

Central MN Executive Committee Meeting
St. Cloud City Hall CR#1, 400 2nd ST S, St. Cloud, MN
January 31, 2018 – 10:00 AM

MEMBERS/ALTERNATES PRESENT:

1. Jim McMahon – ESB Chair
2. Jeff Jelinski – ESB Vice Chair
3. Micah Myers – RAC Chair
4. Kristen Lahr – O&O Chair
5. Brandon Larson – O&O Vice Chair
6. Paul McIntyre – Users Chair
7. Seth Hansen – EMAC Chair
8. Judy Diehl – NG911 Chair

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by ESB Chair Jim McMahon at 10:01 a.m.

INTRODUCTIONS:

Introductions were conducted.

COMMUNICATIONS:

a. FirstNet Roadshow – March 2, 2018

Larson received an email survey asking people to participate for which vendors they want to see at the roadshow. He spoke to Melinda yesterday to give her the date. We still have to figure out the timeframe; Larson is thinking 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Myers asked has there been any talk on providing meals? They have funding for meals; SLIGP funds from the past SLIGP not 2.0. We will send out an RSVP with the date, time, exact location and hopefully the vendors. As it states in the email, it is not just for people on committees. It is purchasing, or anyone involved on the decisions of purchasing cellphones. This roadshow is strictly for FirstNet and AT&T. Melinda Miller said there will be a large poster board of everyone's county and they will have markers that you can fill in the lack of coverage. You may have received an email regarding a survey that Miller would like people to take regarding use of broadband and how it has changed since 2014/2015. Myers asked do you want to speak on the survey? Larson put together a Doodle poll with the list of vendors and basic descriptions from the list Miller had provided. A dozen people have participated including Lahr and Myers who helped test it. There are names Larson does and does not recognize. There was a request from On Target if vendors are allowed. Vendors are not able to have a booth. Larson had 13 participants. For cellphone acquisitions Myers has reached out to Todd Fritz for his government contacts. We are trying to expand how we get information from meetings to these people. We want to make sure this is well-attended. Diehl said Stevens County has a meeting tonight and she will bring this up. Myers made a note to talk about subscribers when we talk about grants.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Kristen Lahr questioned the "required action" on #5a. Lahr stated we did take action at the last meeting; it did get approved in the minutes. Myers replied we can strike that and make it just an update. *Vice Chair Jelinski made a motion to approve the agenda. Micah Myers seconded, motion carried.*

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Chair McMahon requested on page #1 a. Minutes and Recording to strike out Supreme Court Justices. Lahr reported that Erin Hausauer had asked to make adjustments to page #8. In #1 EMAC Regional Planning Services Contract strike Paul VanVoorhis is a trooper. In #2 EMAC and Regional Coordinator Time, “Hausauer replied for EMAC she needs to understand the fiscal,” insert ‘impacts’ after fiscal. Vice Chair Jelinski questioned striking Paul VanVoorhis is a trooper asking is that not the point of minutes? Lahr replied that is the discussion we are having. Myers added it was approved by the City of St. Cloud attorney, it is not part of the relevance of the discussion. *Judy Diehl made a motion to approve the amended minutes from December 20, 2017. Kristen Lahr seconded, motion carried.*

- a. Minutes and Recording
See Approval of Minutes.

GENERAL DISCUSSION:

Regional Concerns

A. Committee Attendance

Myers stated as of today we will have 4 meetings completed for January. You can already be out of compliance. All you have to do is attend 3 out of the 4. Myers sent out correspondence to Sheriff John Haukos. For some committees Big Stone County had two of the appointees, so they would have had three representatives. He has to provide a primary and Kandiyohi would be alternate. You will see coming out shortly the folks out of compliance. Chair McMahon asked if there were any appointments. Myers replied not yet.

B. Website

1. Activities Module

Myers said what we are looking at here is an Activities Module event that Shari created. Currently, we are using Eventbrite. Larson was testing; it asked if you need to register on the website, or you can sign-up as a guest. One thing we wanted to do is also have direction capability. We do a lot of things with Eventbrite. Anyone with access on the website can set this up. Vice Chair Jelinski asked what the benefit of signing on the website would be. Larson replied the region people that should be signing up should already have a login. Myers explained the discipline which is relevant for who can attend. Myers completed the form without completing all the fields. The screen was yellow and red. We have to be cognizant to be ADA compliant. Myers stated a lot of the things we were able to do with other tools, but now we have the capability to do it.

C. NG911 – Text-2-911 Concerns

1. Mille Lacs County MOU

Myers noted there have been questions as to the process. The actual contract was signed by Dana Wahlberg from the state, ESB Chair, and the Mille Lacs County side. Balance of members just had to do their signatures so we do not have to pass one document to 20 agencies. It was done similar to JPA.

