

Phone Conference 10:00am – 12:15pm

Introductions – Following counties present: Forest, Langlade, Lincoln, Marathon, Marinette, Oconto, Oneida, Shawano, and Wood Counties.

Frequency Sharing Letter

A draft letter will be written by John Sweeney (Oneida) and Alan Wisler (Marathon) that will go to each of the 16 counties in NEWCOM. This letter will authorize each of the counties to use a specified frequency in each of the NEWCOM counties in their county's radio. There was also discussion about the NEWCOM Frequency Plan, draft in 2006 by Jerry Thorpe. This plan is posted on the NEWCOM website for review. Most agreed that the plan generally works but that some radios do not have enough channels to enter all of the different frequencies. Also there was some concern about the order of the channels and how each county would program their radios.

MARC / WISPERN Tone Issue

Some of the counties have not updated their MARC and WISPERN PL tones. WI Mutual Aid Frequencies Plan has been added to the NEWCOM website to help assisted counties with making these changes. It is important to all NEWCOM counties to update the MARC and WISPERN tones to help with NEWCOM interoperability.

Plan for Microwave Links

It has been proposed to move forward with the planning of microwave links between Oneida – Vilas and Oconto – Marinette counties. Those four counties should put together technical specification for those links and have them review by the Communication Committee. Motion by Teresa Huettl (Forest) second by Alan Wisler (Marathon). It was agreed to have a 25% county match on the grant monies. If additional funds are available another link may be possible.

NEWCOM Encryption Plan

There was much discussion about the shared NEWCOM encryption code. There was concern about how this would be shared and still keep the code secure. It was suggested that NEWCOM create a procedure for acquiring the encryption codes and code loader. Some counties still are not sure if they will follow the NEWCOM shared encryption plan or what channels they will run encrypted and how often they will be encrypted.

Creation of map of who is currently digital

Andy Faust will create a survey of the NEWCOM counties to see who is digital or when they plan on going digital to create a map of NEWCOM.

Other Business

Some of the counties are blocking the newcom@ncwrpc.org email in their SPAM filter. Some of the counties are not receiving notice of meeting and other information. Please talk to your NEWCOM neighbors to check if they are receiving the emails. The counties that are blocking this address need to talk with their IT Department.