

WOOD COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS INC

March 7, 2000

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM by Ken Harris, WA8LLM/Unit 251 President. There were 17 members and 3 guest present.

Minutes from the February 1st meeting were read and approved.

The Treasure's report was read and approved.

OLD BUSINESS

The new tower in Williamstown where the 147.255 Remote Receiver and Packet station will be going is not in the air yet. The owners of the tower may have to remove the concrete base and put in another one. In the mean time the receiver and Packet station are still on the short tower and keeping AI N8UBG from getting into the repeater. A short discussion followed.

Sam, N8SVX gave a report about being able to apply for a GMRS license. Only individuals can get a GMRS license. We may apply for it in someone's name.

No other land has been found to look at for a base of operations building. We would prefer to have just the land, no building or house that would raise the price of the property. The property should be close to a main road for easy access. Don N8NUS suggested that we contact Llyod's Electronics to see what they are going to do with their building at Route 2 and I-77. He said that since Waverly Fire Department is looking for a sub-station closer to the Interstate that we might be able to work out a deal with them and share the cost. Llyods has already taken their tower down at that location. Ken, WA8LLM said that he would contact Llyod about the property.

Bob, KB8RNE asked about the Red Cross moving to another building. Ken, WA8LLM explained what was happening about new building. Ken said the workers at the Red Cross said all they know it that all they have been hearing is rumors about the building. We'll just have to see what happens.

Ray, N8TWW said that he checked on the garage that we might be able to use to paint MOBILCOM-1. The doors were too small to get the vehicle

into the garage.

The clocks for the road races are still being designed. Ken, WA8LLM would like to have some of them done before the Mountain Classic 10K road run which will be held in June.

The two 6 Meter radios have been ordered from East Coast Radio. The radios are on back order and should be sent direct from the factory when they are built. Ken, WA8LLM talked to East Coast on Monday and they have been in contact with MFJ. MFJ says they are waiting for some parts to come in before they can finish the radios. The cancelled check has already cleared the bank.

There are a few members that need to get a copy of their license to put on file. Ken, WA8LLM will try to get a list of them for the next meeting.

The Topo Map program has been ordered, has arrived, been checked out, and sent back. It was not as good as the Boot Legged copy of the Topo program. The maps didn't show any buildings and the information on locations that were checked weren't the same as the regular paper Topo maps. It was decided to hold off getting any other map program until later since the government sent up a shuttle to do re-mapping of the world.

It looks like MOBILCOM-1 won't be going to Beckley because another activity in Wood County will be taking place on the same day, and it is more important to use the vehicle for what it was built for as opposed to taking it out of town for "show and tell"

Ken, WA8LLM said he has not got a hold of the city about the houses on Quincy Hill. He said he would contact Lydia, AA8UL with the City of Parkersburg to find out who to talk to. He may have to get a hold of City of Parkersburg Code Enforcement.

There still has been no starting date for an Amateur Radio class due to the several activities we are now starting to get into.

Ken, WA8LLM reminded everyone of the Smoot One Mile Run which will be held on May 29th. Ken gave a brief description of where and how the races are held.

Ken, WA8LLM brought, unfinished T-Shirt for all to see. The backs of the T-Shirts are complete they just need to the Organization LOGO put on the front. Kenny was told the shirts should be done by Thursday and ready to pick up.

Sam, N8SVX gave a report on getting a Business and Public Safety licenses. He's downloaded all the FCC Rules and Regulations pertaining to Business and Public Safety radio.

Ken, KB8QPW gave a report on the 50/50 drawing. Sam, N8SVX won \$6.00 dollars on the first drawing. Ken said that six dollars wasn't enough to buy snacks for the next meeting and felt that we should hold the drawings each month and then have snacks every third or fourth meeting when enough money was saved up.

There was a short discussion about the Amateur Radio restructuring and the upgrading of those who qualify. Ken, WA8LLM said that before he could find out if Bob, KB8RNE could qualify having taken his 5 words per minute code in 1961 or 1962, the FCC passed the word that if anyone had passed a 5 WPM code test and had an expired Novice license, they would qualify. Charlie, W8JZN gave Ken an old "Callbook" that showed that Bob did at one time hold a Novice license.

