

CENTRAL MINNESOTA USER COMMITTEE
Tuesday, April 20, 2010, 1:00 p.m.
Douglas County Public Works Building, Alexandria, MN

MEMBERS PRESENT:

1. Douglas County – Tom Egan, Dave Pedersen, Dave Robley, Rick Wagner
2. Grant County – Greg Jacobson, Troy Langlie
3. Kandiyohi County – Ace Bonnema, Brad Hanson
4. Meeker County – Rich Christianson, Joel Engler, Greg Gilbertson, Gary Shaffer
5. Mille Lacs County – Carla Jones
6. Morrison County – Craig Seelen
7. Otter Tail County – Mark Hovland, Matt McGuire, Doug Whiting
8. Pope County – Jim Minion, David Thompson
9. St. Cloud, City of – Tom Justin, Dean Wrobbel
10. Sherburne County – Jennifer Callahan
11. Stearns County – Paul McIntyre
12. Stevens County – Ashley Schmidgall, Ross Tiegs
13. Swift County – Rob Lee, Bill McGearry
14. Todd County – Bob Cuchna
15. Traverse County – Stan Churchill, Tom Schmitz
16. Wadena County – Cory Palm, Martin Penner
17. Wilkin County – Rick Fiedler
18. Wright County – Gordy Vosberg

MEMBERS ABSENT:

19. Benton County
20. Big Stone County

CALL TO ORDER:

Meeting called to order by Chair Paul McIntyre at 1:05 p.m.

ROLL CALL/INTRODUCTIONS:

Quorum present with 18 of 20 entities present. Introductions were conducted.

COMMUNICIONS:

No communications since last meeting.

INCIDENTS:

Kandiyohi County went into site trunking in New London and inquired what happens in the ring counties. It was stated it depends on how the radios are programmed and the settings on the radio. It was suggested to contact Dave Theis from Motorola as to how the radios are currently programmed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Dave Pedersen moved, Cory Palm second to approve March 16th minutes, upon a vote motion carried.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Brad Hanson moved, Swift County second to approve agenda, upon a vote motion carried.

REPORTS:

SRB/ARMER UPDATE; MnDPS/MnDOT:

SRB Update:

RIC Justin attended quarterly meeting, ARMER is in process of hiring a position to maintain the grant funding list, anticipate to have hired in the next 1-1/2 weeks. The tax exempt status letter went out, Interoperability Conference is next week. For Next Generation 911 there is a phase 1 with six PSAPS to be turned on soon for the testing. There currently are eight PSAP consolidation studies being conducted state-wide, largest one has ten entities involved with nine of the ten entities from this region.

OTC Update:

No report.

Interop Committee:

No report.

CMNRRB Update:

Next meeting is June 20th.

CMRAC Update:

Discussed PSIC grant on portables and mobiles, control station reimbursement process, MnDOT contracts, BDA's and at next Owners and Operators there will be a BDA 101. Also discussed regional logging as several counties are interested and there is a breakout at the conference. The RAC is moving forward to the RRB to approve the additional scope of the work for administrative services, they are looking at a grant writing position to help entities in the region. Next meeting is May 7th in Wilkin County.

O&O Update:

Reviewed and approved standard regarding use of control stations, Dave Theis will be at the next meeting as a technical advisor. Chair McIntyre stated the User Groups and Owners and Operators have joint meetings in other regions and asked if this region would be interested in consolidating the daytime meetings.

CMN Regional Interop Coordinator Update:

RIC Justin attended a meeting last week with the EMS group and is looking at converting a talk group to a regional talk group and a hospital to hospital talk group. There will be a panel discussion at the DECN Conference for EMS and interested parties.

GENERAL DISCUSSION AND NEW BUSINESS:

Tower Sites Update:

Tom stated there is an updated tower list available as of yesterday.

Funding and Grant Writing Update:

There is a firefighter grant that will be opening next week. ARMER has two APEX portables that can be checked out for demonstration and if interested let Tom know. Several counties received grant denial letters. Tom Justin attended an AFG meeting on how to write a grant, the overwhelming area where entities are not moved forward is the narrative as to why they need the grant; if there are any missing areas or boxes on the grant they are rejected. Warren and Bruce's information went out on the listserv and are willing to review grant submissions, it was added to not include product specific equipment or it will be rejected.

GENERAL DISCUSSION AND NEW BUSINESS: (CONTINUED)

Training Topics Update:

Chair McIntyre stated he was asked for contacts from entities utilizing other brands of equipment.

Other Items of Interest:

Chair McIntyre asked for items for future discussion, there were no suggestions. Consensus is there should be some push to get hospital-based entities eligible for grants it was suggested to bring the concern to the RRB and at the DECN Convention. Suggestion was to have an EMS subcommittee to make recommendations to the RAC it was reported the User Group is the front line and any concerns should be brought forward from this group. Brief discussion on public health talkgroups it was suggested those discussion take place on a county level first. It was indicated that soft patches are available and may be an option versus creating additional talkgroups.

STANDARDS:

Started with standard 1.3, through 1.5, start with standard 1.5.1 next month.

TRAINING/EDUCATION:

See above.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Next meeting is Tuesday, May 18th at 6:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

Gordy Vosberg moved, Brad Hanson second to adjourn at 2:35 p.m., upon a vote motion carried.

Minutes recorded by Debbie Backes.