



Franklin Regional Council of Governments

Meeting Minutes: Franklin County Emergency Communication System Oversight Committee			
Date	January 10, 2022	Location	Via ZOOM
Time	10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Duration	2.0 Hours
		Facilitators	Walter Tibbetts, Chair
In attendance: Bill Pearlman Dana Johnson Joe Cuneo Butch Garrity Walter Tibbitts John Paciorek Absent:		FRCOG Staff: Xander Sylvain Kurt Seaman Bob Dean Other: Gene Howard, City of Greenfield	

Agenda Items	Discussion
1. Welcoming remarks/agenda/introductions	Joe opened the meeting at 10:05 a.m.
2. Review/approval of November 18, 2021 meeting minutes	Joe made a motion to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Dana. Roll call vote passed unanimously at 10:06 a.m.
3. Chairman's Report	Given by Walter Tibbitts – WMLEC asked to be looped into any decommissioning plans moving forward as they have equipment on a number of towers in FC. Shelburne Control is requesting a fourth console from WMREC (\$35K request) to help maintain patches and emergency communications.
4. Radio System Manager Update	Report given by Kurt Seaman – Nothing new to report.
5. CoMIRS Advisory Group Update	Report given by Xander Sylvain, Joe Cuneo, and John Paciorek – The Commonwealth released their to Phase 2 CoMIRS build out plans: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By Summer 23, the county should be broadcasting completely on digital. This provides a timeline for when digital paging can be implemented. • There will be no assessment costs to FC communities until 2026. • On street coverage proposed to expand by significant quality and margins by 2023/2024.
6. Public Safety Partner Updates a. Fire Chief Association	a. Nothing to report. b. Nothing to report. c. Still working on the adoption of new Radio SOPs.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. Police Chief Association c. Franklin County EMS Committee d. Shelburne Control e. Tri-State Fire Mutual Aid 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> d. In response to the November Montague Center Fire, Dispatch is requesting of the FC Fire Chiefs association to implement a new policy to review ICS and communications after every large incident. The Montague Center Fire had serious communication gaps that e. Nothing to report.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7. Old Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Royalston Tower b. FY 23 budget c. Purchasing transportable digital vehicle repeater system 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Case being reviewed by Royalston select board, whom is now considering ownership of the tower. b. The FY23 Budget approved was approved by executive committee. c. Executive committee denied this request from FCECS budget, yet there is funding available through WRHSAC. Discussion on the FRCOGs role in managing requests and maintaining regional interoperable equipment. The committee supports the FRCOG as being the regional coordinator for interoperable equipment and does not want this asset to be requested/owned by other groups. The FRCOG will review its policies and consider making a request to WRHSAC for funding to purchase this asset.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8. New Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Decommissioning plan b. Reduce FCECS Meeting Schedule 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. FRCOG is working to hire a consultant to write and execute a decommissioning plan. b. FRCOG staff meeting schedule related to FCECS/CoMIRS has quadrupled since the migration began and this, along with other staff time demands, means that FRCOG staff are over budget. FCECS Oversight Committee asked if meeting schedule could be reduced to bi-monthly meetings to reduce staff hours. The FCECS Oversight Committee agreed unanimously that a reduction in FCECS meetings was not possible at this time, and that the time demands of managing two systems would warrant a higher staff time commitment from the FRCOG rather than a reduction.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c. Business not reasonably anticipated 48 hours prior to the meeting 	<p>Invite WMLEC to the next meeting FCECS Meeting to coordinate decommissioning FCECS towers.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> d. Wrap up and adjourn 	<p>John made a motion to adjourn the meeting, motion seconded by Joe. Roll call votes passed unanimously and meeting adjourned at 11:42 a.m.</p>