

**Joint Meeting of
Northeast Regional Users Committee
&
Northeast Regional Owners & Operators Committee
Fond du Lac Community College
December 7, 2011 10:00 A.M.**

1.0 Dewey Johnson called the meeting to order.

2.0 Roll Call

Bill Bernhjelm	Dylan Bridges
Doug Rotta	Kevin Poffs
Pat Lee	Nathan Gens
Dan Sathre	John Fredrickson
Mike Fink	Mark Smith
Dan LAllier	Erik Jonassen
Jeff Ronchetti	Karla White
Jeff Anderson	Tom Fread
Jim Gang	Bill Bowstring
Greg Hanson	Mark Stansberry
Dana Putzke	John Hyde
Scott Drewlo	Mark Lallak
Melissa Bowstring	Leif Lunde
Judy Sivertson	Erik Jankila
Dewey Johnson	Steve Olson
Monte Fronk	Scott Heide

3.0 Adopt minutes from 11/02/2011. Dan Sathre made a motion to accept the minutes. Dan LAllier second. Passed.

4.1 Pre-Game show with Bill Bernhjelm – The last office position has been filled now. Dana Wahlberg filled the 911 Program Manager position. Preston is working on NextGen, getting that lined up and moving forward.

There's \$140,000 for subscriber radios coming to the region with a 20% match, re-allocated PSIC money. Scott sent the request to the state office yesterday.

The 2011 Homeland Security grant program dollars will be coming forth shortly. The ICGP grant was not re-authorized in the last session of congress so what they've done with the state homeland security grant program is pull some of the allowable expenditures from ICGP so that grant program has been cut a couple times so there won't be as much from that as originally told. There should be something on the Homeland Security grant in the next couple months.

Cass is working on their project, and Crow Wing is also.

Interop Conference is still planned for April 16, 17 & 18 in St Cloud. The contracts have not been officially executed yet. Speakers and sessions are being lined up. If you have any requests, get them to Bill or Monte Fronk.

In the NW, Hubbard County has gone through the participation planning process and is moving forward and will be ready to operate on the system by the end of next year. Some others are talking about migrating gradually as radio purchases are allowed in their normal budgetary processes.

There's more interest among the local agencies in Roseau County to come on the system. They are also working diligently on a demonstration project funded with a state allocation using an application called Motobridge which is kind of the engine of the VHF Overlay. They're going to use Motobridge to be able to tie a talk group in with Manitoba who uses an 800 system, an earlier version of the system we have. This would create a cross border talk system.

Essentially Motobridge is an interoperability tool that will be tied to 109 of the state towers. The idea would be that from these 109 towers, they would be able to pull specific VHF channels into the Motobridge network, and that network would be distributed through the ARMER microwave layer and any agency that decided to put in a Motobridge console or terminal at their PSAP would have access to anything in that microwave layer.

One of the issues to be discussed is whether we migrate from MNSEF as our universal hailing VHF channel to using the national standard which is VCALL10.

Tom Justen's job was taken by John Tonding who is the former Anoka County communications manager. He has Central and Metro.

4.2 Owners & Operators Chair D. Johnson – nothing to report.

4.3 User Committee Chair E. Jankila – nothing to report.

4.4 RAC meeting – per Erik, attendance was low. Additional funding from PSIC and how to spread among the different entities and counties, it was decided to purchase ambulance radios. The thought was to buy one 800 radio for each ambulance service.

Pat Lee said it was discussed during the meeting they held earlier today and the group decided they will be purchasing 43 radios. He and Mark have done inventories and determined that in the Arrowhead region it will cost \$300 for each service needing a radio as Pat has a match of \$500 per radio.

Pat also said each hospital in the region was given an 800 radio that was purchased with an earlier grant.

RRB meeting – Scott will report later.

5.1.a Regional Training – Jeff Anderson reported on Train the Trainer training at Kanabec County last weekend. Tom Justen with On Target Training and Tom Larson, former Polk County Sheriff trained 14 people. Training went well.

5.1.b Training plan review – Dewey said CPS training has been changed in Cass County from December 28 and 29 to January 30 and 31. This training is for flashing radios and does not give system access or allow system management that the system administration class is for.

