

WOOD COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS INC
July 7, 2009

The monthly WCEC Business Meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM, by Ken Harris, WA8LLM/Unit 251, President. There were 29 members and guests present.

A motion to accept the June 2, 2009, minutes as they were E-Mailed, was made by Brandon, KD8JXY, and seconded by Jeff, N8WQO. Motion carried. Printed copies of the minutes and agenda were also available at the meeting.

The Treasurer's Report was read, and a motion to accept, was made by Jerry, KD8JNH, seconded by Matt, KD8GWP. Motion carried.

Before the meeting got started, Jim Rose, KD8ITI, Threat Preparedness Coordinator, Mid Ohio Valley Heath Department, talked about converting one of the trailers which was purchased through the Heath Department using Homeland Security grants for use in storing animal supplies, cages, etc, to a dual use trailer. One of the trailer would be modified as a mobile communications vehicle. He told about purchasing a Satellite Internet system that will be mounted on it. He also talked about a private organization grant to equip the trailer with communication and computer equipment. Since the grant couldn't be given to the Health Department, the grant would be given to Wood County Emergency Communications for the purpose of equipping the trailer. A short discussion followed.

OLD BUSINESS

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the 147.255 MHz Repeater system. With all of the activities such as Field Day, Fair Bingo, Mission of Mercy, etc. he hasn't had time to work on the repeater after it was hit by lightening. There is still a makeshift repeater in use, which will do the same thing, but just not as fancy.

Terry, KC8TUE, said there still hasn't been anything heard back about any of the grants. He said that he had been talking to Don, N8NUS, about applying for a grant to purchase supplies for the Safety Breaks. The Safety Breaks are being used as training for Mass Migration.

Brandon, KD8JXY, asked if Ken, WA8LLM, had printed up the forms for the members to keep track of their hours. Ken had printed off a copy of the form, but forgot to make copies of it and bring it to the meeting. It was suggested the form be E-Mailed to all of the members. Brandon said the form could be E-Mailed to everyone, as long as they have Exel 2003 or later. Ken said that if he didn't forget it again that he would send it to all of the members. Until we can get some kind of form for keeping track of members hours, to just keep track of them by what every method works.

Dave, N8NWV, said the work party schedule at his garage will be changing again. He said he would just have to wait before trying to schedule any work parties. Dave had an idea for another work party, and that was the building of spud guns that could be used to help install HF antennas in trees. If anyone would like to work on a project, just get a hold of Dave and set up a schedule.

The 200 foot tower is still on hold.

Don, N8NUS, said that things are happening in CERT, and there are still meeting being held. Don said there was a meeting held in Parkersburg,

but he didn't get to go to it. Don said the Parkersburg High School is putting together a CERT Team.. They will holding a class the last weekend of July. He heard the Williamstown and Parkersburg South High Schools are also going to have CERT Teams.

Ken, WA8LLM, reminded the members they could still register as a RACES (Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service) member by contacting Duane, N8LDM.

Gary, KC8ZZS, gave a Hamfest report. He said that he looked at the Hamfest information on wc8ec.com and said that it looked good. We still need to get with Joe Peterson, N8DSN, about looking at the building and grounds to plan how to set up the facilities. Cathy, KC8DJJ, said there would be no parking inside the fenced in area out front of the building, but we could set up a canopy for a flea market. A short discussion followed.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a report on the Radio-A-Day Give Away. The tickets are still going slow. Bill, N8JXO, gave a report on the E-Mail advertising. He has three banners running on QRZ.com, and one banner running on E-QSL. He said the banner on E-QSL was free for exchanging a link from wc8ec.com to their website. Bill worked with QRZ.com and got the price of advertising to \$50 a month. Bill paid for the advertising thorough his PayPal account. WCEC owes Bill \$200. Bill said that we need to advertise anyway we can. He suggested that we advertise the Hamfest on the WTAP Community Bulletin board a month before the event. A short discussion followed.

Ken, WA8LLM, reminded everyone to work on their FEMA NIMS Courses. He would like for every one to have the IS-100A, IS-200A, IS-700, and IS-800B courses completed by the end of the year. Even though Kevin, KC8OXY, wasn't at the meeting, he had reported that he had taken several IS courses on line. Ken talked about holding a classroom classes.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he is still needs to get some Id Cards made up. There was one that needs to be replaced, and with three members having passed the Amateur Radios, and have their callsigns, their ID Cards need to be reissued.

Ken, WA8LLM, reminded everyone the Volcano Days BINGO will be held on September 25th, 26th, and 27th.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that he had received a telephone call from the West Virginia Interstate Fair and Exposition wanting to know if we were going to operate the BINGO games. He said that we already had our

license, and one trailer was already half way down there. The concession trailer was parked at the Mineral Wells Fire station. The fair would be held July 14th through 18th. Ken said that on Sunday July 12th at 9:00 am, we need to meet at the Fair Grounds to put up the canopy, tables, and chairs. Anyone helping to setup and/or work needs to keep track of their mileage since they will be reimbursed at 10 cents a mile. Last year it was 20 cent a mile, but the gasoline prices was four dollars a gallon. A short discussion followed.

