



Franklin Regional Council of Governments

Meeting Minutes: Franklin County Emergency Communication System Oversight Committee			
Date	August 17, 2017	Location	John W. Olver Transit Center 12 Olive St Greenfield, MA 1 st Floor Meeting Room
Time	10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Duration	2 Hours
		Facilitators	Walter Tibbetts
		Meeting Cancellation Notice	413-774-3167 x153

Agenda Items	Action/Motion
1. Welcoming remarks/agenda/introductions	Meeting called to order at 10:00 a.m. In attendance were Joe Cuneo, Craig Gagne, Dan Nietzsche, John Paciorek, Bill Perlman, Kurt Seaman, Walter Tibbetts, Murray Hill
2. Review/approval of July 20, 2017 meeting minutes	Motion: Kurt Seaman motioned to approve the minutes from the last meeting held on July 20, 2017. Bill Perlman seconded the motion. The motion was carried by a unanimous vote.
3. Chairman's Report	The Chairman had nothing to report other than WMRIC did not meet this month.
4. Radio System Manager Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Preventive maintenance has been complete at all locations except for Adams Hill and Shutesbury. The remaining location will be completed next week. b. It was noticed during the preventative maintenance visit the air temperature inside the shelter at New Salem was high so an emergency repair to the HVAC system was completed before the equipment could be affected. c. The HVAC system repair at Adams Hill has been completed. d. Charlemont Double Broadcast Issue – It was determined that when vehicles are close to the facility they are keying Sim 1 and 2 at the same time due to the strength of the mobile. In order to fix the issue Craig will need to spend some time diagnosing the issue. Kurt Seaman makes a motion for diagnostics and repairs at the Charlemont site not to exceed \$2,000 for this specific issue. These funds are to come out of the repair maintenance line item. John Paciorek seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote. e. Erving Panel Antenna Project – The parts are ordered and waiting on manufacturer to custom make the required cables. Once the parts have been received, Beltronics will install them.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> f. Walter Tibbetts reports that he has noticed outside interference on our system from Manchester Connecticut. Craig reports this is due to the antenna in Manchester CT is atop a hill and is located 500 feet up on a 700 foot tower. A member of the Committee will be reaching out to Manchester CT and discuss this issue with them. g. Walter Tibbetts reports the system has been coming in fairly well but it depends on the time of day and temperature.
<p>5. 800MHz System Project Update</p>	<p>Bill Perlman reports testing on the Commonwealth System will start next week. The testing procedures have been accepted and the radios are at Shelburne Control. EOPSS has not had the meeting with A&F they said was coming.</p> <p>One of the issues being noticed is people think the decision to move to the Commonwealth System has already been made. Walter Tibbetts said that we should go back to our chiefs meetings and explain that the decision has not been made as of yet. Walter also asked that when the reports come in they are reviewed and if issues are encountered they are addressed.</p>
<p>6. Old Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. System-wide Antenna Replacement Project Update b. MSTR III replacement parts – Mt. Toby 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. CDCG will be starting on this project in the next week. They will produce a map showing current coverage for one site and how the coverage would change with an optimized antenna type and location on the tower. Once that antenna has been installed and the coverage checked the Committee will make a decision on moving forward with the rest of the scope of work. b. Murray reported that currently we cannot get parts for our version of the Harris MSTR III but we have options. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Keep an eye on the system and watch for issues. 2. Replace all the MSTR IIIs in the system. This will cost somewhere between \$400,000 and \$600,000. 3. Piece together a shelf from sites where parts can be scavenged from without interrupting the system to allow for a backup shelf in case a tower site has issues. The issue with this option is that all parts will need to be tested and inspected which will cost money and there may be the possibility that a shelf cannot be completed due to incompatible parts. <p>At this point in the meeting a discussion was had about options the FCECS Oversight Committee has in terms of going to the Commonwealth System or rebuilding the current FCECS. The estimated timeframe to get onto the Commonwealth System is 5 to 7 years which many people on the Committee feel is too far in the future with the current condition of the</p>

	<p>FCECS. Bill Perlman suggested that we look at replacing the system infrastructure without a redesign. Murray said the problem with this approach is that the current system is poorly designed (location of the towers, number of towers, antenna type and location on towers) so there might only be a small improvement. Kurt Seaman proposes that we buy the equipment to replace the current equipment and then further down the road use that equipment in a newly designed system.</p> <p>John Paciorek asked what we do today about MT. Toby. Murray reports back that the system is working but it is in a precarious state. The spare units we do have are not the same vintage so they cannot be used. In the case of Plainfield it was not the current vintage but the FCECS were able to find the correct cards. Bill is worried about the large incident where the system fails. Kurt Seaman asked again what happens if Mt. Toby dies tomorrow. Murray says he would have shut down the Plainfield and use the card to get Toby back up and running.</p> <p>It was asked of Murray and Craig to get the Oversight Committee all the pertinent information needed to search for MSTR III parts. Murry responded that going out to find parts might bring about two issues, whether they work at all and that the cost to replace the parts is going to be relatively expensive. Craig will get us the part numbers and other info that we need to find parts. John Paciorek made a motion to give the chairman the authority to order spare parts for the MSTR IIIs in the amount of up to \$2,500.00 without the need to consult the Committee. The funds for this will come out of the repair and maintenance line item. Bill Perlman seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote.</p>
<p>7. New Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Capital Improvement Plan – Power Supplies b. CDCG Antenna Engineering Project c. Letter from John Taylor regarding system use for Hard Knox 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Joe Cuneo made a motion to purchase three ICT600-24SC - ICT 1RU rackmount DC power supply with TCP/IP ethernet monitoring options and control functionality, 25 amp power supplies and install two of them. The funds for this purchase will be form the capital improvement line item. John Paciorek seconds the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote. b. Discussed above. c. John Paciorek makes motion permit it with the caveat that they need to find another channel besides Montague. Bill Perlman seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote.
<p>8. Business not reasonably anticipated 48 hours prior to the meeting</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>9. Wrap up and adjourn</p>	<p>Kurt Seaman made a motion to adjourn with John Paciorek seconding it. The motion was carried by unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 11:52 a.m</p>

