

Northeast Minnesota Regional Radio Board Meeting
ITV Sites: Grand Rapids/Courthouse (Host), Lake County Service
Center; Pine County Jail, St. Louis County EOC
August 27, 2009; 10:00 a.m.

Board: (☒ = present; ☐ = not present)

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|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mark Wedel/Aitkin | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Thomas Clifford/Lake |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Marvin Bodie/Carlton | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stephen Hallan/Pine |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jim Dowson/Cass | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Peg Sweeney/St. Louis |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Robert Fenwick/Cook | <input type="checkbox"/> Tony Cuneo/Duluth |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Paul Thiede/Crow Wing | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tim Harkonen/Hibbing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Catherine McLynn/Itasca | <input type="checkbox"/> Tim McBride/International Falls |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kevin Troupe/Kanabec | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jeff Damm/Virginia |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Charles Lepper/Koochiching | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scott Camps/NE RAC |

Alternates: (☒ = present; ☐ = not present)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scott Turner/Aitkin County | <input type="checkbox"/> Steve Ovick/Pine County |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brian Belich/Carlton County | <input type="checkbox"/> Keith Nelson/St. Louis County |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dick Downham/Cass County | <input type="checkbox"/> John Strongitharm/City of Duluth |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Doug Houge/Crow Wing County | <input type="checkbox"/> Rick Wolf/City of Hibbing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pat Medure/Itasca County | <input type="checkbox"/> Brian McBride/City of Int. Falls |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Steve Schulz/Kanabec County | <input type="checkbox"/> Steve Van Kekerix/RAC |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rich Sve/Lake County | |

Guest Speakers: Bill Bernhjelm (RIC, DPS ARMER)

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting is called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Chairman Jim Dowson, Cass County.

APPROVE MEETING AGENDA

A motion is made by Commissioner Tom Clifford to approve the agenda as submitted. Councilman Jeff Damm seconds the motion. Upon a vote, the motion carries.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Commissioner Marvin Bodie to accept last month's minutes (agenda said June, will be corrected--last month was July). Scott Camps seconds the motion. Upon a vote, the motion carries.

REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES

- Scott reports that there was discussion at the RAC meeting of how best to reallocate the PSIC funding that will be left over from entities not wishing to utilize theirs. The RAC recommendation to the RRB was that the leftover money be split equally among agencies that committed to the PSIC funds (around \$111,000); therefore the 11 agencies that are already committed to the funds will

be eligible for another \$10,000. A letter is needed stating that and if they could use money beyond that and have it budgeted for, they need to add that in their letter as well along with how much additional funding they could use, so we do not have to go through this process again. If they cannot commit to the additional reallocation, a letter is needed stating that as well. Scott states that we have a date of September for commitment to those funds; the State has a date of January. Scott asks if we want to change the date for encumbering the funds for the reallocation. Scott Turner asks if the encumbering date could be changed to the end of October or middle of November. Scott Camps agrees and states that perhaps the funds should be encumbered before the November RAC meeting. Nell will send out another letter to the NE Region in hopes of getting a commitment from everyone before next month's RAC meeting, with the hopes of having it encumbered by mid-November. Scott will send language to Nell for the letter. A motion is made by Sheriff Turner for the letter to request a commitment to the funds by the September RAC meeting and to have the funds encumbered by the November RAC meeting. Councilman Harkonen seconds the motion. Upon a vote, the motion carries. Bill Bernhjelm suggests pushing the encumbered date to January so people can work it into their 2010 budget. Bill Bernhjelm will check on the dates and believes it is the end of January. The motion still stands as carried.

- A bill is submitted (as directed by the RAC) for \$372.31 from the fleet map training in Two Harbors in June. Funds were approved to be used for the speaker. The RAC recommended that we use some training funds to pay the bill Lake County received for refreshments. The RAC suggests that Lake County pay the bill and the RRB reimburse them for the expenditure. A motion is made by Jeff Damm to conduct business in this manner. Peg Sweeney seconds the motion. Upon a vote, the motion carries.
- The User Committee had their convening meeting on August 19, 2009. Two of the User Committee officers mentioned are: Chair: Erik Jankila; Vice-Chair: Leif Lunde. They have submitted their draft bylaws for approval by the RRB. Commissioner Marv Bodie makes a motion to accept the User Committee bylaws as submitted. Tom Clifford seconds the motion. Upon a vote, the motion carries.

UPDATES FROM MEMBERS

- Regarding the workman's comp issue with MCIT, Sheriff Medure had Nell send info out to the group suggesting that we do not go with workman's comp, as the members are already covered under their own counties and cities. Sheriff Turner makes a motion to decline the insurance with workman's comp included. Commissioner Hallan seconds the motion. Upon a vote, the motion carries.

