

Southwest Minnesota User Committee  
Meeting Minutes June 24, 2009

The fourth meeting of the Southwest Minnesota User committee was called to order by the committee chairman, Jeff Lammers, at 1835. Member in attendance registered at the door.

**Roll Call :** **Chippewa:** Not present; **Cottonwood** – Mark Marcy; **Lac Qui Parle** – Not Present; **Lincoln** – Not Present; **Lyon** – Robin Giefer; **Murray** – Not present; **Nobles** – Not present; **Pipestone** – Not present; **Redwood** – Jeff Lammers; **Renville** – Gayle Deal, Scott Waibel; **Rock** – Not Present; **Yellow Medicine** – Alec Dinnburger; **City of Marshall** – Jeff Wenker (for Rob Yant), Dan DeSmet; **City of Worthington** – Not Present; **Jackson** – Not present

User Committee has not been able to identify any representation from Lac Qui Parle, Pipestone or Jackson County.

The minutes from May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2009 meeting were sent out via email to be reviewed by user members. A Motion was made to approve the minutes. Motion second. Motion carried. Motion was made to approve the agenda. Motion second. Motion carried.

Jeff reminded those in attendance that the agenda and minutes will be shared electronically to minimize paper/copy cost. Upcoming meeting dates, agenda and approved minutes will be posted on the [www.swmnradio.org](http://www.swmnradio.org) website. Users are encouraged to visit the website. Information from the RAC and Radio Board are also available at this website.

SWMNRRB update – Ron not available – minutes can be read at [www.swmnradio.org](http://www.swmnradio.org)  
Jeff did state that a new committee will be formed. This will be Owner/Operator Group  
SWMNRAC update – Kent not available – minutes can be read at [www.swmnradio.org](http://www.swmnradio.org)  
Armer update – Steve Borchardt will be doing the training for July – Radio 101

**Old business -**

Update of info/plans by counties. Renville is leaning to divide their funds between all the cities. Murray – leaning toward ARMER Cottonwood – Mark is pushing for ARMER / Sheriff is a little more undecided.

Grants - A short discussion was held. No grants available at this time. Marc did share that there is funding in fire Grants to include outside agencies. He encourage the combining of multi-agencies to be included when grants are written for the next year (AFP)??grant. He encouraged this to be developed as a regional grant. An outside agencies can be tied into fire grants if one can show a working relationship.

In discussing the grant process, many counties hire out grant writing. Although Cottonwood County does they own grant writing, they has been very successful with

their grant writing process. Harry stated that including narrow band and P-25 information would help support and prioritize the application.

Not a whole lot of action with grants currently, but Jeff would like to keep this on the agenda to allow sharing of grant information as it comes available.

Website – Agenda and meeting dates will be posted on the [www.swmnradio.org](http://www.swmnradio.org) website. To save costs information will be shared electronically. It was stressed that we take direction from the Radio Board. Our responsibility will be to help identify interoperability difficulties and work thru the issues that will effect our daily operations.

Chopper opened the floor up to any other ideas, concerns, suggestion. Harry did advise that the state does identify specific tasks for the user committee. Harry will work to obtain that information.

Pam is looking into developing training DVD to out source to the outstate to help with training needs.

Dan DeSmet mentioned that we will be tasked with developing mapping which will involve the ERU agency. This spiked a conversations about “How are hospitals involved? What are they doing?” Dan stated that this has not been addressed, to his knowledge, at any SWEPT meeting. These are things we need to be thinking about. Jeff stated that he will be speaking to Ken to see how he’d like us to move forward in getting hospitals involved.

The members in attendance were very pleased with the Table top exercise that was presented by Harry / Mark Marcy. A demonstration was provided, involving everyone as a group to step thru the thinking process. We then broke into two groups. Both groups had the same scenarios. We were given information identifying what resources we had available to us. Our focused was on the OPS portion of the command structure. It was all presented in a very simple format, making it non-intimidating and very easy to understand. It was recognized as a wonderful tool to get people thinking about how the VHF/ARMER differences will effect communication.

The next meeting is scheduled for July 22 at 6:30 – Lyon County LEC.  
The meeting date for Aug has also been set for Aug 26 at 6:30 – Lyon County LEC

Motion was made to adjourn. Motion Seconded by several. Motion Carried. – Meeting adjourned

Respectfully submitted

Deborah J. Winter  
Recording Secretary