



## WOOD COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS INC.

### Minutes of October 6, 2020

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

A motion to accept the September 1, 2020, minutes as they were E-Mailed, and after they were corrected, was made by Bill, N8JXO,, and seconded by Brent, KD8DLX. Motion carried. Additional copy of the minutes were available at the meeting.

The Treasures Report was read. A motion to accept the Treasures Report was made by Kendale, KD8QAK, and seconded by Roger, KE8LCM. Motion carried.

### OLD BUSINESS

Ken, WA8LLM, gave report on the problems that he found on the 147.255 MHz repeater system to cause it to be off the air. The main power supply charging the back-up batteries and power the radios tied to the batteries was defective. He had taken a couple back-up batteries and power supply just in case it was a power supply and/or battery problem.

Since the power system wouldn't be able to operate the repeater transmitter, the 100 watt power amplifier, the DAREN Packet system, and all of the other electronic equipment, Ken removed the 100 watt power amp until a larger power supply is installed. While the power was off, the repeater controller lost most of it's memory. Ken got some of the controller programmed, but Matt Greathouse, N8MDG, got the rest of it programmed. He wants to thank Matt for working with the repeater.

Bill, N8JXO, said the websites of [www.wc8ec.org](http://www.wc8ec.org) and [www.wc8ec.com](http://www.wc8ec.com) are still in operation, and are up-to-date. He said he forgot to bring the bill for the domain names.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the Communications Trailer. The trailer is still sitting at the bottom of his driveway. He hasn't worked on the roof yet. He said the big storage batteries are still stored in the trailer. He checks it out from time-to-time. He says he still needs to work on the roof. and get the solar panels installed. In an emergency the trailer can be used if needed.

Roger, KE8LCM, said that about a week ago he was able to keyed up the 443.175 MHz repeater. There are still no plans on moving the repeater to the Hendershot Farm tower. The price of lumber has went up a lot, so it will be awhile before we can build a transmitter building.



Due to other projects, the 900 MHz equipment from Jackson County is still on hold. Ken, WA8LLM, said that since the 900 MHz equipment is digital, that may be a way a wat to get the HSMM ARDEN system into other areas that are far away.

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](http://www.wc8ec.org) and [www.wc8ec.com](http://www.wc8ec.com) websites.

Ken, WA8LLM, reminded everyone, who hasn't already done so, should try to complete the NIMS ICS 100, 200, 700, and 800 courses. There are other courses that has to do with communications that can be taken. All of the courses are accessible through the training link on the [www.wc8ec.org](http://www.wc8ec.org) and [www.wc8ec.com](http://www.wc8ec.com) websites. Don, N8NUS, talked about the Ohio Simulated Emergency Test which used the NIMS courses. A short discussion followed.

Ken, WA8LLM, wanted to remind everyone to keep their membership hours up-to-date.

Cathy, KC8DJJ, said there has been no fund raising events scheduled, or planned yet. She did turn in a couple checks, one for \$70, and one for \$11, that were donations from RADA Knives that she had sold. Don, N8NUS, said that some of the fire department were having drive through dinners. Roger, KE8LCM, said that his wife had a suggestion of about the same thing, and that she would help with it. A short discussion followed.

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

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

Kendale, KD8QAK, said the Hendershot Farm tower is still standing. Ken, WA8LLM, said the HSMM system on the Hendershot Fram tower site had died. He changed out some of the equipment and replaced the battery with a charged one. A few days later the system went down again. He said that he forgot to plug the solar panel onto the battery. Ken said he needs to go up to the tower and install some more solar panels to keep the HSMM AREDN node powered up. He did place three additional panels out on the ground for temporary use.