OLD BUSINESS

- The website is up. Nell asks those present to get suggestions to her before we finalize with Christopher Worth. Write-ups need to be done for the RRB, the RAC, and the User Committee pages regarding the inception, the mission, etc. Scott Camps will work on something and get it to Nell.

NEW BUSINESS

- Our RIC, Bill Bernhjelm, reports that the IECPG grant process is being formulated and the grant guide should be coming out via DECN soon. Bill reports that about \$700,000 is coming to the state. Dollars will be available for proposals or application by regional radio boards, emergency management regions; the focus will be on governance, plans, training, and exercises; equipment requests may be allowed. Bill states that there is a deadline of November for this grant.
- Bill reports that the FE studies are coming through and several counties have had meetings with consultants and their county boards. Bill reports that there are about 39 counties in the state of Minnesota that are committed to or are on ARMER at the present time.
- There is discussion regarding the training session in Phoenix, AZ, September 24-25, 2009. There are two people interested in going. The team that represents public safety would be: law enforcement, EMS, fire, and one elected official. Commissioner Sweeney and Dennis Mackedanz have expressed an interest in attending. Training funds could come out of the IECPG grant. There is some discussion regarding the “team” term and a question as to whether it is a team from the whole state or our region. Commission Sweeney states that she sees no value to us as a RRB if it is a statewide endeavor to send one team. Scott recommends that we apply as a region even if we do not have all of the other disciplines (law enforcement, fire), and if the two get selected, great. A motion is made by Commissioner Clifford for Peg and Dennis (and anyone else interested) to apply to go to the training in Arizona. Councilman Damm seconds the motion. Before the vote, Commissioner Bodie questions the requirements for Dennis, as he may not be in NACO or the National League of Cities. Chairman Dowson interjects that we will leave the motion on the table with the understanding that the training be approved if those interested can make all the requirements. Upon a vote, the motion carries.

OTHER BUSINESS

- There have been changes in membership to the NERRB.
 - ❖ A motion is made by Sheriff Turner to accept Sheriff Pat Medure as an alternate to the RRB (Itasca County). Commissioner Sweeney seconds the motion. Upon a vote, the motion carries.
 - ❖ A motion is made by Councilman Harkonen to accept Commissioner McLynn as a RRB member to replace Rusty Eichorn (Itasca County). Commissioner Bodie seconds the motion. Upon a vote, the motion carries.
 - ❖ A motion is made by Scott Camps to officially accept Sheriff Turner (Aitkin) as an alternate to the RRB. Councilman Harkonen seconds the motion. Upon a vote, the motion carries.
 - ❖ A motion is made by Commissioner Troupe to accept Steve Schulz as a RRB alternate for Kanabec County. Commissioner Hallan seconds the motion. Upon a vote, the motion carries.

Chairman Dowson reminds everyone present that a resolution or minutes from board meetings are needed to show the acceptance of the above appointments and asks that those be sent to Nell for the record.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Scott Camps reports that at last week's RAC meeting there was discussion regarding Homeland Security Region II receiving funding to complete a Tactical Interop Communications Plan (TIC Plan). Kanabec County is the fiscal agent, and a draft RFP is being worked on to hire someone to complete the plan. Scott reports that the TIC plan is required for future grant funding opportunities.
- Commissioner Hallan asks Bill Bernhjelm about the timeframe for Pine County and whether or not they are on schedule for 2011. Bill reports that Pine County's tower site is up and running and Askov's is as well. Bill suggests that Commissioner Hallan go to the ARMER website to see updates.
- Chairman Dowson asks for an update on the Hell's Angel gathering. Scott Camps states that it went well and Commissioner Sweeney concurred. Scott states that Bruce Hegrenes (St. Louis County radio tech) was able to get enough frequencies, dispatch was run out of the EOC; and things worked well overall.
- Commissioner Fenwick updates that Cook County had initially planned to have their electric co-op be the owner/operator of a high speed communication system, but because of the bank demands, the electric co-op was unable to follow through. He reports that they then went back to the original plan, whereby Cook County has made grant applications to be the owner of the infrastructure, and the manager is yet to be determined.
- Because the 2009 TRIAD conference will be held September 23-25, 2009, there is a conflict for Chairman Dowson, Sheriff Medure, and Nell. Commissioner Sweeney adds that four people may be going to the Arizona training as well. Commissioner Sweeney suggests skipping the September meeting. No one disagrees.

ADJOURN

A motion is made by Scott Camps to adjourn the meeting. Councilman Tim Harkonen seconds the motion. The meeting adjourns at 10:38 a.m.