



## WOOD COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS INC.

### Minutes of September 1, 2020

The monthly business meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Ken, WA8LLM. There were 12 members and guests present.

A motion to accept the August 4, 2020, minutes as they were E-Mailed, and after they were corrected, was made by Barb, KD8SQY, 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 Cathy, KC8DJJ, and seconded by Brent, KD8DLX. Motion carried.

### OLD BUSINESS

Ken, WA8LLM, said the 147.255 MHz repeater system is off the air. On Friday at around 6:00am he got a report the repeater was down. Friday after noon Ken received an E-Mail from Gene Roy, N8ER, asking if the Ritchie County DAREN Node was down. Since the repeater and the DAREN Node are at the same location, Ken figured the commercial power was off due to a storm that went through the area the day before. The batteries that normally provide backup power are no good due to them being over charged by the large power supply provided by the tower owner. Since the batteries are no good the repeater has no backup power. If the repeater and DAREN Node don't come back up in a couple days, he will make a trip to the tower site to check on everything. Ken will take some new batteries and power supply to give backup power again. A short discussion followed.

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 is 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 checks it out from time-to-time. He says he still needs to get the Flexpaste put on the roof, the batteries installed in the trailer, and the solar panels installed on the roof. The trailer can be used if needed.

Roger, KE8LCM, said that a few days ago he did key up the 443.175 MHz repeater. So it is still in operation. No plans have been made to move the repeater to the Hendershot Farm tower yet.

Due to other projects, the 900 MHz equipment from Jackson County is still on hold.



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. 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.

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.

Ken, WA8LLM, 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. We should be getting another donation check shortly.

Rick, WV8DOC, said the Everbridge system is as current as it can be. Rick has been making phone calls around to make sure every ones information is up to date. He said that on the alerting system, the Text message goes out first, then the house phone, and then the cell phone. If any one of them is confirmed, it should stop any other notifications.

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

Judy, N8UFQ, said the Hendershot Farm tower is still standing Nothing has been done with it for awhile.

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. A short discussion followed.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that per Don, N8NUS's suggestion, he sent an E-Mail to the Governors office requesting how we should handle the Parkersburg/Wood County Hamfest. About three days later Ken received a telephone call from the governors office to discuss the Hamfest. The governors office said that we could hold the Hamfest if, we followed the Social Distancing and other guidelines. We need to stay in contact with the local Health Department and Law Enforcement. A very lengthy discussion was held. It was decided to send out information asking those who would be interested in attending the Hamfest to send an E-Mail to him. If we get enough E-Mails requesting us to hold the Hamfest then we should hold it. It was suggested that



we make the deadline for the E-Mails to be September 30th. If we only get a few E-Mails the Hamfest will be cancelled. If we get 100 or more E-Mails the Hamfest will be held. The announcement would be sent out on October 1st.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave an update on the HSMM (High Speed Multi Media) system that he and a few other Amateurs are working on. He said there is an HSMM Node at 95 feet on the Hendershot Farm Tower, one at 110 feet on the Communications Drive Tower, and one at 80 feet, and one at 30 feet on the county Fire Tower on Red Hill. Ken talked to Rick Woodyard, Wood County Emergency Services, and 911 Director about installing the Node on the Red Hill County Fire Tower. There is a Node at about 70 feet on the Parkersburg Amateur Radio Klub 147.39 MHz Repeater tower on Dutch Ridge, and one at about 20 feet at Bill, N8JXO's house, in Davisville. There are a couple Nodes, one with a parabolic dish and one with an omni directional antenna at Sammy, N8SVX's house, south of Mineral Wells, on Sams Creek Road. Right now the only paths that are working are the ones from Hendershot Farm to Communications Drive, and to the county Fire Tower at 80 feet. Ken and Sammy have been building and experimenting with different type antennas to get more paths established. Joe, N8MEV has a Node at 30 feet at his house near the Parkersburg Amateur Radio Klub tower site, which is also a path. A short description of how the system can be used. A short discussion followed.

The One Day Technician Class radio class will be held on September 19th. The class will be held in the first floor conference room at the Health Department at 211 6th Street, Parkersburg. The class will start at about 9:00am. Social Distancing need to be observed. Cathy, KC8DJJ, says she has the names of about 15 people who want to take the class.

## NEW BUSINESS

There will be a disaster exercise held at the Wood County Airport. The exercise will be at 4:00 pm on September 19th.

There will be a Chic-Fil-A High School/Middle School Cross County races September 12th. For the Chic-Fil-A races, the officials wants a 24 by 40 canopy set up for a medical tent. On September 29th the Middle School Cross Country races will be held. The races will be held at the 4-H Camp Grounds.

Rick, WV8DOC, mad a motion to hold the Christmas Dinner at the December business meeting on December 1st, seconded by Brent, KD8DLX. Motion carried.

Barb, KD8SQY, made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Roger, KE8LCM. The meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.



## THOSE IN ATTENDANCE

Ken Harris WA8LLM/Unit 251, Cathy Wotring KC8DJJ/Unit 257, Bill Davidson N8JXO/Unit 283, Alan Currence N8POB/Unit 290, Lisa, Rick Sawyer WV8DOC/Unit 262, Barbra Nohe KD8SQY/Unit 375, Roger Radcliff KE8LCM/Unit 281, Jeff Scott KC8EEQ/Unit 282, Judy Peterson N8UFQ/Unit 255, Doug Hess KD8PYD, Brent Rice KD8DLX/Unit 272