Ken, WA8LLM, wanted to remind everyone who orders anything from Amazon, they should do it through Smile.Amazon.com. If they aren't registered for contribution, they should associate their account to contribute to Wood County Emergency Communications. The group gets .05% of what is spent.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report about the check that he received and has deposited in the bank from Kroger. Ken reminded everyone to have



their friends and relatives to register their Kroger Discount card, and associate it with Wood County Emergency Communications on the Kroger.Com website under the Community Section.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he didn't receive enough E-Mails from those wanting WCEC to hold the Hamfest on October 10th. It was decided at last months business meeting that we need to have at least 100 E-Mails by September 30th asking us to hold the Hamfest. Ken only received about 28 E-Mails. As of October 1st, the Hamfest has been cancelled for this year. On the way to the meeting, Ken stopped by the Court House and let the 4-H officials know the Hamfest has been cancelled. They have put us on the calendar for next year at no cost. Ken said that after the first of the year he will stop by the Court House to verify we are still on the calendar. Terry, KC8TUE, has been contacting several companies about donations for door prizes. We have received a few. The door prizes that we received will be held over until next year. Ken wants to thank Terry for his help. Ken also wants to thank Lisa, KB8UER, for applying for a donation from Waste Management, which we received.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave an update on the HSMM (High Speed Multi Media) system. Ken said that he wasted a lot of time this past summer trying to build homemade 2.4 GHz antennas, but hasn't had much luck. Ken said that he ordered some 15db commercial antennas to see if that would improve the system. On Saturday October 3rd, Ken and Joe, N8MEV, changed out the antenna on the Red Hill Fire tower. The signals between Communications Drive and Red Hill went up about 10DB. After changing out the antenna on the Red Hill Fire Tower Sammy, N8SVX, was able to see Red Hill from his house in Mineral Wells. Sammy is using a dish antenna. Yesterday Sammy and Ken changed out the antenna on Communications Drive. The signals went up another 10 db. There have been several increases after changing out the homemade antennas with Commercial antenna. A lengthy discussion about the testing which is being done followed.

There was 17 people that took the One Day Technician Class radio class held on September 19th. Out of the 17 who took the class 15 passed their exams and will be receiving their license. One person came just take his Technician exam. Cathy, KC8DJJ, said that five people dropped out of the class the night before the class. Cathy said that she has some people that are wanting to hold another class. Copies of the question pool went up in price. Don, N8NUS, said he may be able to get the copies printed off as long as WCEC provides the paper. A short discussion followed.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the disaster drill held at the airport on September 17th. At the drill at the airport the airport manager said that himself and his assistant would be taking the Technician class and exam at the one day technician class. Both of them took the class and passed their exams, and will be receiving their license.



Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the Chic-Fil-A High School/Middle School Cross County races held on September 12th. Normally there are 8 races at the event, but due to the social distancing, only 35 runners were allowed to run in each race. Instead of 8 races, there were 24 races. On September 29th. The races started at 9:00 am and the last races started at 4:15 pm.

Ken, WA8LLM, wanted to remind everyone the covered dish Christmas Dinner will be held at about 6:00 pm December 1st followed by a short business meeting. WCEC will provide the ham, turkey, and drinks.

#### NEW BUSINESS

While at the September 29th cross country race event WCEC was asked if they could provide the communications for another race event to be held on October 22nd at 2:00 pm. Additional information will be available later.

There will be a free give away held on October 17th at the church in Waverly starting at 9:00 am.

Bill, N8JXO, made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Roger, KE8LCM. The meeting adjourned at 8:17 pm.

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#### THOSE IN ATTENDANCE

Ken Harris WA8LLM/Unit 251, Cathy Wotring KC8DJJ/Unit 257, Roger Radcliff KE8LCM/Unit 281, Don Williams N8NUS/Unit 279, Ken Riffle KB8QPW/Unit 268, Brent Rice KD8DLX/Unit 272, Bill Davidson N8JXO/Unit 283, Jim Foster WV8JHF, Judy Peterson N8UFQ/Unit 255, Kendale Peterson KD8QAK/Unit 369, Anna Hendershot KC8JWW/Unit 263,