2. Fact Sheet PSA

Myers said ECN is looking at a communication campaign from a social media aspect. Myers was watching misinformation on social media, so he attached the Fact Sheet. ECN is including social media in their follow-up press release. We had a discussion at RAC, some communication was not expansive enough for folks to understand how the process is working. ECN did not want to say we only have regional centers. They are working on updated content for that. Paul McIntyre arrived at 10:24.

GENERAL DISCUSSION: (Continued)

Regional Concerns (Continued)

D. Grant Application

Myers stated there was good discussion at the quarterly. We talked about looking at what things are funded; one was replacement radios. Part of what people were told was there are costs to plan for when you come on. Even in our region agencies could use more radios. Myers would like to poll the region, going through what was included in original participation plans. Some have public works. We want to look at every month on meetings does anyone have a grant requirement. We are struggling to come up with projects to fund. Myers instructed Diehl to reach out: Here is what you said in your plan that you needed; has anything changed? If no one replies from the region, then we go to the state, and then propose to focus on this.

Myers used Todd County as an example, at one time they approached the region for an outdoor BDA and then it went off of the table. Myers said the coverage void is there. Is there a disconnect when we leave meetings that it does not get back? Each county has monthly radio meetings. We should be getting from boots on the ground how the radios are working, polling them. We do not know if we can rely solely on members of the agency, or if it relies on us going out to them. Other thinking from the discussion is to establish priorities on the hierarchy of the SECB and SHSP grants. Myers gave an example for any project that meets that priority and the fund then rolls down. We have not had enough projects where we had to make that, but once we open Pandora's Box for replacement radios... Firewall is on the SHSP. Then you have infrastructure. Lahr asked if the firewalls were purchased. Myers replied they should be, but he is using last year's spreadsheet. What priority do you put between, police, fire, and public works? There are plenty of situations where public works is public safety. Identify needs and how we do it, plan is to keep checking off the lists with a 5-year roadmap out. Also look at Next Gen 911 stuff. Strategic funding should also look at grants.

Diehl said there is an ambulance run by a private company in Stevens County, they only have 8 ARMER radios. When they are talking to each other so much is on EMS main, which causes people to hear fire, law and anyone else. Is there ever funding for a private company? They have 30 EMTs. Myers replied, 'yes,' if you look at the NGO's, the county acquires them and they go on a loaner program. Myers said we looked at Gold Cross way back then. McIntyre replied thanks to Myers and Stearns County for helping us. That is how we were on the system in the beginning; St. Cloud Fire wanted to communicate with us.

Myers said go one step further with tow trucks, why do they need to be on system not for day-to-day operation? Myers explained we have tow lists, we have times when the tow truck is waiting with no way to communicate with the officer or to relay back to dispatch for snow events to move vehicles and communicate. State Patrol gave a towing company radios. Big Stone County works with the tow company in their county. When we asked for permissions with the state we got shot down. We can list them, these entities under this provision can come onto ARMER. Myers said we can make that stretch for the grant funding. Vice Chair Jelinski added part of what you covered was replacement radios, at the beginning of time we all got grants, some agencies got a substantial fire grant that took care of every fire department in the county. The day is going to come where fire departments are going to say our radios are no good any longer, and radios need to be replaced. Jelinski assumes they would look to the county for new radios. Myers pointed out that Mille Lacs County as part of annual maintenance contributes to a maintenance fund.

GENERAL DISCUSSION: (Continued)

Regional Concerns (Continued)

D. Grant Application (Continued)

Also discussed at the quarterly was the event this weekend. Minneapolis put the whole state upside down. Myers explained the City of St. Cloud just made it a priority to replace radios. The limitations that Minneapolis puts on the state how do you establish what is priority? Reminding folks the system works, but we will not continue funding. Looking at the grant process to fund newer technologies. Myers would tell agencies if they are not, they need to start planning. McIntyre noted that Morrison County has started a planning group for a fire grant next year. Myers said one thing we found was they said fire should get less priority. What projects have a higher probability of getting funded? Seth Hansen arrived 10:40 a.m.

Diehl said she heard at a meeting that Motorola was buying back radios for \$400 a piece. Myers responded buying and shredding. Lahr noted there are agencies out there that would buy them for more. Myers said there are radios we have there; give Minneapolis our XTS platform that is better than what they are using now. Larson added they are better than our Public Works Department's radios. Myers said it is using the multiple funding streams. Identify, here are the categories Public Safety 1 and 2; EMS Public Safety 1 and 2. Myers said we need to look at all the funding streams available it will take a little work on our part. Do we have everyone with radios that need radios? Do we have the coverage? Finance Committee will look at Standard 6.5, they would line out anything specific to ARMER. You still have other regions not as proactive as Central Region with coverage voids. Two counties in the region are dispatching off consolettes not consoles. Reaching out to the agencies to sell to the board to upgrade that if we make them a priority. Address all those items in the region, then take a back seat to the other regions. If we truly make this an interop it works better if everyone is on. Chair McMahan asked if this was statewide. Myers responded both. If you go back and look in 2009-2014 at which regions got the most money. We did a regional plan. Myers would like to see the other regions do a regional plan.

