

Midwest Internet Coop Exchange UG 45 Minutes

Meeting called to order Wednesday, March 20th 2024 at 15:04pm CDT
The University of Minnesota Information Technology building: 2218 University Ave SE,
Minneapolis

Roll Call

Number of Voting Members in Attendance: 15 of 136

Number of Non-Voting Participants in Attendance: 0

Number of Pending Connections in Attendance: 0

Number of Guests in Attendance: 0

At least ten members in attendance, quorum attained.
See roll call sheet for further information.

Member Adds/Removes/Pendings

New Members Added: Skipped for this meeting

Members Disconnected: Skipped for this meeting

New Members Pending:

Ausra, Data Stream, INCX Global, LOGIS, Voipster, Society of Young Enterprise
Engineers

Financial Report

Current Assets:

\$125,984.81 in Old National Accounts

\$558,615.16 in Fidelity Account

\$182,882.18 in port fees outstanding (A/R)

2024 Port fees total \$255,632.18 - \$235,882.18 for 100G ports and \$19,750 for 10G
ports.

Expenses so far this year have been \$53,652.26

Of which \$46,101.27 was to renew our Arista maintenance for 3 years, \$3550 in
accounting fees, \$528.48 in bank fees, and \$99.51 in other smaller items.

Richard noted we moved money from Fidelity to checking to cover the Arista bill. Now
that this year's port fee monies for 2024 are coming in we will sweep money back to
Fidelity to take advantage of their higher interest rates.

Reports/Discussion

Motion was made by Jeremy Lumby (MNVolP) to approve minutes from UG44, seconded
by Key Coop; minutes were approved unanimously.

Dave Farmer asked about notifications of disconnects on the mailing list. Jeremy said he would provide that when he could but noted that sometimes members just disappear without notice.

The board and tech committee have been working on plans to upgrade the MICE core switch at the 511 building and is leaning toward an 8 slot model from Arista that will support 400G ports. We have firm discounted quotes from Arista for their hardware, Reid asked about price protection and Dave Farmer asked that we ask Arista what happens if they lower their price between ordering and delivery since there is some lead time. Richard will check into these questions.

Reid suggested we also talk to Nokia and will reach out to them.

We also discussed payment timelines, Richard believes it is just before the order ships. The quote specifies Net 30, which should be 30 days after. However, we are still discussing credit approval with Arista.

As noted in the financial report the support contract for our existing Arista switch at 511 was renewed for 3 years, we do not currently have support on our Ridgeview Equipment - which are the same models.

As part of the switch migration we will be migrating to a new wider rack in suite 100, which will be helpful since fiber management has become a real issue as the exchange has grown. We're also renewing our agreement for free space/power with Cologix, the new contract will be for 5 years.

There were several questions about term length and renewal options, and concerns about what could happen if there were ownership changes at Cologix or their 511 building spaces.

Richard will talk to Cologix about those issues.

If we go with the new Arista 8 slot chassis we will need to deploy 3 phase 208 volt power and new PDUs in the new cabinet. The group want monitoring (of the branch/phase level, but not necessarily at the outlet level). Control is nice to have, but not required. Control may even have some downsides, i.e. another failure point.

As part of the new core switch upgrade MICE will stop supporting 1G connections and the Juniper switches will be turned down. Members needing to continue using 1G interconnections could do so with the help of one of the remote switch operators.

The group discussed third-party optics vendors, Reid noted FlexOptics has sponsored various exchanges.

There was a brief discussion of 100G single-lambda optics. The group felt FR is the consensus at this time, and a better fit for the distance of a large building like 511. We will add FR as an optic option on our Order Form.

MICE hasn't seen any requests for 25G connections (although some of our ports would support it). A couple people noted it seems to be popular in enterprise servers these days.

It was noted that the Mankato Networks remote switch uplink is currently congested after recent member moves, they have put in an order to upgrade.

(Jay from SouthFront and Dean/Drew from Fiber Minnesota joined mid-meeting.)

Google is landing a submarine cable ("Topaz") in Seattle and Vancouver. This will bring lots of bandwidth to the Pacific Northwest. This might be an opportunity to promote Minneapolis (i.e. if people are building cross-country as a result).

Jeremy updated the group on the brief outage that occurred during our recent card swap. Everything we had was an R generation card. He re-groomed people off one 10G card to free up that slot. He then swapped in a new 100G card, which was an R2 card. When he plugged in the first fiber to the new card, it triggered a reboot of all the other cards. Arista (2 weeks later, which is slower than we would have liked) told us that we were safe as long as we didn't install another R card. They have documented this as a new bug, and their advice is we should treat a card swap as a downtime-inducing maintenance event for now.

We discussed that an election is coming again in October. Reid is up. He is running for re-election. Richard expressed that if someone is interested but doesn't want to run against Reid, we have had discussions about potentially increasing the size of the board. The group discussed that topic as it relates to bylaws, etc.

NANOG and Midwest Peering Summit are in Kansas City, the week of June 10-14.

We will pick the meeting date for UG46 meeting at a later date and will send to the mailing lists. It will be in October, probably a Wednesday, probably at UMN (with Zoom) again. This will be the annual general meeting with the election.

Meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 16:58pm CDT