



Franklin Regional Council of Governments

Meeting Agenda: Franklin County Emergency Communication System Oversight Committee			
Date	October 21, 2021	Location	Via Zoom: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/96337729785?pwd=dWs4cjZrSEZpQ3hpU1BPTEZhTTU3UT09 Meeting ID: 963 3772 9785 Passcode: 523331 Dial by your location +1 929 205 6099 US (New York) Meeting ID: 963 3772 9785 Passcode: 523331 F
Facilitators	Walter Tibbetts, Chair		
Meeting Cancellation Notice	413-774-3167 x135		
Time	10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Duration	2.0 Hours

Agenda Items	Point Person(s)	Time	Action Required
1. Welcoming remarks/agenda/introductions	Walter Tibbetts	10:00 a.m. (2 minutes)	
2. Review/approval of September 21, 2021 meeting minutes	Walter Tibbetts	10:02 a.m. (3 minutes)	Vote to approve or amend
3. Chairman's Report	Walter Tibbetts	10:05 a.m. (15 minutes)	Discussion
4. Radio System Manager Update	Kurt Seaman	10:20 a.m. (30 minutes)	Discussion
5. CoMIRS Advisory Group Update	Xander Sylvain	10:50 a.m. (20 Minutes)	Discussion
6. Public Safety Partner Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Fire Chief Association b. Police Chief Association c. Franklin County EMS Committee d. Shelburne Control e. Tri-State Fire Mutual Aid 		11:10 a.m. (10 Minutes)	
7. Old Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Royalston Tower 	a. Xander Sylvain	11:20 a.m. (20 minutes)	Discussion
8. New Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. No New Business 			
9. Business not reasonably anticipated 48 hours prior to the meeting	Walter Tibbetts	11:40 a.m. (15 minutes)	
10. Wrap up and adjourn	Walter Tibbetts	11:55 a.m.	Vote to adjourn



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Date	October 21, 2021	Location	Via ZOOM
Time	10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Duration	2.0 Hours
In attendance: Walter Tibbitts Bill Pearlman Dana Johnson Joe Cuneo		FRCOG Staff: Xander Sylvain Bob Dean	
Absent: John Paciorek Butch Garrity			

Agenda Items	Discussion
1. Welcoming remarks/agenda/introductions	Walter opened the meeting at 10:00.
2. Review/approval of October 21, 2021 meeting minutes	Bill Pearlman made a motion to accept minutes as written, seconded by Dana Johnson. Roll call vote passed unanimously at 10:03.
3. Chairman's Report	<p>Given by Walter Tibbitts –</p> <p>During the Boston Marathon, EOTSS and users found that the 800 system had transmission interference. The source was traced to media transmissions at the event. Agencies using the 800 system should be aware of this potential for interference at large events with a media presence.</p> <p>There are two new staff members at the EOPSS / CoMIRS teams, a tower coordinator and subscriber manager.</p> <p>The WMRIC FY22 budget has \$180,000 remaining that can be tapped into by FCECS. Committee members to consider possible proposals. FRCOG Staff asked to report this to CoMIRS Advisory Group as well.</p>
4. Radio System Manager a. Repairs and Maintenance – CMED	<p>Report given by Xander Sylvain –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Goosetown has replaced all three CMed repeaters that were approved for purchase last month. All are functioning and programmed to be a backup to each other (they are multi-channel). Dana Johnson asked for clarification on why three were purchased as earlier in the year we were looking at purchasing two. The reason being was that the cost of the repeaters ended up being significantly less expensive than the initial proposal. This allowed us purchase three and reestablish a link to CMED Springfield. Montague 1 is powered down and off the air. New Salem is still being worked on and there are no spare parts. They are looking at other ways to get the two Harris Intraplex servers to talk to each other.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All sites are being topped off with fuel for the winter season.
5. CoMIRS Advisory Group Update	<p>The issue with Motorola APX6000 batteries is now determined to be a firmware issue with the radio and not a battery issue.</p> <p>Discussion - FCECS Committee would like a map of the 800 system towers Western/Central MA showing which are analog and which are digital. FRCOG staff to follow up with EOTSS about this map and what if we can share it with emergency services in FC.</p> <p>Berkshire County Sherriff's Office is looking for donations of 400 system portable radios; committee asked that FRCOG staff follow up with WRHSAC about donation policy and share that will the committee.</p>
6. Public Safety Partner Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Fire Chief Association b. Police Chief Association c. Franklin County EMS Committee d. Shelburne Control e. Tri-State Fire Mutual Aid 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Draft of the new radio SOPs is complete and being presented at the 10/26 meeting for acceptance. b. Not present. c. A significant staffing shortage is impacting Franklin County EMS agencies (and all of Massachusetts). Long ambulance wait times are occurring with mutual aid calling far down their run cards. d. Not present. e. In the process of updating Tri-State bylaws.
7. Old Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Royalston tower 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. A 1 year contract was signed with land owner and the site is secured until October 2022. The FRCOG is still determining the steps needed to sell this tower, which was purchased with WRHSAC funding, to a private company. Once the process for selling or gifting a tower is confirmed, the FRCOG will work with the landowner, the town of Royalston, and any other necessary party, to move forward with transferring the tower to another owner.
8. New Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. No new business 	
9. Business not reasonably anticipated 48 hours prior to the meeting	<p>Dana Johnson found that airmedical coming into FC are still trying to communicate with our emergency services on the 400 system. Until a full switch to 800 happens, this committee recommends that all airmedical requests come in using ATAC41D, committee members will bring this up at the next chief's meeting.</p> <p>As discussed by Walter, the FCECS currently has unused equipment on the Mt. Lincoln tower in Pelham. Amherst has asked if we could have that equipment moved so they can install more of their equipment on that tower. Our equipment has been out of service for three years and we don't need it up there. Walter made a motion to allow Amherst, through Goosetown technicians, to take down our equipment and return to FCECS. Motion Seconded by Dana. Roll call vote proceeded and passed unanimously at 10:19.</p>
10. Wrap up and adjourn	<p>Dana made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:05, seconded by Joe. Roll call vote passed unanimously.</p>