Region I Telecommunications Council
Tuesday, June 11, 2013
1:00-2:30 PM
Via ICN (Res. # 562688)
*Peosta 1 (1005), Calmar 2 (1793), Elkader/AEA (1003),
Cedar Falls-UNI-7 (782), Des Moines/Dept. of Ed (142), Waukon HS (1)
West Union/N. Fayette Valley (1533), Cresco HS (1816)

I. Welcome and Introductions
Chris welcomed members to the regular Spring meeting of the Region I Telecommunications Council held via the ICN. Members in attendance and the constituency they represent were:

Adam Forsyth                          Independent Colleges/Universities
Bob McCabe                            Iowa Association of School Boards
John Noel                             Community College Trustees
Chris Ostwinkle                       RTC Chairperson
Mike Savage                           State Board of Regents
Rhonda Sheeley                        Area Education Agency Board
Lisa Snitker                          Iowa State Education Association
Mari Eitel                            Recording Secretary
Duane Willhite                        School Administrators of Iowa

Members Absent:
Harold Jensen                        Iowa Public Television

Guests
Joe Tjaden                           Iowa Communications Network

Chris announced that Holly Barnes, representing the Iowa Department of Education, has resigned her position on the Region I RTC. He reported sending an email to thank Holly for her years of service, and will be contacting the Dept. of Ed to recommend another appointee.

II. Approval of November 12, 2013, Minutes – MOTION BY JOHN NOEL, SECOND BY MICHAEL SAVAGE TO APPROVE THE NOVEMBER 12, 2013 MINUTES. MOTION CARRIED.
III. Future Deadlines


MOTION BY MIKE SAVAGE, SECOND BY DUANE WILLHITE TO APPROVE THE FY2014 ANNUAL REPORT. MOTION CARRIED.

B. Approval of FY15 Budget—Chris explained that the ICN budget will now be distributed by the Department of Education instead of the Iowa Communications Network. Official notification of the Region I allocation has not been received at this point, but he has been told our budget would remain the same as FY14. The expected deadline for the FY15 plan/budget is September 1, 2014. Chris requested the council vote on the budget percentages at this meeting since the group will not meet again until November. Rhonda asked if we knew how the other regions allocated their budgets. Chris indicated he will contact someone to see if that information is available on the state website to review. (http://icn.iowa.gov/about-icn/commission/rtc-appropriation) 

MOTION BY JOHN NOEL, SECOND BY ADAM FORSYTH TO AGREE TO MAINTAIN THE 50/50 SPLIT BETWEEN NORTHEAST IOWA COMMUNITY COLLEGE (NICC) AND KEYSTONE AEA FOR FY15. ALL MONIES WILL BE USED TO SUPPLEMENT THE SALARIES OF BOB KURDELMEYER AND MARI EITEL (NICC) AND KAREN RANDALL (KEYSTONE AEA). MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (8/8).

IV. Discussion

A. Joe Tjaden—Joe reported that some Part III sites are converting from MPEG (DS3) formats to H.323 (100 Meg Ethernet). Others have decided to dismantle their ICN rooms due to the expense of converting. Rhonda explained how bandwidth requirements continue to grow due to online testing programs required by the state. She credits Karen Randall at Keystone AEA for our region’s readiness towards that initiative. She also stated that 22 of 24 schools in Region I have adopted the 1:1 learning initiative, resulting in a huge increase in bandwidth as well. Joe shared that the ICN was happy to be able to increase bandwidth to the Dubuque Grand River Center in preparation for the AEA I TIC (Technology Integration Conference) at no charge.

B. NICC Updates—Chris reported that NICC is finalizing upgrades to NICC ICN rooms with the purchase of six 42” TVs to replace the remaining older back monitors.

C. Other—Rhonda suggested the RTC members meet in November using Zoom (a cloud meeting program). All agreed it might be a nice departure from the ICN and allow us to try new video conferencing technology. More information will be emailed out closer to the next meeting.

Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 1:40 p.m.

Next Meeting: TBD (November 1-15th?)

Area I RTC