

**Joint Meeting of
Northeast Regional Users Committee
&
Northeast Regional Owners & Operators Committee
Fond du Lac Community College
June 6, 2012 10:00 A.M.**

1.0 Meeting called to order by Dewey Johnson

2.0 Roll Call -

Bill Bernhjelm	BJ Kohlstedt
Dan Sathre	Dave Gilmore
Dewey Johnson	Doug Rotta
Dylan Bridges	Jeff Ronchetti
John Hyde	Jayme Carlson
Karla White	Laura Andrews
Mark Lallak	Mark Smith
Mark Stansberry	Melissa Bowstring
Monte Fronk	Nate Gens
Patrice Nelson	Steve Olson
Tom Ralidak	

3.0 Adopt minutes from previous meeting

Doug R made a motion to accept the minutes from the April 4 meeting, Laura A second, motion carried.

4.0 Presentations

4.1 Sermon with Bill Bernhjelm

DECN is looking for volunteers to be on the Interoperability Data Committee. They are looking for representatives from each region. Marcus Bruning is accepting volunteers from the NE region through June 15th. This committee will recommend to the Governor whether Minnesota will go along with the federal plan or do their own.

The National Weather Service standard is close to completion. They plan to have a dedicated talk group for each office which would allow them to have direct contact with the PSAPs through a patch to a State TAC. The Duluth State Patrol will do roll-call for the NE Region.

The VHF Interoperable Frequency Use MOU needs to be signed and given to Bill as soon as possible.

The SRB is going to contact each county not joining ARMER as a last effort to get them to join.

The AFG application period will open next week for 30 days. The online training webinar is very informative if anyone missed the in-person training.

The Grant Specialist position in ECN is open again

4.2 Owners & Operators – Dewey Johnson – nothing to report

4.3 User Committee – Dan Sathre – Still waiting for MNSCU to open the fire wall to allow our meetings to be conducted by ITV

4.4a/b RAC/RRB – Steve Olson – The state is working with Tad Mathison from Wisconsin to share CASM information across state boarders. John Dooley from HSEM will be setting up CASM training for the representative from each county.

The RRB approved the purchase of 348 portables for fire service through the HSEM grant.

4.4c OTC – no report

4.4d VHF Overlay – Steve Olson – Standards are moving through the state to determine how channels will be used

The VHF MOU will allow the counties to be covered under the state license when using the VHF Overlay

4.4e EMS – Mark Stansberry – nothing to report

4.4f Best Practices – Bill Bernhjelm and Monte Fronk - EMS and Hospital are done and approved. Fire is awaiting SRB approval. Emergency Management/Public Health, Law, Dispatch and Public Works are getting close.

They are working to create a State Duty Officer (MNDO) talk group. This would be a direct line to the duty officer to be used during a phone failure or for emergency managers in the field.

5.0 Training Update

5.1a COML Train the Trainer will be held at The Emergency Management Institute in Emmitsburg, Maryland on July 22-27. Steve Olson will be attending.

5.1b COMT training will be held Aug 6-11 at the MN DOT Training Center in Shoreview

5.1c NIFOG training has been changed to Aug 28th at the MN DOT Training Center in Shoreview. Suggested attendees are lead dispatchers and law enforcement and fire supervisors.

5.1d Let Dewey or Marcus know of any training that your agency needs or is planning to have. Monte said that Jim Jarvis will be putting on a one day communication training at Camp Ripley sometime in September.

5.1e Pine County will host a radio train the trainer class on June 11 and 12.

6.0 Old Business

6.1 The Crow Wing County common talk group for Aitkin, Cass, Crow Wing and Hubbard counties has been approved by the NE RRB. It will need to be presented to the NW RRB.

7.0 New Business

7.1 Steve Olson relayed that Chuck Jacky suggests renaming the NE regional talk groups without “TAC”. The Central and SE regions have made the change and the NW region is

working on the change. Seems that the “TAC” is causing some confusion. This would not include a change to the HEX code but would only be a name change.

BJ K made a motion to change the standard to eliminate “TAC” from the naming on the NE Regional talk groups at a time that is convenient to programming. Second by Doug R. Motion carried and will be forwarded to the RAC.

8.0 Jurisdictional Updates

Aitkin – The county board approved the agreement with Motorola so now working on ordering equipment for ARMER and the VHF simulcast system.

Cass – Up and running on ARMER

Crow Wing – Planning to be on ARMER August 31st

Duluth – The majority of the equipment has been received

Hibbing – Still waiting to start the tower site, equipment has been purchased and waiting for programming, Alex Tech training has been completed

Kanabec – Up and running on ARMER

Mille Lacs Band – Waiting for Aitkin, Mille Lacs and Pine to migrate

Leech Lake Band – In the process of installing radios but some still need programming

Itasca – Planning to move the dispatch center to a new location, 4 MCC7500 workstations, Meds One Ambulance Service has given notice that they will be leaving the ARMER system due to user fees, they are going to use the VHF system

MSP – It has been determined that the Duluth station is not a feasible location for consolidation. The 2 sites for the state will be Metro and Rochester. Metro will dispatch for all of northern Minnesota. Outstate hours of operation will be decreased by September to eliminate the night shift. The night of June 6th will be the first night that the Thief River station will shut down for the night and transfer calls to the Brainerd station.

St Louis – Establishing temporary sites for towers that are not complete, remaining radios have been ordered, planning a November or December migration

Lake – During a pursuit the Law Main was patched to a State L TAC and they found out that they no longer have St Louis VHF in their console

9.0 Standards Review

None this month

The July meeting has been cancelled since it would have been scheduled for July 4th. The next meeting will be by August 1st.

Doug Rotta made a motion to adjourn, Steve Olson second.