



Franklin Regional Council of Governments

Meeting Minutes: Franklin County Emergency Communication System Oversight Committee			
Date	January 19, 2017	Location	John W. Olver Transit Center 12 Olive St Greenfield, MA Room 221
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 Bruce Beliveau, Joe Camden, Joseph Cuneo, Bob Dean, Butch Garrity, Dana Johnson, Dan Nietsche, Bill Perlman, Kurt Seaman, Walter Tibbetts, Wendy Snow, Murry Hill, Craig Gagne
2. Review/approval of December 9, 2016 meeting minutes	Motion: Joe Cuneo motioned to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Dana Johnson seconded the motion. The motion was carried by a unanimous vote.
3. Radio System Manager	<p>a. There has been an ongoing issue with Franklin County being able to reach Springfield CMED. In an effort to remedy the situation Bruce Beliveau reported that he sent Craig Gagne to Shelburne Mt. to look into the CMED connection. It was thought that there may have been an issue with the PL code being incorrect at Shelburne. Craig verified that the unit is tuned to the right PL code. Craig also said that when he keyed up a microphone he could hear two repeaters. Bruce reported Alex Rock said we are still not being heard in Springfield meaning somewhere along the path a link is not functioning. The link between the south and north towers on Mt. Tom seems to go down causing the problem. Bruce feels we have proved we are not the issue. There was ongoing discussion on how WMRIC and CMED would like to replace or upgrade the CMED system.</p> <p>b. Bruce reported the GPS clock which caused the issues at Shelburne Mt. the first weekend in December has been sent back to Spectracom under warranty. Bruce has had numerous conversations with Spectracom about the unit. Bruce is working with them to ensure they test the unit in the same manner as to what it experienced at Shelburne Mt. in terms of duration as the issue did not start until approximately 48 hours after installation.</p> <p>c. Via conference call Craig Gagne went over the coverage map for the possible move of equipment from Erving to Orange. It was determined there is no real improvement moving to Orange when the coverage maps are compared to the Erving maps. Discussion about destructive interference and if it is reduced in problem areas by the move was had. The group felt there would be no improvement or reduction of the interference via this proposal. Bruce said there is a financial and maintenance responsibility if we stay in Erving as the tower and shelter has issues. Craig brought up the point that regional coverage would change from having good reception to poor. Craig produced coverage maps for the regional coverage and the move to Orange would underserve the areas west of Erving. Discussion about the need for Mass State Police connectivity for their control station.</p>

<p>4. Old Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Equipment Implementation Plan b. Private Equipment on FCECS Towers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The new equipment, GPS and antennas, were approved by their respective committees. Bruce is working on the specifications for the GPS unit to give to Raine Brown for bidding. Committee must decide between a straight bid or going out for RFP. <p>Dana Johnson makes motion to receive proposals for the purchase and installation for the GPS unit. Bill Perlman seconds the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.</p> <p>Dana Johnson makes motion to receive proposals for the purchase and installation for the antennas. Joe Camden seconds the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. The Committee was asked to review their previous vote on not allowing private entities onto any towers. The Committee discussed how it needs develop a procedure which formulizes the process including going out for RFPs. <p>In the case of the proposal at the Committee which is to allow a radio station to place equipment on Erving tower and in the shelter Dana Johnson motioned to allow County Broadcasting Company to place testing equipment on the tower and in the shelter for 72 hours under the supervision of radio system manager or designee. The antenna must not be more than 30' from ground level and cannot cause interference with the FCECS system. Radio system manager will be paid for by the company. Joe Cuneo seconds the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.</p>
<p>5. New Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Baystate Franklin Radio Link b. FCECS Assessments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Update from Baystate Franklin Medical Center. Baystate Franklin has asked Green Mountain to give them a proposal to abandon the link between Shelburne Mt and the hospital. This would eliminate the microwave link serving the hospital. The hospital would install a control station in their emergency room in order to communicate with EMS. b. No discussion on this topic.
<p>6. Business not reasonably anticipated 48 hours prior to the meeting</p>	
<p>7. Wrap up and adjourn</p>	<p>Bill Perlman made a motion to adjourn with Joe Camden seconding it. The motion was carried by unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 12:15p.m</p>