

WOOD COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS INC  
November 5, 2024

Before the meeting started one person took and passed his Technician Class License exam.

The monthly WCEC Business Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Ken, WA8LLM. There were only 12 members and guests present at the meeting. Introductions were held.

A motion to accept the October 1, 2024 minutes, as they were E-Mailed, and after they were corrected, was made by Bill, N8JXO, and seconded by Steve, KL8T. Motion carried. There were extra copies of the October 1st minutes available at the meeting.

The Treasures Report was read. A motion to accept the Treasures Report was made by Cathy, KC8DJJ, and seconded by Joe, N8MEV. Motion carried.

#### OLD BUSINESS

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the 147.255 MHz voice repeater system. Joe, N8MEV, and Bob, KC8RSJ, went to the Elizabeth Remote Receiver site and changed out the Remote Receiver. We think the 100 watt DAREN packet transmitter may have overloaded the front end of the Remote Receiver since the frequencies are less than two Megahertz apart, and the antennas are only a few feet apart, and damaged the receiver. The DAREN packet station, was changed out with a 25 watt transmitter. The repeater is still working. Ken said he is working on the Remote Receivers that he wants to install at the Sand Hill tower site, and the Summit tower site. He says he wants to get the Rockport and Williamstown Remote Receivers back in working order.

Bill, N8JXO, said the [www.wc8ec.org](http://www.wc8ec.org) and [www.wc8ec.com](http://www.wc8ec.com) web sites, are still up and working fine. Ken, WA8LLM, said he needs to get the ARES Bulletins to Bill, so he can get them put on the web sites. Bill said that he has been too busy, if he had got them.

Ken, WA8LLM, said the Communications Trailer is still at the Field Day site on Hendershot Farm. He said Ben, KE8STE, and himself went to Little Hocking and picked up some old Amateur Radio equipment which belongs to Mike, KE8STC, and has it stored on the Communications Trailer. We can still use he trailer. if we need to.

Ken, WA8LLM, said 443.175 MHz repeater is getting closer to getting upgraded to a 100 Motorola transmitter and moved to the Hendershot Farm tower site.

Ken, WA8LLM, said we still need to keep our equipment list up-to-date as a resource. An ARES Form can be found, and used, on the websites of [www.wc8ec.org](http://www.wc8ec.org)

Ken, WA8LLM, reminded everyone who hasn't completed NIMS, ICS 100, 200, 700, and 800 courses, and any other NIMS communications courses, they should try to get them completed. If anyone completes any of the courses he would like to have a copy of their certificates to be placed in the WCEC files. A short discussion followed.

Ken, WA8LLM, reminded everyone to keep their membership activity hours up-to-date. Any meetings that are attended, and other activities, should also be kept track of. Just keep track of the hours in case WCEC applies for any other grants so we can show hours of activity the group does.

Cathy, KC8DJJ, said she doesn't have any fund raising activities lined up for now.

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 of the Everbridge system.

Ken, WA8LLM, wants to thank Joe, N8MEV, Bob, KC8RSJ, and George, KE8CAF, for getting the block laid for the transmitter building at the Hendershot Farm tower site. Ken said he got the roof and tar paper on the building, we just need to get the shingles on it. As soon as the shingles are on the roof, Ken is planning to install the solar panels. We have four 100 watt panel, but we are planning to install six as soon as we can get a couple more. The equipment that was in the metal cabinet has been placed on the shelf inside the building. The large batteries are under the shelf, and are still being charged by the solar panels that are just laying on a couple 8 foot tables. The radio systems have been operating that way for the last two years. Ken says he still wants to get the old wind generators off the tower and replace them with ones that work. A lengthy discussion followed.

Ken, WA8LLM, said the AREDN (Amateur Radio Emergency Digital Network) system seems to be working fine. We haven't installed any new nodes. We did do a show-n-tell of the system at the Hamfest. We had three telephones set up so we could talk over the system.

Ken, WA8LLM, said the Basic Electronic Class is still on hold until we can find a place to hold the classes.