5.1.c Dewey - the next Train the Trainer is in Cook County in the spring.

If anyone is interested in hosting another CPS class in the spring, contact Dewey.

Dispatch Train the Trainer is going on now with a trainer from Motorola. St Louis County has 12 7500 consoles set up in a training lab and anyone wanting to train is welcome to use them. Jeff Anderson said a lot of the training was review from Tom Justen's classes but he did learn some things he didn't know their console was capable of doing.

6.1.a Standards 5.4 – Hospital Access – Mark Stansberry said they had a meeting this morning to discuss hospital access for all hospitals in the region. They will meet again, still in discussion. Dewey asked Pat where the hospitals were as a region as he'd received a call from the Cook MN hospital. Per Pat, each hospital has a rep that comes to the monthly meeting of the hospital preparedness group, and all the information goes to them.

6.1.b Weather Standard – Steve O reported it is not final yet.

6.2 Standards Review done by Lake County.

1.12.0 Excess Capacity Allocation

2.2.0 Radio Aliases – Steve O felt two letter abbreviations were needed for all 11 counties, cities, tribes and add to standard. Bill said MNDOT has the master list of what they've created and he will send it to Steve. This is for programming purposes, and every talk group will have a specific agency identifier. A motion was made by Doug Rotta for Steve to complete the table and take to the RAC meeting in January, seconded by Dylan Bridges. Motion carried.

1.13.0 ARMER Aircraft Radio Operations

7.0 Jurisdictional Updates

Aitkin County – Geocom is working MNDOT – moving forward slow but sure.

Carlton County – Going through 911 upgrade, went through console training, waiting on Wrenshall tower.

Cass County – Scott H said they're still planning to go live next month.

Crow Wing County – They have a plan to go May 1st but have towers that haven't even broke ground yet.

Kanabec County – Hope to be live by mid January. Mobile radios will be installed in a couple weeks.

Duluth – Scott – Dealing with land use restrictions yet. Waiting on decision from Spirit Mountain Board and MN DNR.

Itasca County – Still distributing radios from the last grant.

Lake County – Waiting for the delivery of console equipment. Law enforcement, EMS and Search and Rescue are on ARMER. One of the five fire departments is, one will switch when St Louis County does, and the other three need some funding. North end of Lake County is waiting on money.

Hibbing – Erik – Will be ready with installs and fleet when St Louis County turns on.

Virginia – Status quo, waiting on a grant.

Leech Lake – The participation plan is near completion. Waiting for tribal approval of primary and alternate members who have been chosen.

Mille Lacs – Waiting for three counties we're in to go over to ARMER. The tribal board is waiting for Tom Hannon to come up and give information on JPA.

Bois Forte – Per Monte, Bois Forte will be hiring a new emergency manager.

St Louis County – 7500 consoles being put in mid January. They've taken delivery on mobile radios for fire services that St Louis County is providing. The in-county radio users group will be meeting for the first time in January. Bruce and Marcus are looking at a new recorder. St Louis County is running out of one combined center now located in Duluth.

Itasca County – Just installed new Audio Log which is NextGen 911 ready and integrated into their CAD system.

8.0 Election of Officers

Owners & Operators –

Secretary - Karla White was nominated for Secretary – there were no other nominations – no vote required.

Vice Chair - Steve Olson was nominated for Vice Chair again – no other nominations – no vote required.

Chair - Dewey Johnson was nominated for Chair again – no other nominations – no vote required.

Steve O and Scott H appointed as RRB representatives.

Users –

Chair – Erik Jankila was nominated for Chair again. Dan Sathre was also nominated as Chair. Erik deferred to Dan, Dan accepted – no other nominations – no vote required.

Vice Chair – Leif Lunde is current Vice Chair and will not be able to continue filling this position. Erik Jankila was nominated for Vice Chair – no other nominations – no vote required.

Secretary – Judy Sivertson nominated for Secretary again – no other nominations – no vote required.

Mark Stansberry and Kerry Swenson appointed as RRB representatives.

Meeting adjourned.