

## **Radio System User Committee**

### **Minutes**

**June 17, 2021**

The meeting of the Radio System User Committee was called to order by Chairman, Dan Birenbaum at 2:30 p.m. in the Ozaukee Sheriff's Office Lobby Conference Room of the Justice Center of Ozaukee County, Port Washington. Roll Call was taken and present were committee members: James Albrinck, Dan Birenbaum, Mark Kastens, Josh Borden, Joseph Laurin, and Bob Ramthun. Others in attendance: Jason Dzwinel, Ozaukee County Administrator; Shawn Anderson, Ozaukee County Radio Services; Bill Rice, Grafton Fire Department; Matt Karpinski, Grafton Fire Department; Jeff Vahsholtz, Cedarburg Fire Department; Dennis Buchholtz, President of Communication Site Management and Contract Manager for Ozaukee County radio upgrades; Scott Ziegler, Emergency Management Director; Lt. Wayne Lambrecht, Ozaukee Sheriff's Office; Gary Schmidt, Milwaukee Fire Bell; John Schrader, WI DNR; Bill Esselmann, Newburg Fire Dept.; Jack Sculley, L3 Harris; Rodney Philgren, L3 Harris; Connor Carynski, Ozaukee Press. Absent: Rick Nelson

2. Per Chairman, Dan Birenbaum, meeting was properly noticed. Agenda was adopted.

3. Approval of April 8, 2021 Minutes.

Motion by Jim Albrinck, second by Mark Kastens to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Public Comments/Correspondence/Communications

None

5. Update on Radio Services, Condition of the Radio System, Planning for the Future of the Radio System

Shawn Anderson stated there is no change. The county is still working off the EDACS 800 MHz system.

Dennis Buchholtz advised that the county is close to system acceptance. There is one issue to resolve with the BeOn app that will hopefully be resolved this week. He is looking have the system acceptance signed next Monday. Portable radios should start to be distributed approximately 6-8 weeks after system acceptance.

Jack Sculley stated that we are 99.9% of the way there. Once we have system acceptance, emails need to go out regarding train the trainer classes. He added that General Communications will be handling the implementation.

Rodney Philgren remarked that radios will be deployed agency by agency to ensure the proper number and type of radio is distributed. He will be working with General Communications to get radios out. He added that the 2-year warranty for each radio will start when the agency receives the radio but the 1-year maintenance agreement starts upon system acceptance.

Matt Karpinski remarked on the continual push back on the date of radio distribution and questioned why some tasks such as radio programming couldn't be completed during this time to speed up the process. Discussion between Matt, Dennis, Jack, and Rodney regarding the various issues encountered throughout the process and the workflow process for radio programming.

Bill Rice discussed a recent fire call and the inability to communicate with his teams inside of a burning structure. He stressed the importance of speeding up the process to get portable radios out to the agencies before someone is hurt.

Mark Kastens discussed a tactical incident that occurred earlier in the day involving numerous law enforcement personnel. He stated that batteries on the radios in use were dying and remarked that the radio coverage in that area was extremely poor causing officer safety issues.

#### 6. Status of Harrington State Park Tower

No change. Jim Albrinck questioned if the tower would help with Mequon's radio issues in the southeast corner of the county. Shawn stated the testing done shows it will but units would need to change their channel to use that tower.

#### 7. MABAS Update

Bill Rice stated a large fire took place in Rockton, Illinois which involved fire departments from Wisconsin but no task forces were requested.

#### 8. Washington County Update

Dennis Buchholtz advised that they are continuing to work on getting the towers approved. There is one left on the list.

#### 10. Set next Meeting Date and Time

Next meeting set for August 12, 2021 at 2:30 p.m.

#### 11. Adjournment

There being no further business, motion by Josh Borden, second by Mark Kastens, to adjourn the meeting at 3:17 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

CC: County Clerk  
Radio User Group