

**Call to Order:**

Brad Henricks (Langlade) called the meeting to order at 10:05 am., at 212 River Drive, Wausau, Wisconsin 54403, Meeting Room 2.

**Approval to the Agenda:**

Brad Henricks (Langlade) asked if there were any additions or corrections to the agenda. There being none, a motion was made by Carol McLaughlin (Price) and seconded by Ronald Krueger (Lincoln) to approve the Agenda. All were in favor.

**Adoption of Last Meeting's Minutes:**

A motion to approve August 5, 2008 Board meeting's minutes was made by Mark Handlin (Lincoln) and seconded by David O'Melia (Oneida) to approve the minutes. All were in favor.

**Introductions:**

All present were asked to introduce themselves and state their name and county or organization that they represented. Ten of the sixteen NEWCOM counties were present.

**Narrowbanding Update:**

A discussion on picking a date for all NEWCOM counties to switch over to narrowband at the same time. The group did not think this would be possible. It was decided to support the State of Wisconsin Interoperability Council recommendation to move all mutual aid and interoperability channels to narrowband between April 1 and November 1, 2011. A motion was made by Alan Wisler (Marathon) and seconded by John Sweeney (Oneida) to draft a letter in support to the WISPERN Board to move mutual aid and interoperability channels to narrowband. A letter will be drafted from NEWCOM and sent to the state.

**Update – SSMG – Proposed statewide radio system:**

John Sweeney (Oneida) gave an update on the proposed 4-channel statewide trunk system. The state hired Kimball to conduct an assessment of the total cost of a statewide system. Kimball concluded that the infrastructure for a 62-site system would cost between \$14,976,375 and \$ 18,238,696 to build. There still has not been a decision on how the system would be maintained. Would users fees be collected to cover this cost? John Sweeney (Oneida) said this would be the next issue they would cover at the SSMG.

**State Interoperability Council:**

John Sweeney (Oneida) gave an overview of the proposal for Regional Interoperability Coordinators. The Interoperability Council (IC) has proposed to have 6 Regional Implementation Councils to help coordinate local interoperability and regional migration of narrow banding. The funding for these Regional Coordinators appears to be funded by WEM regions. It is unclear on how this may or may not affect the NEWCOM group.

**Update on microwave links and county grants:**

Vilas and Oconto are still ordering equipment. Marinette and Oconto are waiting on tower work. All equipment should be ordered soon and NEWCOM should be able to move forward with the county grants for radio programming equipment.

**Spillman Insight Quote:**

The presentation and quote gave by Spillman on their Insight program was discussed. Most felt that the shared records could be accomplished through WJIS gateway. It was suggested that we have a presentation on WIJIS system at one of the next NEWCOM meetings.

**Update Board Member List:**

Andy Faust asked that each county update the NEWCOM Board Member list so that it is current.

**NEWCOM Balance Sheet - Bills:**

NEWCOM Bank Statement showed a current balance of \$2,958.93.

The following bills were submitted:

1. \$374.70 for supplies, copies, and postage for 2008
2. \$12,000 for staffing of the NEWCOM group 2009.

Seven of the sixteen counties currently paid their \$750 for 2009 staffing expenses. As soon as enough counties pay the above bills will be paid.

**Other Business:**

The following dates were set for NEWCOM meetings for 2009:

February 6, 2009 – Board Meeting  
April 2, 2009  
June 4, 2009  
August 6, 2009 – Board Meeting  
October 1, 2009  
December 3, 2009

A database of all agencies within NEWCOM has been started. The goal is to have contact information along with the number of fixed and portable radios by agencies. With this we can get a total count of agencies and the amount of communication equipment within NEWCOM.

It was also discussed that all vendors / consultants that call NEWCOM provide information about what they are providing or selling in writing to Andy Faust. Then Andy will present that to the NEWCOM Board to make a decision if it is something that will benefit the group.

Next meeting will be held on April 2, 2009 in Oneida County.

**Adjourn:**

A motion was made by Jim Clark (Portage) to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Steve Kreuser (Price). All were in favor.