LLM, said that when the weather gets better that he and Sammy, N8SVX, would like to get the equipment out of storage and try to make it work.

Ken, WA8LLM, wants to remind everyone to keep their ARES Registration up-to-date. The ARES forms can be found on the www.wc8ec.org and www.wc8ec.com websites.

Ken, WA8LLM, reminded everyone, who has not already done so, to try and complete the NIMS courses. The courses are accessible through the training link on the www.wc8ec.org and www.wc8ec.com websites. Ken said that at one time he checked with the WV State Office of Emergency Services as to what is required to be NIMS Compliant. He was told that it is up to each organization to determine what NIMS Courses they should have. For the WCEC group at least the ICS 100, 200, 700, and 800 courses, and any other courses that pertain to communications should be completed.

Cathy, KC8DJJ, said there has been no fund-raising events scheduled yet. With Coronavirus outbreak, there is no point to try anything currently.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he received a donation check of \$55.63 from Krogers which he has already deposited in the Regular Checking account. Ken said that it will be about three months before we get another check. The amount of that check may not be as much as before due to people staying home because of the Coronavirus stay-at-home guide.

Since Rick, WV8DOC, was not on the conference call there was not report on the Everbridge system.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that nothing has been done with the West Virginia surplus application.

Judy, N8UFQ, said the Hendershot Farm Tower is still there. Ken, WA8LLM, said that he has the out riggers for the first three J-Pole antennas ready to mount on the tower when it gets completed. With the weather getting better it may not be long before we can start working on it again. Ken said he still needs to put the coax connectors on the coaxes so they will be ready. Joe, N8MEV, thinks he has the new Gin Pole ready to be used on putting the last three sections on the tower.



Since Matt, KD8WHN, wasn't on the conference call, there was no report on the public safety frequencies.

Ken, WA8LLM, reminded all of the members to have their friends and relatives who order anything from Amazon, they should do it through smile.amazon.com and set up a charitable contribution to Wood County Emergency Communications.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that due to the Coronavirus outbreak, the Parkersburg Hamfest is up in the air. The building has already been rented, and the Hamfest is several months away. He will check with the 4-H officials about a month before the Hamfest to see if we will still be able to use the building. Right now, the Court House is closed, and that is where the 4-H Office is at. In the meantime, we still need to gather up items to be used for door prizes.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he talked to Duane, N8LDM, about the Challenge at Mountwood Mountain Bike Race. Duane said the race has been postponed from April 5th to June 21st. Duane said the race officials will make a decision about holding the race a month before that date, to make sure it is still going to be held.

Ken, WA8LLM, said the Vienna Fun Run which was to be held on April 18th, has been cancelled.

Ken, WA8LLM, said he received a letter from the Athens Hamfest. Their Hamfest has been cancelled.

Jeff, KC8EEQ, announced on the WCEC Net on Sunday, that the Jackson County Hamfest has been cancelled.

Ken, WA8LLM, got an E-Mail from the ARRL saying that the Dayton Hamfest has been cancelled.

NEW BUSINESS

Ken, WA8LLM, said the licenses for storage trailers, communications trailer, and BINGO trailer, have been renewed for three years.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he received a letter from the WV Tax, BINGO division, that they were not going to issue any BINGO Licenses until the Coronavirus outbreak is over. We don't know if the Parkersburg Homecoming, which is supposed to be held August 14th, 15th, and 16th, will be cancelled or not. If it is



not cancelled, Ken is not for sure if we will be able to get a BINGO license. Ken said they cancelled the Half Marathon meeting, which was supposed to be held on Thursday, April 9th. If the Parkersburg Homecoming is cancelled, the Half Marathon may also be cancelled.

Ken, WA8LLM, said the Volcano Days festival BINGO, which is supposed to be held in September is also up in the air about being held.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he forwarded a letter from the ARRL about the holding of the Field Day event. Ken is still planning to hold Field Day which will be on June 27th and 28th. Anyone wanting to camp out at the Field Day site, before and during, is welcome to do so.

There was a discussion on how the telephone conference worked. There were a few problems such as identifying who is talking and being sure to mute the microphones the communications device was discussed. Comments were taken from all of those on the call. All-in-all the telephone conference worked fine.

Sammy, N8SVX, made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Bill, N8JXO. The Conference Call Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

THOSE IN ATTENDANCE

Ken Harris WA8LLM/Unit 251, Bill Davidson N8JXO/Unit 283, Sammy, N8SVX, Conard KE8HLU, Roger KE8LCM/Unit 281 Kendale Peterson KD8QAK/Unit 369, Cathy Wotring KC8DJJ/Unit 257, Paul KC8UHH, Judy Peterson N8UFQ/Unit 255, Nick KE8GCN Unit/278