



Minnesota Counties Computer Cooperative

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Manatron Tax Advisory Committee

Minutes

Thursday, July 7, 2011

Attendees:

*Elaine Carter	GRM Tax Support Manager-Manatron
*Latoria Vance	Senior Support GRM Tax
*Andrew Berg	Manatron
Lisa Meredith	MCCC
Cheryl Grover	Clearwater Co.
Charlene Olson	Clearwater Co.
Kris Lage	Scott Co.
Dennis Freed	Chisago Co.
Doreen Pehrson	Nicollet Co.
Steve Holthaus	Stearns Co.
Martie Monsrud	Roseau Co.
Rich Peterson	Mower Co.
Dick Sivanich	Ramsey Co.
Dave Claxton	Rice Co.
Chris Samuel	Ramsey Co.
*denotes phone attendance	

Cheryl Grover, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 9:35 AM. Cheryl welcomed Martie Monsrud, Roseau County Auditor and Rich Peterson, Mower County Assessor as new members to the committee. Martie and Rich introduced themselves by giving a brief history of their background in County government.

Charlene Olson, Past Chair, volunteered to take the minutes in the absence of Recording Secretary, Jill Nolan.

Agenda: Rich Peterson made a motion to approve the Agenda as updated, second by Kris Lage, motion carried.

Minutes: Dennis Freed made a motion to approve the May 5th and 31st, 2011 minutes as presented, second by Kris Lage, motion carried.

Manatron Update: Latoria Vance reported that Manatron was testing the 'all' Patch for 8.06.12. Manatron was hoping to complete the testing possibly today and would then release to the counties testing 8.06.12. Latoria stated that counties would still need to install patches 1053, 1054 and 1055 and the bundled Patch of 1056 thru 1073. Clearwater County and Scott County requested to be included in this release for testing besides Chisago, Stearns and Ramsey. The group discussed the implementation of 8.06.12. MCCC will be involved in making sure that when the testing is done that the counties that did not test or have managed services through Manatron be given and personal call will be to ensure all counties are aware of the deadline for implementation of 8.06.12. Charlene Olson volunteered to make the phone calls.

The current TFS list was discussed and the concerns about the list as to when items were being fixed by Manatron. Latonia reported that TFS numbers 23138, 44991 and 44632 are being addressed plus the School Tax Abatement Report.

The Committee discussed the future of enhancements that are needed but that we need to resolve the current critical TFS items. The Committee discussed the fact that for Manatron the enhancements would provide additional financial resources to Manatron. Elaine Carter stated that possibly this month Manatron would have additional development staff, but that this additional staff would need evolved into the GRM tax product so it might be awhile before we would reap the benefits of the additional staff.

Committee Reports

Legislative: Dennis Freed reported that Manatron had reported that the proposed tax bill changes for Market Value changes would be four smaller sized changes. Dennis stated that he had reported to the committee working with the State on the shutdown that if tax bill was not signed by August 1, 2011 the Market Value Law Change could not be implemented for payable 2012.

Training: Lisa Meredith read an email from Jill Nolan, stating that the Committee will need a new Chairperson as Jill was elected to the Recording Secretary position. Jill is recommending Mike Cebulla to fill the position of Chair to the Training Committee. Jill stated that Mike had done an excellent job with the Assessor Training and that Mike's knowledge and ideas would be a great asset to the Steering Committee. Cheryl will contact Mike Cebula from Stearns County to see if he would be interested in being the chairperson.

Data Model Training: Jill stated in her email that she had spoke with Mike Disher, Morrison County, about hosting the Date Model Training. Morrison County has a portable training cart for up to 10 users, but can add more if they wireless built in. In return for hosting the training Mike is requesting a couple of items. He would like Morrison County to receive a couple of free seats, one for himself and one for a new employee. The second request would be to have a server loaded with 8.6.12. Mike is requesting to build a new virtual server with windows 2008 and sql 2008, with Manatron loading the 8.6.12 application. When the training would be completed Morrison County would migrate their data to the new server that is configured and ready for 8.6.12.

Dave Claxton, Rice County, will check to see what Rice County would be able to handle if the Data Model Training was held at Rice County. Dave will report back in August.

The group discussed the New User Training. Andrew Berg reported that the training would be a very broad subject training. The training would cover the basic GRM functions; it would not be in depth user training. Andrew will get an outline of a training agenda for our next meeting and then look at offering the training in the fall of 2011.

Enhancement/Reports Committee: Steve Holthaus discussed that Custom Reports will need to be reviewed when we implement 8.06.12. Lisa Meredith also mentioned that Manatron has agreed to provide a location for Minnesota to share our Custom Reports on the Connexion site. Minnesota will not share these reports until we have the reports at the level of 8.06.12.

Testing Committee: Chris Samuel reported on the 8.06.12 testing at Ramsey County. Dennis Freed Chisago County had also reported that they had completed a wide variety of testing, due to an issue with their production base, Chisago was considering going live on 8.06.12 on July 18, 2011. Stearns County had just gotten the 'all patch' loaded for 8.06.12 and would start testing the data.

ISSG Liaison: Dave Claxton will be working with the Manatron County IT Departments on setting up regular meetings/conference calls to keep abreast of the issues with implementing 8.06.12 and moving forward with the Version 9 coming in the future.

Lisa Meredith discussed a List Serve process and if this would be a viable program to be used in notifying Manatron counties on GRM issues. We have RSVP and the Connexion site available currently. Lisa believes these are very effective tools and that we do not need to add List Serve. Lisa asked Manatron to host a Webinar for the Manatron User Group on using the Connexion site. The committee came to the

consensus that the users need training on the tools that are currently available not to add new processes for sharing information.

Next Meeting: A conference call was scheduled for the next meeting on Thursday, August 4, 2011. Cheryl asked if Steve Holthaus would run the meeting as she would be unavailable.

Other Business: Steve Holthaus reminded GRM users that for Splits and Plats to make sure and use effective dates of December 31. Steve also suggested that a meeting should be set up to share database knowledge and scripts that counties have built. A meeting will be organized in the future, possibly after the Data Model Training.

Also the group discussed CollectMax and processing change orders, Blue Earth is interested in being a part of the proposed changes and would be interested in sharing the costs.

Chris Samuel, Ramsey County, stated that Ramsey is going to submit an enhancement for a Ramsey County Specific Valuation Notice.

Dennis Freed moved to adjourn, Steve Holthaus seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by Charlene Olson,
Acting Secretary