

**CENTRAL MINNESOTA USER COMMITTEE**  
**Tuesday, June 15, 2010, 1:00 p.m.**  
**Douglas County Public Works Building, Alexandria, MN**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

1. Benton County – Jason Fleming
2. Douglas County – Tom Egan, Dave Pedersen
3. Grant County – Troy Langlie
4. Kandiyohi County – Ace Bonnema, Brad Hanson
5. Meeker County – Rich Christianson, Joel Engler, Greg Gilbertson
6. Mille Lacs County – Carla Jones
7. Otter Tail County – Doug Whiting
8. Pope County – David Thompson
9. St. Cloud, City of – Chuck Koetter
10. Stearns County – Paul McIntyre
11. Stevens County – Ashley Schmidgall, Ross Tieg
12. Todd County – Bob Cuchna
13. Traverse County – Stan Churchill, Tom Schmitz, Lynn Siegel
14. Wadena County – Martin Penner
15. Wilkin County – Rick Fiedler
16. Wright County – Gordy Vosberg

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

17. Big Stone County
18. Morrison County
19. Sherburne County
20. Swift County

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Meeting called to order by Chair Paul McIntyre at 1:02 p.m.

**ROLL CALL/INTRODUCTIONS:**

Quorum present with 16 of 20 entities present. Introductions were conducted.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

No communications.

**INCIDENTS:**

None.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

*Chuck Koetter moved, Tom Egan second to approve May 18<sup>th</sup> minutes, upon a vote motion carried.*

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

*Bob Cuchna moved, Chuck Koetter second to approve agenda, upon a vote motion carried.*

**REPORTS:**

**SRB/ARMER UPDATE; MnDPS/MnDOT:**

**SRB Update:**

No report available.

**REPORTS: (CONTINUED)**

**SRB/ARMER UPDATE; MnDPS/MnDOT: (Continued)**

**OTC Update:**

No report available.

**Interop Committee:**

No report available.

**CMNRRB Update:**

Next meeting is June 20<sup>th</sup>.

**CMRAC Update:**

Chair McIntyre provided an update of the June 11<sup>th</sup> RAC meeting.

**O&O Update:**

Changed meeting date and will start at 10:00 a.m. in the months the User Committee meets at 1:00 p.m.

**CMN Regional Interop Coordinator Update:**

No report available.

**EMS Hospital OTC Subcommittee Update:**

The EMS Hospital OTC Subcommittee is being formed, email being sent out today, if interested in participating in the meetings, send contact information to Jennifer at the state. There is a talk group entities can get for their ambulance services to take care of your outlying hospital contacts. The channel which was Central MN EMS 1 will become the hailing channel for the region and work on HEX code for Metro control centers. St. Cloud Hospital trauma center has gone live.

**GENERAL DISCUSSION AND NEW BUSINESS:**

**User Talk Groups:**

RAC tasked the O&O and Users to see what the need is for the Central MN Fire Dept. 1, PD1, Public Works 1, it appears most entities have not programmed them into their radios and are not being utilized. These talkgroups were created prior to each county having their own roams going back into their PSAP. Regional Fire Department Talk Group – Kristin ran a report for previous 12 months and maybe a max of four push to talks in the Public Works, the others had 1 or 2. Chuck Koetter stated the intent was to create them to not bother the PSAP and a point to point contact to avoid dispatch, although everyone would need it and be scanning it to be effective. Troy Langlie stated everyone would need to be affiliated with it as well in order for it to work. Troy felt with entities not on the system it may be premature to determine if they will or will not be utilized. Kristin stated with Stearns having all of their agencies up and running, their Fire and Police do not have these talk groups in them the Public Works does have the regional talk group since they had space. Chair McIntyre asked for the group to either decide if they think there is a potential use they go into portables and mobiles or scrap the idea, although there may be concern with space in dispatch. Ace stated they plan on putting in Public Works and not Fire or Police. Jason Flemming stated they have been on the system for a year now and have never used it and would have to go through dispatch regardless and do not anticipate to use it and then scan would be another issue. *Ace moved to continue to keep the regional Public Works and remove the Fire and Police be removed, Bob Cuchna second, upon a vote motion carried.* Troy Langlie stated there has been some discussion having a regional talkgroup for transports and unsure if it would be utilized for that. Chuck Koetter stated Public Works does not work with PSAP so they will use the point to point more frequent and need to ensure it is in their scan list. Dan McCoy stated even if it was in their scan list and if there was not another radio affiliated with it, it would not be heard.

