

**Metropolitan Emergency Services Board
Radio Technical Operations Committee
Meeting Notes
June 28, 2017**

Members Present:

Ron Jansen, Jon Eckel, Chad LeVasseur, Rod Olson, John Gundersen, Peter Sauter, Dave Pikal, Scott Haas, Nate Timm, Jeff Bjorklund, Chuck Steier, Robert Shogren,

Guests Present:

Chris Kummer; MAC, Dana Rude; Metro Mobility, Dan Anderson; HCEM, Troy Tretter, Jill Rohret, Martha Ziese; Metropolitan Emergency Services Board

Call to Order:

Scott Haas called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M.

M/S/C Motion made by Eckel to approve the May 2017 minutes. Gundersen seconded. Motion carried.

Agenda item added as 3.d. SWAT use of LTACs.

M/S/C Motion made by Jansen to approve the June 28, 2017 agenda with the above modifications. Shogren seconded. Motion carried.

Agenda Items:

Metro Standard 3.35.0 – National Weather Service ARMER Radio Operations

Scott Haas said as a result of an all-day work session with other regions, changes were made to the standard. The regions will not be fiscally responsible to pay for the weather service. The radios will only work in their own area instead of statewide. There will be one point of contact per city or area. The state standard was approved at the last SECB meeting and will become effective January 1, 2018.

M/S/C Motion made by Eckel to appoint Ron Jansen to chair and form a workgroup to compare the state standard with the metro standard and bring recommendations for changes to the metro standard. Gundersen seconded. Motion carried.

Rohret suggested that PSAP representatives be on the workgroup. Dan Anderson, Nate Timm Rod Olson, John Gundersen and five PSAP representatives will also sit on workgroup.

Metro Standard 3.13.0 – Nationwide 800MHz Conventional Interoperability Channels

Tretter said that this standard has not been updated in a number of years. The MOG reviewed this standard and have made their recommendations for change.

M/S/C Motion made by Gundersen to approve changes to this standard. Jansen seconded. Motion carried.

Discussion – NGO usage of ARMER for preplanned events.

Nate Timm said there were microwave issues during a storm, he checked zonewatch and noticed a lot of traffic on STAC 11 and 12. A Statusboard check revealed STAC 11 and 12 were reserved for the MS 150 ride. Nate did some checking and was able to get the ICS205 for the event, that was completed by a non-COML and was approved by a non-metro COML. Nate said there was one radio with over 7,100 Push to talk's and there was a lot of non-public safety related conversations.

Gundersen said that was a good summary and that it could also affect metro channels. Metro has the same issue; non- governmental use but some safety issues and a complicated situation.

Jansen said the concern is that the COML was from Lake County, not from the metro.

Tretter said there was a COMU call last week, he addressed the concern with the group. Per the state standard if a 205 is created and affects another region it is to be passed on to that region.

Timm said that a report from John Anderson showed that STAC 11 or 12 were not involved in causing any busies in the metro area during the event.

Eckel said if it was directly limited to life safety issues between designated personnel -not for anything else.

Kummer said that this issue is a lot more prevalent than we might think, and it should be clearly defined.

Hass said he has it in his notes to follow up on having the issue defined.

Gundersen said that a priority adjustment should be done if we are going to allow this.

Hass said after this event there was another one in St. Cloud and they were on an STAC and they were not trained on ARMER prior getting a radio.

Tretter said that Kristin Lahr who was the COML assigned CM12 and STAC 12 and they should have had them on CM12 exclusively. Saint Cloud State University, who does have an ARMER participation plan, was using it for a campus-only event. Kristin said she did not know what the request was specifically for from the requesting PD lieutenant and was heading home sick when she approved the request.

Timm said he did bring up the training point and that 10-15 minutes of training was being done. Do we really want non COMLs to be doing 205s?

Jansen said he would hate to have to redefine the STACs and the permissions.

NGO talkgroups could be a priority 9.

Rohret read the State Standard 3.17.4 definition. Use for any other reason is clearly in violation.

Haas said that there are a lot of events all over the state and if you can get free radios, everyone will take advantage of that. Hass asked members if they wanted to address this issue and find out the scope of the problem. If so, a statement would need to be crafted with very specific language.

Jansen said the language should include we have a serious concern about loading, training and not following the current state standard. Language to include use only for public safety and any other use is in violation.

Timm said that the traffic definitely needs to be monitored, but there needs to be process.

Kummer said that a vast majority of these all started with EMS and medical coordination.

Gundersen said that it should be written at a state level.

Rohret said that whatever happens in your jurisdiction you are responsible for.

Jansen suggested to follow current standard and ponder how it is shared.

Gundersen said to give a summary to the OTC. One portion of the standard was not followed.

M/S/C Motion made by Jansen to have Tretter craft a letter, signed by the Chair to go to the OTC Chair for the July 11 meeting regarding this issue. Shogren seconded. Motion carried.

SWAT use of LTACs

Timm said there was an incident where the SWAT team encountered a life safety issue. There was a lot of traffic on LTAC and the paramedics were not able to communicate. Timm requested for a waiver to add LTACs officially to the medic radios only.

M/S/C Motion made by Jansen to approve waiver. Bjorklund seconded. Motion carried.

Move, Additions & Changes to the System

Update on Removal of Voting from Interoperability

Jansen said all the licensing has been done. The state is replacing E.F. Johnson equipment with Motorola GTR equipment, a time needs to be scheduled to replace the equipment.

Haas said that MNDOT did a good job with the Norwood upgrade earlier in the day.

System Committee Reports

Metro Mobility System Usage Update

Dana rude said that they had computer issues on their own network which caused their NDCs to go down. Site access profiles will be re-evaluated after all the buses are transferred.

System Manager's Group/Metro Owner's Group Update

Jansen said that 7.15 upgrade has been completed. There was a discussion on the equipment for the 7.17 upgrade late 2018. They reviewed some metro and state standards. The BCA and Chisago met.

Reports from SECB Committees

Steering - No meeting

Tretter said that Rick Juth and Randy Donahue are no longer at ECN.

OTC

Interoperable Data Committee

John Gundersen that at the last OTC on June 13, a National Guard request for additional radio ID's was approved. A couple of standards were updated. Mille Lacs County CRAE project was approved. A couple of new model radios were added. The National Weather Standard was discussed. A T1 was approved. Feedback from Fargo and Cass County ARMER project. Waiver approved for Dakota Burnsville Fire radios to use LTAC's.

Tretter said at the last SECB meeting it was decided that T1 and new radio approval requests would just approved be at the OTC level rather than being approved at the SECB.

Interoperability

Jake Thompson said that there was no quorum. But there was a phone discussion about the Texas conference, AT&T meetings to go over state requirements, and an informational flyer for law enforcement.

IPAWS - No meeting

Finance/Grants Workgroup

Tretter said one of the grant items that was approved to move forward was APX programming. There will be two sessions October 3 & 4 and October 5 & 6. (twelve persons per class). There will be feedback at the September or October TOC about future classes. The instructor has not been designated yet so no invitations have gone out. Tretter asked members who the participants should be. In the past, it was a participant from Minneapolis and two from each county.

Rohret said that John Dooley has joined ECN doing the same as he was at HSEM.

Super Bowl 52 Communications Workgroup

Olson said many groups meeting besides the core communication group. They are trying to come up with the needs of the different sub groups with what they are requesting. Aviation support, they are planning on using the VTACs in the aircraft. There will be a need for support from the TOC in the future for the overall plan for the super bowl.

Other Business

None

Next meeting July 26, 2017.

M/S/C Motion made by Jansen to adjourn. Bjorklund seconded. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 2:17pm.