



# Franklin Regional Council of Governments

*Meeting Minutes: Franklin County Emergency Communication System Oversight Committee*

<b>Date</b>	January 18, 2018	<b>Location</b>	John W. Olver Transit Center 12 Olive St Greenfield, MA 1 <sup>st</sup> Floor Meeting Room	<b>Facilitators</b>	Walter Tibbetts
<b>Time</b>	10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	<b>Duration</b>	2 Hours	<b>Meeting Cancellation Notice</b>	413-774-3167 x153

Agenda Items	Action/Motion
1. Welcoming remarks/agenda/introductions	<b>Meeting called to order at 10:00 a.m.</b> In attendance were Joe Cuneo, Bob Dean, Craig Gagne, Butch Garrity, Dana Johnson, Dan Nietzsche, John Paciorek, Bill Perlman, Kurt Seaman, Walter Tibbetts, Murray Hill
2. Review/approval of December 21, 2017, meeting minutes	<b>Motion: Dana Johnson motioned to approve the minutes from the last meeting held on December 21, 2017. Butch Garrity seconded the motion. The motion was carried by a unanimous vote.</b>
3. Chairman's Report	<p>WMRIC meeting update – Walter reports that radio projects are ongoing albeit slowly. Due to an unknown reason, anything that has to do with Motorola is moving very slowly. Walter added that three projects need to be complete by June and people are concerned they might not be completed.</p> <p>CMED Project Update – It was reported that there is now access to the building owned by National Grid which houses the newly moved equipment. The project is transitioning from copper wire to microwave to increase reliability. Right now they are trying to get the south portion of the CMED system completed before moving north of Mt. Tom.</p> <p>Berkshire County Sherriff and WMLEC ask that they are notified if we are going into Borden. Murray will need contact information for those two. Walter will be getting Murray the contact information so that they can be notified.</p>
4. Radio System Manager Update	A discussion about the trouble tickets which originated in Leyden and Colrain was had. The question of why pagers were not being reached was asked of Murray Hill. Murray responded that he does not know why that particular pager did not get the voice announcement. Murray added that

	<p>he had Shelburne Control run tests to an ambulance that was near the pager location and they received the voice page. A discussion about single issue reports started. There are sometimes trouble tickets entered into the system where a single user is reporting issues. The Committee as a whole discussed if aging subscriber units, location, or user error is more at fault than the FCECS when these are entered.</p>
<p>5. 800MHz System Project Update</p>	<p>Bill Perlman gave an update on what has been happening in the discussions between FRCOG and the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security. In December, we learned that Governor Baker agreed to release all of the funds EOPSS needed to complete the state-wide buildout of the Commonwealth Radio System. It was learned that EOPSS advised the Division of Local Services that our E&amp;R grant request was unnecessary because the Commonwealth Radio System would handle the communication needs of Franklin County and any ask for funding to design and build a new system would be duplicative. A conference call with Undersecretary Curtis Wood and Mike Saltzman of EOPSS took place. In that call, EOPSS committed to prioritizing the migration of Franklin County to the Commonwealth Radio System. They also committed to providing help during any failure of our current system. While EOPSS acknowledged that there were many outstanding logistical issues, they committed to prioritizing the needs of Franklin County. Bill Perlman also presented a list of questions and asked that they are sent to Mike Saltzman as soon as possible so that EOPSS understands the issues which Franklin County is most concerned with. Joe Cuneo made a motion to have the FCECS Oversight Committee support the migration to the Commonwealth System as no other viable option exists. John Paciorek seconded the motion. Kurt Seaman asks if the organizations represented by the Committee have been consulted. The organizations have yet to vote on their positions. The motion passed with six members voting in the affirmative with one member in the negative. John Paciorek requested that Mike Saltzman be invited to the February meeting. Dan Nietzsche will extend that invitation.</p>
<p>6. Old Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Antenna Replacement Project Update</li> <li>b. Royalston reduction in assessment request</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The due date for the price proposal to complete the antenna replacement project was January 12. The group received the proposal on January 17. When asked about this issue it was reported that there are a lot of external issues going on that negatively impacted the ability to meet the deadline. The Committee understood the issues but wondered if another person might have complete the project proposal and antenna specifications. When asking what kind of improvement the FCECS would see upon completion of the project,</li> </ul>

	<p>Craig stated that we would get a 1 to 1.5% reduction in destructive interference. The indicated percentage is an overall number not site specific. Craig was asked what additional benefits would be realized by replacing the antennas he stated that we would see additional system stability. The Committee reviewed the submitted proposal and sent it back so that it can be revised to include all possible costs so that the Committee can see if this project will fit the budget.</p> <p>b. A request from the town of Royalston was submitted to the Committee for review. The request asked that due to Royalston not using the FCECS but using the FCECS tower in Royalston that they would like a reduction or elimination of assessment. A discussion ensued about what could be done with this request. Bill Perlman made a motion to reject the request. Dana Johnson seconded the motion. The motion carrier by unanimous decision. After the vote, Linda Dunlavy suggested that we ask them to consider purchasing the tower.</p>
<p>7. New Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Officer Elections</li> <li>b. After Action Discussion regarding the microwave link malfunction</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Walter Tibbetts was nominated for Chair, and Joe Cuneo was nominated for Vice-Chair. Bill Perlman made a motion to accept the nominations. John Paciorek seconded the motion. Th motion passed by unanimous vote.</li> <li>b. AAR Micro Link – Walter talked about a back up technician for Beltronics and why they did not provide a backup. Bill Perlman said that to meet the four-hour window they would need to have a backup. John Paciorek asks why the system was down for three days when MSP could fix it in 5 hours. Murray reported that he did not know why Craig did not identify the issue on the first day. Walter asks if we were able to confirm if there are two spare microwave radios for the connection form Borden to Shelburne.</li> </ul>
<p>8. Business not reasonably anticipated 48 hours prior to the meeting</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Chief Alex Wiltz from Greenfield Community College requested to allow his department to use the FCECS as an infrequent user. Alex believes his department will contact Control a few times a week in the evening and after normal business hours. Kurt Seaman asked why he does not use Greenfield dispatch for after-hours dispatch. Alex said that technically, the Massachusetts State Police is designated as their first mutual aid partner, so they want to use Shelburne Control. Walter added that who GCC uses for their dispatch is outside the scope of the FCECS Committee. Bill Perlman made a motion to allow Greenfield Community College to be an infrequent user on the system. John Paciorek seconded the motion. The motion passed by</li> </ul>

	<p>unanimous decision.</p> <p>b. Linda Dunlavy relayed a message from the FRTA that that parking in the short term parking areas just outside the Transit Center should not do so in the future.</p>
9. Wrap up and adjourn	<p><b>John Paciorek made a motion to adjourn with Joe Cuneo seconding it. The motion was carried by unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m</b></p>