There was a report on the Red Cross First Aid, CPR, and AED classes.

Ken, WA8LLM, said he still hasn't been to any of the Walk Through meetings at WVU-P, for the Mission Of Mercy. Ken said that he has been told there can be any where from 1200 to 1500 people that will take advantage of the free dental service. Ken has no idea what communications they will be asking for. He was told that one of the communication efforts was to put telephones at each of the registration stations. He doesn't have any idea what they will want for radio communications. The event will be held July 31st and August 1st. A short discussion followed.

There was a reminder the Parkersburg Homecoming BINGO will be held August 21st, 22nd, and 23rd. Setup for BINGO will be on Thursday August 20th, at about 5:00pm.

The Parkersburg Half Marathon will be held on Saturday August 22nd. Those wanting to help with the race needs to sign up as soon as possible. The race committee needs to know the T-Shirt size by July 14th so they can order the T-Shirts. Bob, KB8RNE, wanted to know if we are going to use the Wood County Emergency Services portable UHF repeater. Ken, WA8LLM, and Duane, N8LDM, are supposed to test out the repeater. Duane thinks the UHF may be disassembled in the future, but it should be available for this year. The plans are to use the WCES portable repeater this year.

Ken, WA8LLM, said that while he was at the Butler, PA, Hamfest he talked to a manufacturer of H/T batteries. After getting a short education about batteries for the Motorola UHF HT-600 Walkie-Talkies that WCEC has, Ken purchased 15 new batteries. They have already arrived and have been put on charge. We may get to see how good they work at the Mission of Mercy event. Ken explained the difference between the Nickel Cadmium batteries and Nickel Metal Hydride batteries. The price was \$35 dollars. Ken purchased the batteries on his credit card.

Ken, WA8LLM, gave a short report on Field Day. He needed a few more pictures for the hard copy which will be sent to the ARRL. Ken said he will send an Electronic report in by the 28th of July. He said he will have a hard copy of the report at the next meeting. He also gave a report on the use of the crank-up tower. Ken talked about next year operating all of the radio in one room, just like in a real disaster operation.

Ken, WA8LLM, asked if anyone has used the Weather Chatroom yet. He said the password needs to be changed every 60 days, and that time is coming up in a few days. As soon as he changes the password, he will

inform several of the chatroom experts what it is so they can log into the system and test it out.

Dave, KC8VLK, gave a report on the Lubeck VFD Ice Cream Social. He said the social seemed to be down a little. Lubeck borrowed our 24 by 80 canopy and a 10 by 10 canopy.

There was no report on how the Deerwalk VFD Ice Cream Social went, but they did borrow one of our 24 by 40 canopies.

Ken, KB8QPW, said that he would hand deliver the Thank You letter to the Elite Lemo Service for the donation check.

Congratulations was given to all of the new Amateur Radio licensees in the organization.

There was a reminder that the August 4th WCEC meeting would be a picnic/meeting. It would be held at McDonough Park. The picnic will start at about 6:00pm, followed by a short business meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

At the first of the meeting, Jim Rose, KD8ITI, with the Mid Ohio Valley Health Department, talked about the trailer being converted into a dual purpose trailer.

Gary, KC8ZZS, said that he and Tyler, KD8CPP, have been talking about putting together a local intranet system which would work right in with the Satellite system that would be installed on the Health Department Communication trailer.

Matt, KD8GWP, made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Dave, N8NWV. Motion carried, meeting adjourned.

THOSE IN ATTENDANCE

Ken Harris WA8LLM/Unit 251, Dot Harris KC8HAI/Unit 258, Terry Mills KC8TUE/Unit 289, Barbra Nohe, Unit 299M, Jeff Newton N8WQO/Unit 298, Bob Smith KB8RNE/Unit 267, Brandon Zickefoose KD8JXY/Unit 356, Tyler Arnold KD8GNW/Unit 355, Jerry Wilson KD8JNH/Unit 357, Crystal Wilson KD8LOB/Unit 361, Ray Bodie N8TWW/Unit 278, Dave Wright N8NWV/Unit 285, Tim Dooley N8WO/Unit 273, Brent Rice KD8DLX/Unit 352, Bill Davidson N8JXO/Unit 283, Duane Jones N8LDM/Unit 260/ES-2, David Stevens KC8VLK/Unit 274, Amy Stevens Unit 299H, Daniel Ritchie KC8ZLK/Unit 296, Steve Ritchie KB8CCQ/Unit 297, Ken Riffle KB8QPW/Unit 268, Jeff Scott KC8EEQ/Unit 282, Brad Carabine KC8TYU/Unit 287, Tricia Magyarosi KC8VLI/Unit 294, Gary Bosworth KC8ZZS/Unit 277, Matt Wright KD8GWP/Unit 354, Jim Rose KD8ITI, Don Williams N8NUS/Unit 279, Cathy Wotring KC8DJJ/Unit 257,