

**Joint Meeting of
Northeast Regional Users Committee
&
Northeast Regional Owners & Operators Committee
Fond du Lac Community College
April 4, 2012 10:00 A.M.**

1.0 Meeting called to order by Dewey Johnson

2.0 Roll Call -

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|-----------------|-------------------|
| Dana Putzke | Dan L'Allier |
| Dave Gilmore | Dewey Johnson |
| Doug Rotta | Dylan Bridges |
| Erik Jankila | Greg Hanson |
| Jeff Ronchetti | John Fredrickson |
| John Hyde | Karla White |
| Mark Lallak | Mark Smith |
| Mark Stansberry | Melissa Bowstring |
| Monte Fronk | Patrice Nelson |
| Scott Heide | Steve Olson |
| Tom Ralidak | Laura Andrews |
| Mike Aultman | Erik Jonassen |
| Judy Sivertson | |

3.0 Doug made a motion to accept the minutes from the March 7 meeting, Erik second.

4.1 April Showers with Bill Bernhjelm

State Radio Board adopted Standard 3.44.0, Statewide Pursuit Communications. It indicates the requirements for PSAPs with fully integrated consoles and PSAPs with control stations.

A group of radios will be divided out shortly. The RAC and RRB will go through a process to identify gaps and unmet needs in the region and target radios and future grant dollars toward those areas.

National Guard quarterly test is coming up on April 10th. The contact information for anyone wanting information on that is on the email that has been sent around, or contact Bill.

Train the Trainer for the Cross Spectrum Overlay, AKA Motobridge Project, the VHF to ARMER link, is May 7th, all day at St Cloud PD. There is space for 4 people from each region and they need to be identified by the 20th.

The rumor that the Alex Tech web site is not going to be maintained is false. One of the grants that funded some of the work is expiring but the site is being maintained and other ways to keep it up and running are being figured out. Additional modules are being worked on regarding dispatch consoles, portable radios, mobile radios, different manufacturers, and one for hospital staff to work on the ARMER equipment in hospitals.

The status of the Status Board Project is that it has gone out for proposals. Those proposals have been returned and a vendor will be selected to develop the internet version of the status board.

I've been tasked with coming up with the section on wild fire in the Fire Best Practices Guide. In an effort to keep the guide from becoming too large, it states you need to

make sure to do local planning. With the mix of federal assets, state assets, local fire agencies, and PSAPS, and what they have available to them in terms of patching and different technologies, a communications plan should be in place.

4.2 Owners & Operators – Dewey Johnson. Brian Belich met with IT staff at Fond du Lac last week. They have the band width for ITV but because it is a state school, it has to be opened up by the state. As soon as that opens up, ITV should be an option.

4.3 User Committee – nothing to report.

4.4.c. OTC – nothing significant

4.4.d VHF Overlay – Dylan - next meeting is at the Interop Conference

4.4.e. EMS – Mark S – The 57 radios that were purchased by the region have been spoken for. 37 ambulances got one radio, 11 got two radios, and three services got three. Get the checks to Anna as soon as possible as she needs to close out the grant. These radios need to be picked up from Grand Rapids because they're not being shipped and they have a room full of them.

4.4.f Best Practices – Steve O – Dispatch should be done by the Interop Conference.

4.4.a RAC – Steve O – Regarding the LE Tacs, a change standard is going through the state to name it LSCRAM .

COMT training will be in Arden Hills August 6 through 11.

Bruce has possession of the STR trailer. Per Dewey, they're trying to find a permanent home for it. Monte said they'd like to use it for their Pow Wow the 3rd weekend of August.

Anna will need the registration and hotel invoices for the Interop Conference for payment from the grant the day after the conference.

Harry Algyer went through the TIC plan at both the RAC and RRB meetings. Each agency needs to have someone to access the CASM and update the information.

The Carlton County agreement with MNDOT has been signed.

The RAC meeting was changed to April 25th because of the Interop Conference.

4.4.b RRB – Steve O – covered with RAC information.

5.1 Training Update

Cook County Train the Trainer April 27 & 28.

Interop Conference April 16-18.

COML TTT at the EMI which is attached to the National Fire Academy in Emmetsburg, MD. Travel and motel are covered for that. A signed off COML task book is required.

COMT training August 6-11 at MNDOT in Shoreview.

NIFOG training is August 21st.

Monte – May 2nd SKIP workshop/training at MNDOT in Arden Hills.

Monte – May 11th from 1-3 Camp Ripley will have open house for new emergency responders training center.

6.0 Old Business

6.1 Radios for Ambulance services – has been covered.

7.0 New Business

Scott Heide - Want to create a talk group called Crow Wing EMS Common that Crow Wing will own and maintain. It will be given out to Hubbard, Cass and Aitkin to enable the responders and ambulance people to communicate.

Wide area access form has been completed that needs to go to the RAC. That has to be approved through RAC and RRB and OTC.

Erik J made a motion to approve wide area access for the talk group Crow Wing EMS Common to be authorized in Hubbard, Cass and Aitkin. Second by Steve O.

Mark L went to the DNR Forestry meeting. If there is a busy fire season, USFS does not have interoperability capability. Per Bill, federal agencies cannot be given radios funded from state grant allocation. They can operate on the system but aren't eligible for the grant funding. You can loan them a radio from the local cache.

8.0 Jurisdictional Updates

Aitkin – waiting for SOR to come back from Motorola, working on getting talk group layouts done for programming the portables and control stations.

Carlton – ARMER agreement with the state has been signed so now will be working with Bruce to order portables and do some local upgrades.

Cass – per Bill, their new date is April 16.

Cook – working on funding for the consoles but for now getting the control stations set up and going VHF narrowband for responders for now.

Crow Wing – currently waiting for mobile enhancement site at Crosby to be constructed. Starting end user training. Have been communicating with State patrol on how to handle communications if there's a major accident on the highway. And wondering how various counties using their cache of 5 APEX radios. Discussion followed.

Duluth – getting close to purchasing portables and mobiles, waiting for the grant contracts to be signed. The local enhancement Woodland Tower is coming along nicely.

Hibbing – the infrastructure for police and fire is in and will be starting installs soon. They will be ready when St Louis County goes on.

Itasca – Nashwauk and Keewatin radios are starting to have problems now and will have to be re-aligned after 2.5 years use.

Koochiching – Bill had contact in February. Sheriff told him they are VHF narrowband ready for law enforcement and thought most of the fire agencies were ready as well but wasn't sure. He was trying to get ARMER radios to put into the law enforcement fleet so they would have that capability. They did get their hard patch up and running.

Lake – Waiting on four towers to be put on the system.

Leech Lake – looking at coming on board in November.

Kanabec – per Bill, they are on system and are the 30th county to join.

Mille Lacs – waiting for Mille Lacs and Pine Counties to migrate and will go when they do.

Grand Portage – no report.

Fond du Lac – no report.

St Louis County – consoles will be installed in a couple weeks. The county users group is close to a fleet map. Mobiles are in and one-ways will be ordered shortly. Will be starting user training.

Virginia – got AFG and hopefully will be placing order soon. Our whole city is going to migrate when St Louis County does.

Gold Cross – started training.

Pine – Mark S - Pine's microwave will be installed on MNDOT tower tomorrow. Hoping to be on ARMER system late May, early June on the three tower sites that are existing.

8.0 Standards Review

Virginia – Dan reviewed standards 2.6.0, 2.7.0 and 2.8.0

Aitkin – Karla reviewed standards 2.12.0, 2.13.0, and 2.14.0

Next meeting will be May 2nd.

Erik J made a motion to adjourn, Doug second.