E. Reps for Upcoming State Strategic Planning Mtg.

Myers identified the representatives: Al Fjerstad and Holly Martinson from PSAP/Next Gen 911, Commissioner Jeff Jelinski from the board level, Myers is coming from technical and policy from the region. Alternates are the assistant chief; and the fire chief has a conflict on one day. Myers would like to have the board say we will ask for extra spots; the other regions will not all bring five. Myers would ask for approvals and send a letter having McMahan sign. List is confirmed, but we will ask for more. Myers has the meeting invite with the details for March 8th and 9th. They would like folks to do the overnight. Seth Hansen said he is in from the EMAC side. Paul McIntyre already submitted from the board side.

F. Saint Cloud IV&D Project

Larson gave a presentation at the regional leadership meeting. Over-the-air programming is live and running. Hiccup with the largest over-the-air to police mobiles. Motorola has made a zone level adjustment and suggested a programming adjustment. On GPS side, rabbit holed a different mapping project for in-vehicle mapping. Larson cannot see GPS of officers and squads. ProWest API is gleaming coordinates off at an infrastructure level. Myers said when we met with Stearns County and the mapping vendor, if successful, looked at how to come up with a way to identify.... Mall event if we know all the agencies on ours, on same CAD RMS. How do you see State Patrol? As incident commander how do you see all the responders there? Myers explained a GPS puck in their CAD, dispatcher can see on screen, will make available to officers. How to get agencies not on our CAD? They all have radios, that radio becomes an ID. That radio can take interface and feed in from statewide. Incident commander will be able to identify on map.

GENERAL DISCUSSION: (Continued)

Regional Concerns (Continued)

F. Saint Cloud IV&D Project (Continued)

Chair McMahon talked about tracking soldiers running down the road, how do we build enough firewalls? Larson replied that company has the option to make data private. We are behind multiple firewalls. Larson said the concern is every officer has GPS on them now with personal phones. If you have a 'Find My Friend' app, your significant other can track you. How many public safety officers turn it off? Chair McMahon inquired about the questions or comments from the roundtables. Larson replied there was not many questions. Larson's frustration is he has been saying at statewide meetings to come check it out and bring a test device, and he has only ever had Mille Lacs County. Myers stated we are piloting for the state. Larson said two other counties are asking for quotes on data, but Motorola cannot sell any more data until our projects are done. Hansen responded that would be great, but he does not have radios capable. Myers replied XTS with firmware updates are available. Lahr replied that is a cost too, and that window is closed; \$400/radio. Would rather put that money into new radios. Larson added not all aspects of data are viable for the state. Over-the-air programming is probably not viable in the Metro, but there are location areas in the state where there is better ARMER coverage than cell coverage. There would have to be discussions on licensing infrastructure and buy features up front when buying radios. Myers asked do we look to the state to make it part of the support agreement with Motorola, grant funding, or not so much looking at radios but state mandating on the FirstNet side? Creating a standard, saying this is a requirement. There is very little information needed, need unique identifier, refresh rate, if we put together boiler plate template. If we do it at a state level. If we do this, how do we fund it and make it statewide? What priority are you putting to your administration? How hard do you pursue it?

G. Super Bowl Communications

Myers stated Brandon and Kristen have done an excellent job there is a statewide contingency plan. Northeast Region is just mandating during that period any pursuit goes on a regional. Lahr said there was discussion at O&O. OTC wanted to make sure we wanted to follow the standards. As a state, we need to have a conversation. As a state, we should not have to change our processes for large events. McIntyre asked if anyone from Granite was requesting contact information? Myers replied that is for the ROC for the counties they support. Hansen said they called me too. Larson said he gathered all the information himself, this information is not provided out further than the ROC. Those persons on the list should get the first phone calls. Larson does not understand why Granite is emailing to get information. Myers added at the last O&O it was asked if Larson would be on call 24/7, but each agency has an admin if that is Granite Electronics or whatever. McIntyre replied Granite is nothing for me. Myers asked that email be forwarded to him. Myers noted we had some communication that Larson saw on LTAC with a barricade. Jelinski hopes that Minneapolis fixes the problem, or there is a new group to sit together to say what if it happens again.

