



Franklin Regional Council of Governments

| Meeting Minutes: Franklin County Emergency Communication System Oversight Committee | | | |
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| Date | October 19, 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 |
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| 1. Welcoming remarks/agenda/introductions | Meeting called to order at 10:00 a.m. In attendance were Joe Cuneo, Bob Dean, Craig Gagne, Dana Johnson, John Paciorek, Dan Nietsche, Bill Perlman, Kurt Seaman, Walter Tibbetts, Murray Hill |
| 2. Review/approval of September 21, 2017 meeting minutes | Motion: Bill Perlman motioned to approve the minutes from the last meeting held on September 21, 2017. John Paciorek seconded the motion. The motion was carried by a unanimous vote. |
| 3. Chairman's Report | Walter Tibbetts started his report with an update on the last WMRIC meeting. Walter gave an update, to WMRIC, on where we are with the investigation into the decision to update our system or migrate to the Commonwealth System. He explained the MASTR IIIs have been given a manufacturer's end of life notice which is accelerating the need to move forward with a decision. Walter gave WMRIC the preliminary results from the radio testing process. Walter did not get into the pros and cons of each option that the FCECS Committee has before them. Walter explained that WMRIC has a new chair, who is Bob Hassett from Springfield emergency management. Walter also gave WMRIC an update on the Erving antenna project and that the FCECS Committee has moved forward with the system-wide antenna replacement project. |
| 4. Radio System Manager Update | <p>Antenna Replacement Project - CDCG is in the process of making coverage maps that reduce the effects of the antenna on Borden Mt. They anticipate getting them to us by the 26th. Green Mt. plans on testing the new installation asap after the change.</p> <p>Erving tower and antenna combiner are up and running. The response thus far has been positive. We have not heard about anything negative from the towns west of Erving.</p> <p>There is an issue at Berkshire East with one of the new GPS clocks that were recently installed in that the option board in the unit has failed. During the time spent troubleshooting the GPS antenna was also changed out. We are waiting on a report from Spectracom on why the option</p> |

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| | <p>board failed. In addition to the Berkshire East issue Murray believes that we may have lost another option board somewhere in the system which may be the reason why Montague is having issues. If we lost another option board we need to talk to Spectracom as there may be a defect in the set our units were manufactured in.</p> <p>Murray asked if Joe has heard any transmissions from CT in east county. Both Joe and Walter have not heard any transmission from last meeting. Murray is still working on getting a recorder to Joe.</p> <p>The system alarm in various locations has not been reporting for multiple years. It was discussed that the units have not been maintained for many years. The company that sells and supports our system is Easton Electronics. Dan will reach out to Easton to get an idea on how our system works and what they can do for us to complete preventive maintenance.</p> |
| <p>5. 800MHz System Project Update</p> | <p>Bill Perlman reported that we have not heard from the State since the last meeting. We are fairly confident they want to get us on their system. We have a call on the 20th to learn more about what they are prepared to do to get us onto the system. Bill reported to the Executive Committee and will be reporting with Dan to the full council tonight. What we are saying is that the COG has responded to the towns need to own the system but unlike other fee for services this is the Towns and Emergency Services system. If and when something happens and it cost money it is going to have to be the towns' decision which option we move forward with. We have come up with four general options. A discussion was had about a description of the four options. Bill is concerned that the current system will not last until a switch over to the Commonwealth system if that option is chosen.</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 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. See the radio system manager section above. b. We have parts Shelburne Mt. but there need to be an authorization to spend funds to make sure they work with our system. To look for additional part will also cost money. Craig reported the part numbers have been sent to Murray this morning and will be distributed to the Committee. Joe asks if it is worthwhile to look at the parts in Shelburne. He asked how long does it take to bench test a unit? Craig says about five hours. c. Bill Perlman Motion to replace batteries at the Colrain site with a cost not to exceed \$1,000. Joe Cuneo seconds the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote. |
| <p>7. New Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Beltronics Contract Renewal Discussion | <p>Joe Cuneo made a motion to renew the preventative maintenance contract with Beltronics for one year. Dana Johnson seconds the motion. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.</p> |

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| 8. Business not reasonably anticipated 48 hours prior to the meeting | |
| 9. Wrap up and adjourn | Kurt Seaman made a motion to adjourn with Joe Cuneo seconding it. The motion was carried by unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 12:03 p.m |