



Communications Board

Fire and Emergency Medical Services
Monroe County, New York

Maggie Brooks
County Executive

Tim Warth
Chairman

MONROE COUNTY FIRE/EMS COMMUNICATIONS BOARD MINUTES OF MEETING: September 20, 2012

ATTENDANCE: S. Bowman, P. Hendrickson, J. Coates, M. Dobertin, S. Leuchtner, T. Link, T. Carson, D. Pfersick, D. Sansone, L. Vaughan, R. Verdouw, L. Ruiz

EXCUSED: T. Czapranski, S. DeRosa, T. Warth

GUESTS: A. Sienkiewicz

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Steve Leuchtner at 5:00 PM.

A quorum of voting members was not present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

June meeting minutes were not approved, quorum not met.

COMMUNICATIONS

EXISTING SYSTEM STATUS/NARROWBAND – T. Warth

FUTURE TRUNKING SYSTEM COMMITTEES – S. Leuchtner

Notes from T. Warth

Operational Focus Group

The operational Focus Group has been meeting throughout the summer to stay on schedule. Over the past few meetings we have recently accomplished the following:

1. Identified several different operating models using a trunking system
 - No decision has been made as to how we are going to operate. The group has made a list of potential methods for planning purposes.
2. Looked at 40 cities with similar populations and reviewed their communications systems. Of the 40 cities, 6 cities and 3 trunking systems were identified as similar to what Monroe County is implementing. We are in the process of getting further specifics to those systems and how they operate.
3. Since most of the operational decisions will be based on the results of Fire and EMS agency testing, the focus group has shifted hears towards how the agencies should test the system beyond what Harris and Monroe County will be testing. The individual agency testing will be mainly geared towards known coverage

problem areas with the existing system. How to test, when to test, what to look for and how to report the findings will be part of this development.

- Fire and EMS agencies should expect to be able to do their own testing beginning in the 2nd quarter next year (2013).
 - A notice will be going to the Chief's and DO's soon for input to assist with the testing procedures and provide us known problem areas that Harris can look at during their initial testing phase.
4. The focus group will continue to meet in the coming months, with more information to pass-on as we get further down the road.

Thanks to everyone with your patience with this project. It is not something we can just run into without planning and testing.

DIGITAL PAGING/TRUCK SYSTEM – R. Verdouw

1. Digital Paging

- New pagers are expected to arrive the end of next week.
- Radio Center will begin programming in the order of the PO date.
- Expect delivery to begin the middle of October.

2. Additional Working Channels

- Radio Center is committed to providing additional working channels.
- At the end of the year, two VHF channels will become available.
- The plan is to relicense them and make them a North & South working channel.

Steve Bowman discussed licensing information/approval of existing channels.

Steve Bowman also discussed a letter that was sent to the Ambassador to Canada regarding licensing updates.

3. Trunk System

- The trunk system West cell is on the air.
- Additional cells to come on the air in the near future.
- After the Public Service traffic is transferred to the trunk, portables will be circulated for departments to test with and verify coverage in their respective districts.

ECD DIRECTOR'S REPORT – T. Carson

- Received new CAD Build 9/4/12, currently testing.
- Go Live date still May 6, 2013.
- Start integrate testing end of November.
- Mary Quinlivan will be contacting agencies regarding connectivity.
- Back-up facility construction continues (set back w/soil contamination & Verizon land line found) .
- New class starting 9/24 w/no fire/ems dispatchers.
- Discussed call volumes and impact cell phones are having with cell calls jumping 20% over the last 2 years. Assessing these issues.

EMS REPORT – T. Czapranski

FIRE BUREAU REPORT – S. DeRosa

FIRE ADVISORY REPORT - J. Lemcke

PUBLIC SAFETY DIRECTOR – S. Bowman

- Discussed the MRC; soil contamination and land line (held project up for approx. 8 weeks). Has been resolved, construction continues.
- Trunking System – tower are up, connectivity is working, and fibers are being deployed. 1 cell is on the air.
- Discussed ongoing problems w/cell phone volume (ECD), the problems, challenges, and upgrades (Next Gen 911 system).

NEW BUSINESS – S. Leuchtner

- Received email from Karen DeMarco (Motorolla) regarding demonstration of equipment on October 18th 0830 Brighton Fire Station 1.

OLD BUSINESS

ROCHESTER FIRE DEPARTMENT – M. Dobertin

- Start Recruit class starts October 15th.
- All but 4 of the mobile computers running.

BATTALION REPORTS

Batt 1 – N/R

Batt 2 - L Vaughan

- Discussed the 2nd Battalion meeting and their concerns regarding the trunk radio system. Mainly the cost of the equipment. S. Bowman directed Larry to have mentioned parties contact Sam DeRosa regarding their concerns and to clarify information. In addition, T. Warth will speak at a special battalion meeting.
- Clarify – Harris equipment is on the New York State Contract.
- Brockport became a Fire District as of July 1st.
- Seems to be a connectivity issue w/Fire 5. Trying to track the area. Will be contacting Radio Center regarding this issue.

Batt 3 - N/R

Batt 4 - N/R

Batt 5 - N/R

ANYTHING FOR THE WELFARE OF THE BOARD – S. Bowman

Congratulations to Tom “Fuzz Ball” Link for winning “OUTSTANDING EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR FOR THE NATIONAL ANIMAL CONTROL ASSOCIATION (ACO)”

Included with the minutes is the newspaper article.

Motion to adjourn at 5:40 PM.

**The next meeting of the Fire and EMS Communications Board is scheduled for
Thursday October 18, 2012 @ 5:00 pm in STEP Conference Room at the
Public Safety Training Facility, 1190 Scottsville Road.**