H. Mille Lacs Band Membership

1. JPA Constraints

Participation plan was approved at SECB last week. Concerns on what is their intent. RAC made modifications to amend; moving forward. Discussion at last RAC, we have regional assets do we have a buy in share? Myers pulled information from the last audit that shows what they classified for life with depreciation, some are at zero dollars. Do we make them do a buy in, or make them start with maintenance? Myers said the question is does it have to go to board? ESB has granted to O&O to move participation plans forward based on timeliness of their meeting. O&O approved the plan the day after the ESB meeting.

GENERAL DISCUSSION: (Continued)

Regional Concerns (Continued)

H. Mille Lacs Band Membership (Continued)

2. Budget Impact

Myers stated creating the impact; now that we know that 2019 budget will not have Sherburne County in it we will discuss at the next RAC. Chair McMahan questioned if the resolution from Band met criteria of state and federal statutes. Myers replied it is one of 14 recognized tribes in the state. McMahan said it is back to police instead of the band. Diehl said it was the last 'Whereas.' Myers stated at the RAC we made sure we called out the different regions. And they had "Central Region Radio Board has requested the Band become a member." No, we are not mandating, was there a willingness for the Tribe to do this? You are willing and agree to the governance and fee structure. Vice Chair Jelinski asked if there is grant money available, because the tribe would be a member of Central and Northeast Regions can they apply for grant money from both regions? Myers replied you cannot fund the same project with two grants. Myers added right now we have no governance, they can apply in both regions right now. It gives us the ability to do governance and enforcements.

I. Sherburne County Withdrawal

It was presented at the last board meeting. Larson pulled METAC, Metro talkgroup hitting Sherburne/Wright system. This is if they switch zones. They are staying in Zone 4 and not moving to Zone 2. We wanted to show zone impact if they move. Right now, METAC is not pinging up on simulcast, but it could be allowed. Larson noted on page #23 in the column where it says "region totals" instead of saying PTTs it should say seconds of talk time. Myers explained one thing regardless of what the region does, if this move impacts our system, looking at what we can constrict or cost share. If you are loading a subsystem with your resources, who covers that cost? Myers said this can go back to Metro mobility. Right now, you are saying you do not want to move, but if you do move, who covers that cost? Chair McMahan stated Metro had concern, would there be a conflict resolution? Myers wants correspondence from them in writing. Myers stated a letter drafted; if you move and you impact my subsystem you understand there is a cost. Myers said we did not change anything, if they say no, Myers would say he is a subsystem owner, and he would not allow their talkgroup to hit his site. If they have a joint system, you would have to split it. Now you have to put a prime site controller.

Larson showed on the map all the green dots on the counties is their Enfield simulcast system, it acts as one system. Seth Hansen explained ours is 9 towers that act as one. St. Cloud simulcast is 3 that act as one. Larson stated they would have to move all 9 towers to a new zone or split them and buy equipment to buy two sites. Myers added also available frequencies, you can reuse a frequency set. Lahr said that prevents them from splitting the site, there may not be frequencies to split; which probably indicates that will not happen and MnDOT has said that will not happen. Infrastructure-wise things will remain as is. Lahr added they may expand coverage of Metro interop talkgroups. Now that the Metro Region is expanded into Sherburne County do they want that one to go into Sherburne, which could load the St. Cloud site. Myers added when we did the regional grant to members there was an issue if you get these grant dollars you agree to pay the Motorola maintenance. Sheriff was asked to pay maintenance and he said no. So, Mille Lacs and Benton counties pay, and Sherburne uses that. Myers wants it on record in writing when that day comes, not if, for Myer's concerns as a financial subsystem owner. Regardless of what the region decides, building to expand to include the two. We understand their business needs, but make sure we address they understand this is a move that if there are costs they agree to cover the costs. McMahan is in favor of that too.

GENERAL DISCUSSION: (Continued)

Regional Concerns (Continued)

I. Sherburne County Withdrawal (Continued)

Myers explained it is harder for Mille Lacs/Benton, for our subsystem we have a state backbone. Myers said back to the discussion on user fees, if you want your talkgroup to work on our site, we will charge you a fee. As a subsystem owner you can do that. Hansen said his guess having worked in both counties and knowing the relationship, is that the sheriff would be more apt to sign this, because he would not want to wreck this relationship; there would be better luck with our letter than Mille Lacs. Jelinski asked if the letter would be including Mille Lacs County. Myers responded and Sherburne County Sheriff Brott, MnDOT, and “Cc’d” would be the folks impacted. We understand and support your business needs. We want an MOU or board resolution for protecting St. Cloud and the region’s interest. Hansen would like to see it as the region’s, and he appreciates how the region has their back on this.

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting will be March 7, 2018 at St. Cloud City Hall Conference Room #1.

ADJORNMENT:

Chair Jim McMahon made the executive motion to adjourn the meeting and the motion was carried unanimously at 11:30 a.m.

Minutes by Shari Gieseke.