

**CENTRAL MINNESOTA USER COMMITTEE**  
**Tuesday, November 17, 2009, 6:30 p.m.**  
**Douglas County Public Works Building, Alexandria, MN**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

1. Benton County – Perry Beise, Marie Herbst
2. Douglas County – Tom Egan, Dave Pedersen, Dave Robley, Stephan Vanluik, Rick Wagner
3. Meeker County – Randy Celander, Joel Engler
4. Mille Lacs – Peter Willis
5. St. Cloud, City of – Scott Dahlin, Chuck Koetter, Dean Wrobbel
6. Stearns County – Jim Hughes, Paul McIntyre, Dave Nohner
7. Stevens County – Justin Howe, Ross Tiegs
8. Swift County – John Holtz
9. Traverse County – Amy Churchill, Stan Churchill
10. Wadena County – Donald Weniger
11. Wright County – Gordy Vosberg

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

12. Big Stone County
13. Grant County
14. Kandiyohi County
15. Morrison County
16. Otter Tail County
17. Pope County
18. Sherburne County
19. Todd County
20. Wilkin County

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Meeting called to order by Chair Paul McIntyre at 6:35 p.m.

**ROLL CALL/INTRODUCTIONS:**

Quorum present with 11 of 20 entities. Introductions were conducted.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

No communications since last meeting.

**INCIDENTS:**

Scott Miller explained a mutual aid experience on a fire scene and due to a lack of training, not everyone was on the same channel and there was intermittent communication although it still did work.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

*Dave Pedersen moved to approve October 20<sup>th</sup> minutes Jim Hughs second, upon a vote motion carried.*

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Add meeting quorum, timeline, etc. to agenda. *John Holtz moved, Dave Pedersen second to approve agenda as amended, upon a vote motion carried.*

**REPORTS:**

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

**SRB Update:**

No update.

**OTC Update:**

No update.

**Interop Committee:**

No update.

**CMNRRB Update:**

No update.

**CMRAC Update:**

No update.

**CMN Regional Interop Coordinator Update:**

Chair McIntyre reported for RIC Justin: The SOA's are a statewide resource, looking at getting standard for SOA's, if you are patching to a normal talk group remember it is a statewide resource. He did not have time to complete the SOA and portable coverage testing at this time. He passed around a tower site update as of October 27<sup>th</sup>. New rounds of grants are on the website.

**O&O Update:**

O&O are working with RAC to receive a prioritized list of standards to be reviewed. It was the consensus of the group that if a standard affects the users it should come through this group for input and discussion.

Scott Miller stated any matters this group has to need to go before the SRB, either himself or Brad Hanson attend the meetings and can provide input on our behalf.

**TIC Plan Update:**

No Update.

**GENERAL DISCUSSION AND NEW BUSINESS:**

**Tower Sites Update:**

Map passed around as of October 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Funding and Grant Writing Update:**

Everything that is available is on the website, a lot of counties are in process of completing participation plans, Chair McIntyre encouraged members to work with their county for input and completion as grants are tied to them.

**Training Topics Update:**

We are about six months out with agencies completing their fleet mapping and about a year out before a lot of agencies come onto the system. Chair McIntyre is looking for thoughts and input for training topics for January meeting. He asked if we need to reduce the frequency of meetings until agencies come onto the system or do we keep going as there will be more questions coming up.

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

### **Meeting:**

Tom Egan stated within a short period of time most entities will start purchasing equipment, planning, and are in the process of completing participation plans. Randy felt once they come on, there will be more issues coming up for discussion. Consensus is to continue with same meeting schedule; Chair McIntyre asked if we have a lighter meeting, is phone conferencing or telecommunication an option? It was the consensus that it would be good to check into the phone conferencing for lighter schedules.

Chair McIntyre asked if we should RSVP for a quorum i.e. at 8:00 a.m. of the day of the meeting if there was not a quorum attending that the meeting would be cancelled. John felt it is beneficial to still meet on a monthly basis as more entities come on to the system. *Perry moved that it is required to RSVP by 2:00 p.m. the day prior to the meeting and if a quorum is not present, it will be cancelled, Gordy Vossman second, upon a vote motion carried. This will be voted on at the January meeting to allow everyone an input and time to discuss.* Dean felt that if there isn't a quorum and there is information to share that it still be sent out via email.

### **Regional Talk Group:**

Region voted to go with a regional talk group, discussed if the standard on FSOA's should be regional or a statewide talkgroup. Jim Hughes stated at the Stearns County User Committee they discussed turning the output down and still use the FSOA's. Had discussion on the FSOA's, their usage, etc. it was the consensus of the group that they strongly support the FSOA's be allowed in mobiles from a safety, financial, and coverage issues. Chair McIntyre stated the concern is when there are counties which border the Metro and outstate does not. *Peter Willis moved, Stephan Vanluik second to ask RAC to pursue with the State of allowing the FSOA's in mobiles in the outstate area. Upon a vote, motion carried.*

### **STANDARDS:**

Will start seeing these after the Owners and Operators start reviewing.

### **TRAINING:**

Dave Pedersen stated Douglas County was provided an 800 radio and the Bio Terrorism was to provide two free radios for each hospital, it is for Douglas County going west and reminded entities in these areas to pursue and obtain the radios. Chair McIntyre stated there is a limited participation plan that is an option for hospitals to start training while they are waiting for their county to come onto the system; they just need to ensure they are following the appropriate steps.

Dave Nohner stated when entities are setting up their radios to consider how they will be setting them up in a pursuit. This is a discussion that will need to take place as entities start to program radios and come onto the system. Andy stated initially Stearns County use to run out of range with pursuits and asked as towers are coming on if this is still an issue, Dave stated no.

Brandon Larson of SCSU is looking to come onto the system and asked for some direction, Scott Dahlin will meet with him after the meeting; Chair McIntyre stated there is an inter-city meeting in a couple of weeks and encouraged them to attend.

**TRAINING: (CONTINUED)**

**Portable Patching: (Granite Electronics)**

Dan McCoy provided a demonstration of equipment which the St. Cloud School District utilizes for patching to the ARMER system and explained how they could be patched to the local Police Department. Scott Dahlin explained how the St. Cloud School District will utilize both short and long term patching for their needs in a major event. Dean Wrobbel stated not every scene of action is required to go to a scene of action channel – it is always best to stay onto the system if possible. Entities will need to test the coverage for their area once they come onto the system.

**UPCOMING MEETINGS:**

December meeting cancelled due to lack of business.

Next meeting is Tuesday, January 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at the Douglas County Public Works Building.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

*Dave Pedersen moved, Perry Beise second to adjourn at 8:00 p.m., upon a vote motion carried.*

Minutes recorded by Debbie Backes, recording secretary.