Ken, WA8LLM, says Joe, N8MEV, gave him a list of most of the GMRS repeaters in the area. Ken said that he talked to Tim Miller, WB8MOI, about the 462.700 MHz repeater that was at St. Marys. Tim said he is going to try to get it repaired so it can be taken back up to St. Marys. Max, KC8JHI, placed his 462.650 MHz repeater in the place of the 462.700 MHz repeater until it can be restored. Max has been talking about installing a low profile GMRS repeater in the Ravenswood area. Ken said that he was able to get into the 462.625 MHz repeater from Little Hocking. The 462.625 MHz repeater is on the Red Hill county fire tower at about 80 feet. A lengthy discussion followed.

George, KE8CAF, said that he is still working on the tower sections that will be used for the tower at the Orr Farm tower site. The tower will only be about 30 feet with no guy wire cables. The tower will have a Remote Receiver for the 147.255 MHz repeater, a node on the AREDN system, and a DAREN packet radio node. Ken, WA8LLM, is thinking about putting a low profile GMRS repeater on the tower. We are hoping to have the tower up before winter gets here.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the Parkersburg/Wood County Hamfest. Ken said that even though he sent to information about the Hamfest to the ARRL, they didn't put it in their QST Magazine, so a lot of people didn't get the word. The attendance was down about 30 percent. We may have just about broke even. Ken said the day before the meeting he received a donation check from Waste Management. Lisa, KB8UER, has sent in a request several weeks before the Hamfest, but some how it got lost. I want to thank Lisa for making the request and chasing it down. I also want to thank Bill, N8JXO, who set up the ticket registration system, and everyone who helped with the Hamfest. A short discussion followed.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the communications room and the meeting room at the new E-911 Center. The radio room doesn't have any tables in it yet, and he is still trying to find out if we will be able to use the meeting room for our monthly meetings and classes. The 30 foot tower has not been installed yet.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the canopies used at the Broadway Church of Nazarene. After the Hamfest was over some of the members went to the church and set up both of the 24 by 40 foot canopies. A couple days later Ken received a donation check which was for the canopy use on October 13th and for the use of the canopy on October 31st. Ken wanted to thank everyone who helped put up the canopies and taking them back down on both dates.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the Battery that we raffled off at the Hamfest, but he didn't know who won it, or how much we made on it, but Cathy thought we made about \$40 on it. All the Hamfest money was put together.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the communication exercise that was held on October 17th. Two Amateur repeaters and one GMRS repeater was used. Ken didn't have a final report from Kenny, KB8YAV, yet. The scenario of the exercise was that all communications in the area was down, and we needed to have a way for the public to report any emergencies they might have. Amateurs and GMRS users was to go to churches, schools, community building, or other known locations and report to the Net Control Stations. A short discussion followed.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Ken, WA8LLM, received a telephone call from the Vienna Baptist Church in Vienna. The church wants to know if we can hold a one day Technician License class on March 1st. They were informed there needs to be at least 10 people to take the class. A short discussion followed.

Cathy, KC8DJJ, brought up for discussion about holding the WCEC Christmas dinner. The dinner will be held at the Cedar Grove Church on December 3rd, our regular meeting date. It will be a covered dish dinner, WCEC will provide the meat and drinks. The dinner will start at about 6:00pm, followed by a short meeting.

Cathy, KC8DJJ, made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Bill, N8JXO. The meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm.

#### THOSE IN ATTENDANCE

Ken Harris WA8LLM/Unit 251, Cathy Orr KC8DJJ/Unit 257, Jay Foresta KF8CCM, George Orr KE8CAF/Unit 289, Joe Thomas N8MEV/Unit 291, Pam lott KE8RSZ, Steve Campbell KL8T/Unit 288, Bill Davidson N8JXO/Unit 283, Don Williams N8NUS/Unit 279, Judy Peterson N8UFQ/Unit 255, Jeff Scott KC8EEQ/Unit 282, Bob Marlow KC8RSJ/Unit 292