NEW BUSINESS

Ken, WA8LLM gave a report on the TOPO Map program. He and Sam, N8SVX played with the program and wasn't a bit satisfied with it. The program was returned to the manufacturer and a the refund, minus the seven dollars shipping and handling, was re-deposited back into the checking account.

Ken, WA8LLM said the organization has been asked to coordinate the communications for a 24 hour exercise. The exercise will be operated by the West Virginia K-9 Search and Rescue organization. It will be held at Mountwood Park, starting at 1:00 pm on Saturday March 25th and run through Sunday March 26th. It was decided to use MOBILCOM-1 for what it was built for rather than taking it to the Beckley Hamfest for

"Show and Tell". A few minor things need to be done to make sure that MOBILCOM-1 is ready for them. Ken said there will also be a conflict with going to the Dayton Hamfest, since the Emergency Management Agency in Athens County, Ohio, Bill, WD8BBW would like to have MOBILCOM-1 at a disaster drill on May 20 at Nelsonville. Ted, W8KVK said he might

touch bases with Bill to see what might be worked out. A short discussion followed.

The date for the Brundage Schoolboy Regatta has been set to be held April 29th. We need get everything ready for that event.

Ken, WA8LLM said that Randy Ware from Professional Radiator/AC Service donated two large Deep Cycle Batteries. The batteries are brand new and have never been in service. All that Randy would like to have is a letter from the organization thanking his business for the donation in the amount of X number of dollars, the value of what the batteries would be worth. Ken will try to find out how much the batteries would be worth and send the letter to Randy.

Since we have the new batteries, a new power supply to keep them charged is needed. Sam, N8SVX has ordered the power supply, but when it came in it needed to be used for one of Miller Communications' customers. The batteries and power supply will be installed at the first chance that we get.

Sam, N8SVX has received a letter from the Department of Highways stating that we can operate a "Free Coffee" Safety Break of the Easter weekend. The "official" safety break will be from 12:00 noon on Friday April 21st through Sunday April 23rd. Harold, KC8JHG and Tim, KC8JHE have already signed up for the 0600 - 1400 shift on Friday. Ken, WA8LLM says he will make sure there is a good Packet path for Al, N8UBG and Ted, W8KVK to connect to the concession trailer to keep the Weather Advisories updated.

The yearly Triathlon on the Ohio River will be held on July 8th. There needs to be communicators on Blennerhassett Island, on boats, with the organizer, and in MOBILCOM-1. The Challenge at Mountwood Mountain Bike races will be held on June 4th.

Don, N8NUS said the Children's Bike Rodeo will be held May 6th. They want to borrow the canopies, chairs, and PA System.

Ken, WA8LLM talked about an ad that he is putting in the Bulletin Board. Every week he hand delivers the ad: The ad asks for 3 to 4 acres to be build an Amateur Radio Club House. Phil, KB8GBE talked about an old school house on Lost Payment Road. Ted, W8KVK suggested to keep an eye out the County Probate. Followed by a discussion.

Don, N8NUS presented an Award of Excellence certificate from Camp Knokoma for WCEC loaning radio for their Diabetes Camp.

THOSE IN ATTENDANCE

Ken Harris WA8LLM/Unit 251, Judy Peterson N8UFQ/Unit 255, Lisa Hendershot KB8UER/Unit 270, Mike Lott KC8JWR/Unit 267 Cathy Harris KC8DJJ/Unit 257, Sam Mercer N8SVX/Unit 256, Ryan Sarvis KC8IOG/Unit 271, Tim Dooley KC8JHE/Unit 273, Harold Dooley KC8JHG/Unit 266, Ken Riffle KB8QPW/Unit 268, Bob Smith KB8RNE/Unit 264, David Stevens Unit 274, Ray Bodie N8TWV/Unit 278, Don Williams N8NUS/Unit 1111, Leo Pabst WA8BMA/Unit 259, Al Harris N8UBG/Unit 1125, Phil Newhart KB8GBE/Unit 275. Guests were: Danny Cremeans KC8AYG, Ted Jacobson W8KVK, Kirk Greenfield KC8JRV.