

Radio User Committee  
01-26-2010  
LEC Training Room 6 P.M.

Jeff Lammers called the meeting to order. Sign in sheet was provided. We went around the room with introductions. Representatives were present from Jackson, Lyon, Nobles, Pipestone, & Yellow Medicine County, City of Marshall, City of Worthington as well as 6 guest.

Motion was made to approve the minutes for December. Brian Soehl 2<sup>nd</sup> motion. Motion carried. Agenda was approved as printed. There was not one present from the RRB RAC or ARMER, so we moved on to old business.

Murray Law Enforcement is coming online. Nobles County stated they will need an additional tower with enhancements before they are fully operational. Both Lyon & Redwood Counties have had approval from their commissioners to move forward.

Discussion on plain English to replace 10 codes was tabled for a further meeting.

Brian Soehl brought radio equipment that those in attendance were able to view. A display was set up on a table to the back of the room.

Harry Algyer, Training Consultant was present as our speaker for the evening. He held an informal session to get a feel, from those in attendance, of the complication with interoperability that agencies have deal with locally. He stated that emergency situations for law enforcement last around 45 minutes. On the other hand, Fire situations can last for several hours. The thinking process is different, so is the approach, His goal is to put together a table top exercise that involves multiple agencies, using realistic frequencies for a given area.

A discussion was held on the NIM certification. NIMS and ICS are and will remain mandated to receive any fire grants. The baseline requirement is NIMS 100, 200 & 700. County Emergency Management can determine the various levels of requirement. Because of the tremendous amount of funding that has been tied to these grants, it was stated that the State & Fed have increased the audits for 2010 to verify Agencies compliance with certification. (so fair warning).

COML terminology was introduced. ComL states for Communication Unit Leader.

Training standards were discussed. The question was raised "How will our training standards be developed?" Harry's response was basically... It's hard to be the one to develop, when you don't know the operation. We will be looking to Harry for guidance. He stated we will have a "train the trainer", which will be a strong 2 day session. Those taking the class will have 2 criteria to meet. #1 One needs to pass the course to be certified. #2 One needs completed certification before one is reimbursed for taking the class.

The goal is to keep radio operation simple so the volunteers on the services can pick up the radios and operate. The grant was written for 6-sub regional training sessions for general users.

Harry summarized his plan.

1. The night of training he will cover what he is trying to achieve with the table top

2. He will include cross disciplines
3. He will be using frequencies to a particular area.
4. Event will be Multi County – which will include VHF issues.
5. Harry encouraged everyone in attendance to bring 1 additional person to the table top.

The question regarding overloading towers came up. It's the tower at the immediate site that bogs down when people activate radios for usage. Radio's pull 2-way communication. The radios carry an ID, so ANYONE activating the tower can be identified. Geo Comm Rep stated "It's the number of talk groups and how they are used is what will lead to potential overload to the system. . Scanners have no effect. They are only a "listening" devise.

Feb meeting set for 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6 P.M. LEC

March meeting set for 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6 P.M. LEC

April - There is a Conference at St Cloud – cost \$125/person anyone welcome to attend. Due to that conference our April training is set for April 20<sup>th</sup> with the anticipation that the RRB will be adjusting their training date to move it ahead 1 week. Please watch the website for updates as we come closer. Harry is scheduled to present his table top exercise at this meeting.

Dan Nath made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Dale Louwagie 2<sup>nd</sup> motion. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40.

Deborah J. Winter  
Recording Secretary