## **GENERAL DISCUSSION AND NEW BUSINESS: (CONTINUED)**

### **User Talk Groups: (Continued)**

There was some question as to how many regional encrypted talk groups were being utilized and question was if they need to be encrypted. Kristin stated they currently are encrypted (CM Task force 1-4 which were designed for Law Enforcement talkgroups for the region.) Ace stated there is a subcommittee from the O&O working on this. Troy Langlie stated all users in Law Enforcement should be encrypted and put into law enforcement only radios (CM Task Force 1-4).

Chair McIntyre stated looking to see if there is a need for a separate hailing for hospitals suggestion is to make Central Regional Hospital talkgroup for all of the hospitals in the area.

Central MN Statewide Fire Tac Mutual Aid talkgroup to see if it can or will be utilized to communicate with entities such as the DNR. Ace stated they were not aware this of this talkgroup, Kristin thought Stearns County had it in their radios although unsure if or how much it is being utilized. Jason stated originally it was set up to utilize in the interim until everyone was on the system, their intent is this channel will be going away and do not utilize. The consensus is this should be an independent county choice if they feel they would utilize it and it does not need to be a regional decision.

Ace asked if there is a recommendation for jail transports needed, Troy stated if there was a regional transport talkgroup then the jails would need two talkgroups, he feels a cell phone may work best at this time. This will be discussed again in the future once more law enforcement agencies are on the system to see what will work best.

### **Tower Sites Update:**

See website for updated sites.

### **Funding and Grant Writing Update:**

There is a new grant for subscriber units once it is finalized and will be approximately \$30,000 per entity.

### **Training Topics Update:**

Rick Fiedler asked if there is a list available of what happens first when coming onto the system and then the second step, etc. Tom Egan also asked about a contact to assist in answering questions, the suggestion was the region is not quite ready to hire a staff person yet and in the meantime to contact Kristin, Ace, or Micah. Bob Cuchna asked if it would be possible to get a list of training available for entities to use for training. Chair McIntyre stated the RAC discussed this previously and entities were asked to submit requests for training. He stated if individuals have specific training needs to contact Micah to see what is available.

### **Other Items of Interest:**

Chair McIntyre provided update on the Disaster Drill at the St. Cloud airport and stated it was the largest drill in the area and everyone went really well. Gold Cross partnered with five ground, two air partners, and the St. Cloud Hospital to move 38 patients and outside of a little glitch in the Legacy system and a patch that was not set up, this was the only glitch. For all entities on the system everything went really well. Ace stated it was interesting to see the various Fire and Police Departments utilizing different patches to see what worked the best. Andy Faith asked if in a large incident like this if one individual coordinated it, Paul stated additional commands were added as the event grew and hopefully one of the COML individuals would be available when an event takes place as they are very useful for the incident.

**STANDARDS:**

Started with standard 1.5.1 and will start with 1.7 in August.

**TRAINING/EDUCATION:**

Nothing at this time.

**UPCOMING MEETINGS:**

*Greg Gilbertson moved, Dave Pedersen second to cancel July's Meeting., upon a vote motion carried. Next meeting will be August 17<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m.*

**ADJOURNMENT:**

*Rick Fiedler moved, Tom Schmitz second to adjourn at 2:45 p.m., upon a vote motion carried.*

Minutes recorded by Debbie Backes.