



Franklin Regional Council of Governments

Meeting Minutes: Franklin County Emergency Communication System Oversight Committee			
Date	September 21, 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, Butch Garrity, Dana Johnson, Dan Nietzsche, Bill Perlman, Murray Hill
2. Review/approval of August 17, 2017 meeting minutes	Motion: Bill Perlman motioned to approve the minutes from the last meeting held on August 17, 2017. Dana Johnson seconded the motion. The motion was carried by a unanimous vote.
3. Chairman's Report	Nothing to Report
4. Radio System Manager Update	<p>a. As of this meeting Harris/Tait customer support has not responded to our requests for serial numbers. Beltronics will continue to ask for this info. It is thought that due to the amount of disasters happening Harris is busy trying to get damaged systems running. Craig is going to get us the serial/part numbers that are on the cards so that a search can commence. One of the issues Craig is having is that the way our Harris equipment was purchased Harris does not have records associated with our system. Craig reported he has the numbers but has not released them to FCECS in order to verify the number through Harris/Tait Customer Service. Joe Cuneo commented that Craig should have released the numbers to the FCECS Committee and why he did not is a process issue that needs to be explored.</p> <p>b. The group discussed which tower site to start with for the Antenna Replacement Project being performed by CDCG. Dana Johnson made a motion that CDCG should start with the tower at Borden Mt. Butch Garrity seconded the motion. The motion was carried by unanimous vote.</p> <p>c. On the topic of radio interference from CT, it was reported that we</p>

	<p>do not share a frequency with Manchester CT. This means the transmissions are most likely a rouge channel that we need to identify who is transmitting on before we can lodge a complaint with the FCC. It possible these radio transmissions are done unintentionally. Butch reports that Shelburne Control does not pick up the transmissions. Green Mt. said they will get Joe Cuneo a recorder so that he can try to figure out who is transmitting.</p> <p>d. Continuity of operations plan due to the situation with the MSTER III repeaters was discussed. Murray has a hierarchical list that he will distribute.</p> <p>e. A discussion about the preventive maintenance report was had by the group. Dana would like to see a priority list of items that were mentioned for repairs be produced so that the Committee can plan. Murray will work on that list. Murray brings up the situation that we are operating in different modes within equipment. Some are set to automatic some are manual. This is not a good configuration for the system to be in. The reason why some were set in manual was so that an engineer could move the transmission issue to another place manually in order to overcome negative issues with sound quality. It is thought that this was done during installation. Craig did not want to make the switch from manual to auto because of the type of antennas that we have. Making the switch might have a negative effect on the system. The switch is located inside the shelf. The sites that are on manual are, Borden, Grace, New Salem (not High Gain).</p>
<p>5. 800MHz System Project Update</p>	<p>a. A review of the testing thus far was had by the group. In addition a discussion on how to compare the systems/options was had. One of the questions that did not get answered was whether or not we should we include areas on the east border that does not have coverage into the data set.</p>
<p>6. Old Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. System-wide Antenna Replacement Project Update – CDCG Project b. MSTR III replacement part search information c. Report on preventative maintenance for 2017 	<p>a. CDCG will be starting 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.</p> <p>b. Murray reported we currently cannot get parts for our version of the</p>

	<p>Harris MSTR III but we have options.</p> <ol 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>c. See the Radio System manager section for more information.</p>
<p>7. New Business a. Request from HMCC for use of radio system.</p>	<p>Dan Nietsche requested that the FRCOG’s Health and Medical Coordinating Collation be allowed onto the FCECS System. Joe Cuneo made a motion to allow the HMCC onto the system. Dana Johnson seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote.</p>
<p>8. Business not reasonably anticipated 48 hours prior to the meeting</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>9. Wrap up and adjourn</p>	<p>Dana Johnson made a motion to adjourn with Bill Perlman seconding it. The motion was carried by unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 11:21 a.m</p>