

CENTRAL MINNESOTA USER COMMITTEE
Tuesday, March 16, 2010, 6:30 p.m.
Douglas County Public Works Building, Alexandria, MN

MEMBERS PRESENT:

1. Douglas County – Dave Pedersen, Dave Robley, Stephan Vanluik, Rick Wagner
2. Grant County – Vernon Haack, Greg Jacobson, Troy Langlie
3. Kandiyohi County – Ace Bonnema
4. Meeker County – Rich Christianson, Joel Engler
5. Mille Lacs County – Carla Jones, Peter Willis
6. Morrison County – Craig Seelen
7. Otter Tail County –Matt McGuire, Doug Whiting
8. Pope County – Jim Minion, David Thompson
9. St. Cloud, City of – Tom Justin, Chuck Koetter, Dean Wrobbel
10. Stearns County – Paul McIntyre, Dave Nohner
11. Stevens County – Dave Dybdal, Justin Howe, Ashley Schmidgall, Ross Tiegs
12. Swift County – John Holtz
13. Todd County – Bob Cuchna, Steve Peterson
14. Traverse County – Stan Churchill, Lynn Siegel
15. Wadena County – Martin Penner, Donald Weniger

MEMBERS ABSENT:

16. Benton County
17. Big Stone County
18. Sherburne County
19. Wilkin County
20. Wright County

CALL TO ORDER:

Meeting called to order by Chair Paul McIntyre at 6:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL/INTRODUCTIONS:

Quorum present with 15 of 20 entities present. Introductions were conducted.

COMMUNICIONS:

No communications since last meeting.

INCIDENTS:

None reported.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Tom Justin made two correction; first is to FSOA testing - distance changed from 10 feet to 100 feet and to include there was a problem when testing outside at a distance of 100 feet or less , second change is encryption keys under Training and Topics Update be changed from single and double to multi or single key encryption. *Dave Pedersen moved, Don Weniger second to approve February 16th minutes with corrections, upon a vote motion carried.*

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Dave Pedersen moved, Craig Seelen second to approve agenda, upon a vote motion carried.

PRESENTATIONS:

Vendors:

EF Johnson, Kenwood, and Motorola were each provided approximately 15 minutes to explain their products and background on their company and answer questions. Prior to the meeting attendees had an opportunity to meet with vendors to ask questions and review equipment.

Dispatch Screens:

Dave Nohner provided a PowerPoint demonstration of a Gold Elite console and various screens such as dispatch, paging, talkgroups, frequencies, patching, status board, etc. and explained items to take into consideration when setting up a console.

REPORTS:

SRB/ARMER UPDATE; MnDPS/MnDOT:

SRB Update:

Tom reported DECN is working out arrangement with Alex Tech for computer based module training. Provided tower updates with sites in progress, coming online, and bidding status.

OTC Update:

Approved three participation plans for this region - Pope, Todd, and Traverse, had concerns with entities which will not have access to a status board. They reviewed standard increasing STACS from 1-4 to 1-8, Gold Cross requested funding for radios.

Interop Committee:

Subcommittee met to increase LETACS for 2-4.

CMNRRB Update:

No update.

CMRAC Update:

Wilkin, Swift, and Wadena participation plans were approved, distributed additional grant funding, discussed BDA installation currently there is not a standard and was referred back to the OTC to address as BDA's can affect other agencies. Discussed on-line link to a status board for agencies who do not have a status board access and DECN's State-wide convention for April 28-30 in St. Cloud. Additional \$600,000 in grants coming to region for portables and mobiles, no timeline at this time, control stations funding has been approved, still trying to get sales tax exemption.

O&O Update:

Discussed status board and control station setup.

CMN Regional Interop Coordinator Update:

Tom Justin reported 18 sites will be or have been advertised for bids this spring. Matt McGuire asked how many keys were in a multi-key encryption, Tom stated there are state, regional, and local keys. If you want local and regional encryption – a single key encryption would not be sufficient. EF Johnson provided that their multi-key encryption programming provided for 64 keys available.

GENERAL DISCUSSION AND NEW BUSINESS:

Tower Sites Update:

See above.

Funding and Grant Writing Update:

See above. Morris Fire Department received \$322,468 in FEMA grants.

GENERAL DISCUSSION AND NEW BUSINESS: (CONTINUED)

Training Topics Update:

No suggestions.

Border Issues:

Chair McIntyre encouraged entities to come up with the best practice template to communicate with their neighboring entities. Peter Willis stated the DNR is putting MNSEF in although not their mutual aid and several counties are not putting them into their consoles. If entities have an open slot in their console they will want to put in the VHF slot to communicate with the DNR.

Central MN PD1, Central MN Fire1, Central MN Public Works1:

Dave stated these talkgroups currently are not being utilized although are taking up space in the bank. He talked to Benton, Wright, Sherburne, and Kandiyohi and Kandiyohi is the only county who put them in, a suggestion is to remove them if there continues not be used in the future.

Other Items of Interest:

Ace stated Big Stone County is looking at flooding issues and will be using radios from the state and using a regional channel.

STANDARDS:

Will be starting with standard 1.3 next month.

TRAINING/EDUCATION:

Nothing.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Next meeting is Tuesday, April 20th at 1:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

Dave Pedersen moved, John Holtz second to adjourn at 8:30 p.m., upon a vote motion carried.

Minutes recorded by Debbie Backes.