

**Joint Meeting of  
Northeast Regional Users Committee  
&  
Northeast Regional Owners & Operators Committee  
Fond du Lac Community College  
June 1, 2011 10:00 A.M.**

**Present:**

Steve Duchien, B.J. Kohlstedt, Dan L'Allier, Leif Lunde, Jeremy Nelson, Kevin Poffs, Dana Putzke, Doug Rotta, Dan Sathre, Tuesdi Sederstrom, Mark Stansberry, Karla White, Dylan Bridges, Judy Sivertson, Scott Heide, Jeff Anderson, Steve Olson, Dewey Johnson, Bruce Hegrenes, Aaron P Johnson, Tom Ralidak, John Keenan, Mike Fink, John Hyde, Mark Smith, Bill Bernhjelm, Cynthia Suess

**1.0** Meeting called to order by Dewey Johnson

**2.0** Introductions and roll call

**3.0** Minutes from May 4 read. Doug Rotta made a motion to accept and Karla White seconded.

**4.0**

**4.1** Bill Bjernhelm – preparing for the state shutdown July 1<sup>st</sup>. Layoff notices will start going out next week. Certain positions will be declared critical but the probability is ECN will not be considered critical and his position will be shut down.

State Radio Board went to new website today and the address will be different. Hopefully there will be a link from the old website to the new website.

Tower construction will be dependent on the degree of state supervision needed. Construction will go until the state staff is needed to monitor and that's unsure at this time.

Operation of the system – thinks will be declared critical.

Hubbard County passed participation plan and are moving through the approval process.

Roseau County submitted plan titled "Revised Interoperability Plan that Meets the Full Requirements of a Full Participation Plan". They should be on ARMER, at least partially in the near future.

Regarding grant – SHSP 2011 application – The expected 15% reduction is looking more like a 35% reduction at this time.

The federal government is battling over budget items.

So far the sales tax exemption is retroactive to 2009 for radio equipment. There was no money from 911 account for ARMER infrastructure.

Bonds for construction of the ARMER system have been authorized.

Looks like Ron (Whitehead?) will be done fairly soon, believe the contract goes to the end of the PSIC grant in September.

Tom Hannon & Bill both contractors and not sure if they will be working after July 1. Their contracts expire the end of June.

John Keenan – received email from Homeland Security that the SHSP down 50%.

Fire grants were denied for Crow Wing, Carlton, Aitkin & St Louis counties. Kanabec received theirs.

**4.2** Dewey Johnson – Owners & Operators - Core group met in Silver Bay. Discussed long range planning for committees. Group is working with John Keenan & Bill Bernhjelm. Also working on getting the final versions of the standards on the web site.

**4.3** Leif Lunde – Users - nothing additional.

**4.4** RAC/RRB

Steve Olson – lot of discussion on the grants. The budget for 2012 was sent to the Radio Board & passed.

Radio Board – request from Jill (?) to program NER talk groups into COML radios for State, any for 2-12. Why isn't it 2-13. Bruce H – modified through the RAC, 2-12.

RRB – Scott Heide said meeting was short and sweet – nothing additional

Bill B – approved NE Regional talk group for emergency management.

Bruce H – approved Statewide Regional integration grants – has to be spent by July 1, 2012.

**5.1** Dewey Johnson – just completed COML class – went well

**a.** Train TheTrainer end user – 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter – possibly Kanabec?  
Looking at Cook County for 4<sup>th</sup> quarter

**5.2 a.** BJ Kohlstedt – NE 1.11.4 Training Standard. Based on state training standard. Reviewed #4 and #5 for the group and submitted for approval. Steve Olson made a motion to accept and Dan L'Allier seconded. Carried.

Steve O will present to the RAC and get to Anna to add to the packet.

**5.3** Bruce H – NE EM Talkgroup Update – Itasca County originally had assigned several assigned regional TACs. We now have NE Region through TAC 12. We’ve lined them up and have an agreement with Itasca to re-use the same ID. We still have four left and the thought is to take one of those TACs and line it up so that in the radios in Itasca County that are programmed, they will not have to re-program cause they won’t be named the right way. Any reason someone should not have this talk group in their radio as far as emergency management is concerned. BJ Kohlstedt suggested bringing to Regional Emergency Management folks.

**5.4 a.** Standard 3.33.2 Portable Tower for NE region. Mark Stansberry – Mark, Dewey, Marcus & Bruce will be meeting in the next two weeks to work this out.

**b.** Standard 5.4 Hospital Access - Mark Stansberry – meeting last month and everything looked good in the Standard. Going to OTC in July – no real revisions in last meeting.

Bill – One item discussed at the last meeting was getting hospital talk groups figured out and created ASAP – even if not on ARMER yet – so when others are programming, can program talk group into radios now.

Mark – were given three week deadline for naming groups

EMH – hospital

EMS – ambulance/services

Bruce – who is doing limited participation plans for hospitals? Bill B – In most counties, they are being included under the county participation plan.

**c.** Standard 5.1 Non Governmental Access - Dan L’Allier – Mining companies / facilities want access but not use it. Parties like MINTEC have state fire department ID # and want to operate. Looking for standard allowing private safety entities to operate on it. Looking at September as a goal to have in place.

**6.1** Regional Logger

Steve O – Members to go back to agencies to see if interest in regional logger. Work station and call facility for playback. Agreements would have to include purchase and maintenance. Central is looking closely.

Bruce H – discussion on Metro Standard, METRO 3.30.0 – basically an intercom service between PSAPS. Talk group that doesn’t appear on radios anywhere.

Committee formed - Dylan, Judy, Cynthia, Karla & Bruce will work on Standard.

**6.2** Crow Wing County Standards Review

Scott Heide reviewed Standards 1.5.2, 1.5.0 & 1.4.2

Bruce reminded vendors that BDAs, (Bi-directional amplifiers), can cause interference with ARMER. Require state approval and have to be sent to OTC and be approved by State Radio Board.

St Louis County consolidating PSAPS into one dispatch center located in Duluth, probably by late fall.

Bruce – have radios to pass out that were purchased by emergency management on a grant.

11:05 meeting adjournment declared by Dewey Johnson