

**Radio System User Committee
Minutes
December 9, 2021**

The meeting of the Radio System User Committee was called to order by Chairman, Dan Birenbaum at 2:31 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, Joseph Laurin, and Bob Ramthun. Others in attendance: Shawn Anderson, Ozaukee County Radio Services; Matt Karpinski, Grafton Fire Department; Bill Rice, Grafton Fire Department; Dennis Buchholtz, President of Communication Site Management and Contract Manager for Ozaukee County radio upgrades; Sixto Hernandez, Buchholtz CSM LLC; Scott Ziegler, Emergency Management Director; Jack Sculley, L3 Harris; Rodney Philgren, L3 Harris; Craig Czarnecki, Port Washington Police Dept.; Bill Esselmann, Newburg Fire Department; Jason Dzwinel, County Administrator; Wayne Lambrecht, Ozaukee County Sheriff's Office; Brandon Boettcher, Mequon Fire Department; Kurt Zellmann, Mequon Fire Department; and citizens Jim Densow, Karen Densow, James Schuh, and Sharon Schuh.

Excused: Josh Borden

Absent: Rick Nelson

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

3. Approval of October 7, 2021 Minutes.

Motion by Joe Laurin, second by Jim Albrinck to accept the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Public Comments/Correspondence/Communications

Under public comment Karen Densow requested that alternative methods of building a radio tower be considered for the site in the Town of Erin.

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

Rodney Philgren reported that the installation of the mobile radios has been in progress since September. Mequon should be completed this week followed by Belgium and Thiensville next week. The installations have been gradual to avoid overloading the system and time it takes to install the mobile radios.

Mark Kastens asked when the portable radios will be provided to the end users. Shawn Anderson advised that the programming of the portable radios is in progress and expected to be completed in mid-January. Jim Albrinck asked about the distribution of the portable radios. Dennis Buchholtz advised they will start with the Sheriff's Office then check the system for stability. Once that is confirmed portable radios will be distributed to the other agencies.

Bill Rice remarked that portable radios continue to fail during emergency calls and is not sure why the mobile radios are being installed first. Bill emphasized the need to get portable radios into the field.

Discussion regarding infrastructure and maintenance contracts.

Shawn remarked that the radio system is still dealing with infrastructure issues related to a lightning strike and UPS failure that occurred last summer. Two system reboots have been completed successfully.

Dan Birenbaum asked if base stations were included in the radio project. Dennis Buchholtz confirmed they were not budgeted for the first part of the project and not included.

6. Status of Harrington State Park Tower

No change

7. MABAS Update

Bill Rice stated the 2022 box cards are being finalized for distribution by the end of the year.

Jim Albrinck asked about communication issues he overheard during the last MABAS call-out. Bill Rice stated there was an issue with MABAS Red. It was discovered that a mobile repeater had been turned off. The issue was resolved upon reactivating the repeater. Bill also remarked that Cedar Grove Fire had reported an issue with IFERN. It's unsure what occurred but there were no issues the following morning when units returned to the scene.

8. Washington County Update

Dennis provided an updated on the radio towers. All sites have been locked in except for two. They are working on a plan to return back to the original pit site location but still need approval from the Town of Erin.

Jim Albrinck asked if Washington County was planning on abandoning the high band system. Dennis confirmed that is the plan. Jason Dzwinel added that the long-term goal is to line up Washington and Ozaukee County systems for interoperability.

10. Set next Meeting Date and Time

Next meeting set for February 10, 2022 at 2:30 p.m.

11. Adjournment

There being no further business, motion by Mark Kastens, second by Jim Albrinck to adjourn the meeting at 3:05 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

CC: County Clerk
Radio User Group