

**CENTRAL MINNESOTA USER COMMITTEE**  
**Tuesday, September 15, 2009, 6:30 p.m.**  
**Douglas County Hospital, Alexandria, MN**  
**Douglas County**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

1. Benton County – Marie Herbst
2. Douglas County – Tom Egan, Dave Pedersen, Dave Robley, Stephan Vanluik, Rick Wagner
3. Grant County – Vern Haack, Matt Jensen, Troy Langlie
4. Kandiyohi County – Ace Bonnema, Brad Hanson
5. Meeker County – Randy Celander, Rich Christianson, Joel Engler, Greg Gilbertson
6. Mille Lacs County – Mark Bruske, Peter Willis
7. Morrison County – Pat Boone, Mike Nieman, Craig Seelen
8. Otter Tail County – Dallas Grewe, Doug Whiting
9. St. Cloud, City of – Scott Dahlin, Chuck Koetter
10. Stearns County – Gary Curtis, Paul McIntyre, Dave Nohner
11. Stevens County – Dave Dybdal, Justin Howe, Ross Tiegs
12. Todd County – Bob Cuchna
13. Traverse County – Amy Churchill, Stan Churchill, Tom Schmitz
14. Wadena County – Cory Palm, Don Weniger
15. Wilkin County – Rick Fiedler
16. Wright County – Gordy Vosberg

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

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

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Meeting called to order by Chair Paul McIntyre at 6:40 p.m.

**ROLL CALL/INTRODUCTIONS:**

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

**COMMUNICIONS:**

No communications since last meeting.

**INCIDENTS:**

No incidents.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

*Dave Pedersen moved to approve August 18<sup>th</sup> minutes Rick Wagner second, upon a vote motion carried.*

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

*Brad Hanson moved, Dave Pedersen second to approve agenda, upon a vote motion carried.*

**REPORTS:**

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

**SRB Update:**

Did not meet last month.

**OTC Update:**

No update.

**Interop Committee:**

Federal Engineering presented their VHF meeting, will be meeting again next week, MnDOT will be bringing items for discussion.

Stearns County will be putting the St. Cloud simulcast into site trunking for about an hour to test how the radios affiliate, etc. during fail soft.

**CMNRRB Update:**

Will be meeting September 30<sup>th</sup>.

**CMRAC Update:**

Discussed interop zone and will be making recommendation to the RRB, discussed control stations through the PSIC grant and will be making recommendation to RRB and getting the control stations in place.

**CMN Regional Interop Coordinator Update:**

VHF interop statewide and North and South Dakota are the biggest discussion in the subcommittee group; MnDOT is looking at moving forward with MOTO bridge to communicate VHF and 800 and the SRB is analyzing if this is the best solution.

**GENERAL DISCUSSION AND NEW BUSINESS:**

**Tower Sites Update:**

RIC Justin also provided an update on tower sites and coverage in the north and west. MnDOT is still on goal to have 75% statewide coverage by the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter – anticipate approximately 80 additional towers online by the end of the year.

**Funding and Grant Writing Update:**

Micah stated the RRB is starting the process of applying for the EICGP grant which is a regional grant.

**Training Topics Update:**

Dave Nohner stated the State training group met three times to date, in addition to the State training, entities will need in-house training. Tom Justin stated for vendor training through the State it is approximately six – twelve months out.

**Regional Talk Group Update:**

Chair McIntyre stated concept the User Committee brought forward changing the FSOA to an ASOA will be brought forward to the RRB for approval. The current HEX codes in the PTACS, ATACS and FTACS will be converted into the new layout. The status boards in the PSAPS will have enough naming spaces to provide both the new and old naming convention in the interim.

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

### **EMS Meeting Update:**

Met this evening, came up with some direction for the region for ambulance to ambulance, ambulance to hospital, and air ambulance in the state; suggested creating a regional and hospital to hospital hail and a channel for the helicopters.

### **Change of Daytime Meetings from Fire Hall to Public Works Building:**

Chair McIntyre stated looking at moving the monthly daytime meeting location to the Douglas County Public Works building and asked for input if the group would like evening meetings there as well. *Justin Howe moved. Dave Pedersen second to have future meetings at the Douglas County Public Works Building, upon a vote motion carried.*

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

Scott Miller asked for training on portable patching, Mike Kahl, Granite Electronics offered to provide a demonstration at the next two meetings (day time and evening) to provide an opportunity for everyone to participate.

## **STANDARDS:**

RIC Justin stated this region is outrunning the standards quicker than they can be updated. For example there is a standard making reference to FSOA's and it was designed for the Metro and does not necessarily meet our regional needs and the SRB is not opposed to relooking at the standard. Micah stated Jay brought this to the State and are in process of having it changed.

## **TRAINING:**

### **Priority Setting and Talk Groups:**

RIC Justin provided training on priority setting, scanning, etc. The talk groups can be set up as a priority one or a priority two and the remaining eight talk groups are a level three and are all equal.

There are numerous scan lists that can be programmed into radios, although in Stearns County they only have one programmed scan list and have determined it is all that would be needed. He provided examples of radio traffic on various towers depending how radios and towers are programmed to affiliate, amount of traffic it brings with it, etc. Tom also provided a demonstration on the amount of tower resources being utilized when using a STAC when it is not needed and the same if using a regional resource when not needed.

RIC Justin will meet with Motorola product engineers in reference to 800 MHz trunk paging and the need.

Portable to portable patching will be demonstrated next two months by Granite Electronics.

## **UPCOMING MEETINGS:**

Tuesday, October 20<sup>th</sup> meeting at 1:00 p.m. at the Douglas County Public Works Building.

Tuesday, November 17<sup>th</sup> meeting at 6:30 p.m. at the Douglas County Public Works Building.

## **ADJOURNMENT:**

*Bob Cuchna moved, Stephan Vanluik second to adjourn at 7:55 p.m., upon a vote motion carried.*

Minutes recorded by Debbie Backes, recording secretary.