

KSCW Engineering Committee Minutes – Feb. 6, 2017

Members Present: Ron Bevilacqua, John Ereth, Keith Fowler, Robin Grube, Steve Hotvedt, John Huotari, Marty McCoy, Dwight Senne

Members Absent: Andrew Heidecker, George Kuchtyak

Meeting called to order at 12:02 PM by Dwight Senne

Old Business:

1. Sub Committees

a. Hardware

- i. Marty reports he has an XP computer setup to do remote monitoring of transmitter, but is having issues with that as well. Still working the issues with Nicom and hopes to have found a trick to get this to work on a more secure Windows 7 machine.
- ii. Dwight says the EAS network settings are configured thanks to help from RCSCW IT dept (Gregg Bond). Currently working with Maricopa County Emergency Mgmt to get proper settings for downloading CAP alerts.
- iii. Marty gave an update on spare parts for transmitter. Nicom recommends buying an entire pallet amplifier module rather than just the final stage MOSFET. The price for this module is \$350. They also quoted a cost for the 48V Power Supply at \$130.
- iv. Dwight has still not checked into costs and timeline of buying a whole new transmitter, but will try to do so before the next meeting so we can decide on the best path for preparing for possible transmitter failure.
- v. Hardware training:
 1. Once EAS is up and running, Dwight will schedule training.
 2. FCC Station Log is only for logging issues that are reportable to the FCC, such as transmitter going out of spec, EAS not working, etc. Any other issues (such as problems with computer / Command Center) should be logged in the spiral notebook.

b. Software

- i. Dwight says new version of Command Center and Haiku is installed. The new features are working good and are much improved, however, the computer is still freezing up randomly.
 1. Dwight to work with TuneTracker Systems to try and resolve
- ii. Command Center training:
 1. Keith has started hands on training.
 2. Marty will be next.
 3. Anyone who leaves during the summer will have their training when they get back, so they have time to immerse themselves.

- c. Music Library:
 - i. Robin has started cleaning up the library. He is normalizing volume, auto trimming the dead air, and enabling the history of the songs so we can see how often and when they have played.
 - ii. So far, everything seems to be working fine.
2. Computer backups
 - a. On hold until new CC / Haiku is installed on the backup drive.
3. Network printer on hold until needed and the board has a clearer picture of the budget.
4. New Cox internet service installed and working.
 - a. When RCSCW IT staff was here to help with EAS, they also helped setup remote access to CC computer. Dwight has been able to login and program from home. Access to this capability will be granted on an as needed basis.
5. Reminder that the monitor hours are M, W, and F – 9AM to Noon. Also Keith is in studio on most Thursdays from Noon to 4PM. If anyone who does not have a key needs to get into the studio, these are the times to do it.

New Business:

1. We need different antennas for the EAS. These are to receive the monitored stations (98.7MHz and 162.55MHz). The homemade ones that Dwight made worked fine in his house but are not cutting the mustard in the studio.
 - a. Marty has made better homemade antennas that we will test after the meeting. If these are insufficient, Marty will explore other options.
2. Floor plan layout change:
 - a. Partially completed. Once EAS is ready to be put into service, we will be moving the equipment rack and finish the new layout. This will require shutting the station down. We will use this opportunity to accomplish several tasks:
 - Move the equipment rack
 - Wire in the EAS (and several other reroutes of cables)
 - Install antenna cable strain relief in the tower
 - Route streaming feed through unused section of compressor
 - b. Discussed best time to go off air for this work. Will try to do it late at night.
 - c. Discussed keeping the streaming going during most of this work. Dwight to explore options.
 - d. Dwight asked that if anyone can think of anything else we need to do during this shut down, to please bring it to his attention.
3. John H. mentioned he is working on submitting the music licensing applications.
4. No other new business.
5. Meeting adjourned at 12:46PM. Next meeting will be Monday, April 10th, 2017 at Noon in the studio.