

SOUTH CENTRAL MINNESOTA
EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 23, 2017

The South Central Minnesota Emergency Communications Board was called to order by Chair Kip Bruender.

ROLL CALL

Members present included Kip Bruender, Bill Pinske, Tom Warmka, Elliot Belgard, Denny Kemp and Mary Christensen. Also present was acting RAC Chair Dan Davidson.

MINUTES

Tom Warmka moved and Elliot Belgard seconded a motion to approve the May 26, 2016 meeting minutes. The motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Members reviewed the March 2017 current grant/financial summary.

NEW BUSINESS

Darrin Haeder presented a breakdown relative to the 2017 Motorola System Support Cost Allocation. This represents the region's share for the additional channels added at various sites throughout the region. The 2017 annual cost is identical to that of 2016. Bill Pinske moved and Denny Kemp seconded a motion to approve payment of this fee. The motion carried.

Sheriff Markquart presented a request to have the ECB assume ownership and responsibility for one of two regional communications vehicles. The vehicles were purchased jointly between the Fifth District Sheriffs and Region 5 Emergency Managers in 2006. One vehicle is housed in Marshall and the other in Martin County. Maintenance costs have been shared by the 21 counties served by these two vehicles, with a current maintenance fund balance of approximately \$9,500.00. The RAC has recommended transferring the title of the vehicle housed in Martin County to the ECB. One-half of the current maintenance fund balance would also be transferred to the ECB. The STR fund could be used for ongoing maintenance costs after the existing funds have been depleted. Tom Warmka moved and Denny Kemp seconded a motion to transfer title of the communications vehicle currently housed in Martin County to the ECB. The motion carried.

STANDING REPORTS

Dan Davidson advised that the only current RAC project is the proposed BDA in Martin County. It is believed the grant request has been approved, but we have yet to receive the grant agreement.

Darrin Haeder advised that the Training Committee sponsored APX programming training which was well received.

Dan Davidson advised that the Strategic Planning Committee has not met for some time. As ECN continues to move forward with competitive grants, it is important to have a strategic plan in place covering the next 3-5 years. Dan will work to schedule a meeting of the Committee in the near future.

Randy Donahue advised the group of the following items of interest:

- ECN is working to develop a new training module for ER staff.
- There is an upcoming work group meeting for the National Weather Service standard. Dan Davidson and Keith Ruffing will attend that meeting.
- A seminar will be held in Rochester in April regarding 800 MHz paging.
- A “convergence of technology” tabletop exercise is scheduled for June 27, 2017 in St. Cloud.

Randy Donahue also advised that a federal judge ruled last week in favor of FirstNet (national broadband initiative for public safety) in litigation brought by Rivada Mercury. Televate has been hired to prepare the State plan on how to integrate with FirstNet. Hopefully more information to follow within the next six to eight months.

The interop conference is scheduled for May 1-3 in St. Cloud. The conference includes topics for everyone ... from the seasoned veteran to those just entering the interop arena. Costs incurred in attending the conference are eligible for reimbursement under the SLIGP and SHSP grants. A link to register for the conference is as follows: <http://www.togpartners.com/ps/>

Randy Donahue advised that Kip Bruender and Jack Kolars are members of the Legislative Committee. The Legislative Committee meets by conference call at 10:00 a.m. on the first Thursday of the month. Denny Kemp will now assume Jack’s place on the committee and ECN will be notified of the change. Randy also advised that if anyone is interested in being a member of the Finance Committee, they are welcome to do so.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Bill Pinske moved and Tom Warmka seconded a motion to re-elect Kip Bruender as Chair. The motion carried.

Tom Warmka moved and Elliot Belgard seconded a motion to re-elect Bill Pinske as Vice-Chair. The motion carried.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Board will be May 25, 2017 at 11:00 a.m. in the EOC at the Blue Earth County Justice Center.

Denny Kemp moved and Elliot Belgard seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried.