

DOA/LION/WLIA meeting minutes 5-30-07 @ 10am

Present: Damon Anderson, Bret Davies, Peter Kammer, Mike Friis, Jordy Jordahl, Jason Grueneberg, Kelly Felton

WLIP grants are mostly all in. One base budget county and 2 training & education counties (Outagamie & Rock) have not turned in their applications. The ones that are not base budget counties mentioned that they would not be applying for funds. In talking with Mike Friis we will not push the issue and they will address it next year.

Trying to get base budget agreements processed. Once this is done then checks can go out. Nothing will be to this stage till late summer or early fall.

Budget – sunset of wireless 911 fees. At Joint Finance the vote went down to 8/8 tie. Democrats are against sunset and in favor of new provisions by APCO/NENA legislation. Republicans for the sunset as it currently is laid out. Joint Finance will finish up in the next week or two. Senate will work out their recommendations, then to the Assembly for their recommendations to be worked out, then on to Conference committee.

Discussions about what this means and what we can do to support the continuation of the fees to support maintenance. We discussed the need to make arguments on the Assembly side. Peter Kammer stated key players and those to look to talk with: Kitty Rhodes [Hudson] & Mike Huebsch [LaCrosse]. Need to try to change their minds on sunset.

Discussed VOIP – voice over IP and the landlines not being included in this bill. Need to do some grassroots calling. Maintenance and coverage of VOIP and landlines very important, if these costs aren't included for maintenance locals will be forced to raise property taxes. Bill will need to go through Senate and Assembly, then to conference committee with compromises from both sides on what is left in and out of budget. With the tie 8/8 there is good possibility that it is dead. Tie is a loss as far as budget process is concerned.

Peter Kammer will send out budget report then 1pg printout contact sheet to be given to Jason for distribution to membership at WLIA Regional June 7 & 8<sup>th</sup> & others via email.

Discussed some other issues. LION meeting at Regional will discuss WIGICC Listening Sessions. Parisi bill to limit addresses/ names legislation. WLIA Regional meetings and times discussed.

\*\*\*\*\* UPDATE TO MINUTES \*\*\*\*\*

After 5/30/07 meeting, Richard Tuma was contacted by Jason Grueneberg and Kelly Felton to discuss what the APCO/NENA committee was looking at doing since the 8/8 split of legislation by Joint Finance. In discussions with Richard Tuma he stated that the committee is going a new direction. Their main goal is to educate people on the needs and the issues.

The APCO/NENA committee is going to re-write the whole legislation to include surcharge from any device to include VOIP and landlines, as well as cover new emerging and future technologies. Current legislation doesn't address these; new re-write could include these and be broader. Separate legislation, not a bill to do away with current legislation. This kind of legislation will better address the challenges in wireless 911 maintenance.

Others favor this new focus at the state; many republicans were against this due to the fact that the original legislation was not intended to be a continuing surcharge. They favored a new legislation that took into account technology and the maintenance.

Telephone Companies are in favor of this too. The hope is that this legislation can level the field a bit for all concerned. Anticipate that this new legislation will take effect when the old sunsets to continue the surcharge structure. We need to learn from other states with regards to mistakes and successes. The structure would be that the Tele Co's take in the money, send it to the state, the state sends it to the local levels (county). The entities that apply for this money would have to spend the money to get the money back from program. Richard Tuma will be presenting at the WLIA Regional June 8<sup>th</sup> in Stevens Point.