

RENSSELAER COUNTY RADIO COMMITTEE

- ** Rensselaer County Public Safety Building, 4000 Main Street, Troy, New York 12180 518 270-4160 **
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REPRESENTING RENSSELAER COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS AND AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION

Mark Lacivita, Chairman Dave Jordan, Co-Chairman/Secretary

Web site: <http://sites.google.com/site/rensselaercountycommunications/home>

Radio Committee Meeting: Held at Defreestville Fire Station, (S/9) on June 20, 2018

Attendance: D Basle (*Batt 3*), A Manchester (*EMS-BPS*), R McClave (*Batt 5*), T Grant (*Co Legislature*), P Glasser (*BPS*), J Thomas (*BPS*), D Valyou (*Batt 1*), J Burt (*BPS*), K Allen (*EMS*) I Wager (*BPS*), M Hubbs (*Batt 2*), T J Spallane (*Hoags Corners FD & Amb*), J Lacivita (*East Greenbush chiefs*), M Drinkwine (*Batt 2*), G Myers (*Batt 2 – BPS Training*), B Stewart (*Batt 3*), M Lacivita (*Chairman*), D Jordan (*co-chairman*).

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Lacivita, at 1900.

1.) Reports

Director BPS – No report.

Deputy Director – No report, will comment as we go thru the agenda

Communications Center supervisor – No report..

Fire coordinator – No report.

EMS Coordinator – No report.

Policy & Procedures – comments later.

Law Enforcement – No report.

Highway – No report.

RACES – No report.

2.) Update/Status reports / Ongoing Issues

- Looking to make contact with North Chatham FD for equipment; Greenwich FD training is coming up.
- 911 Center Update – Work is pretty much done, and now removing old equipment; and contract with a recycling company.
- Project Update sheets from the Bureau dated 6/10 were handed out, this is what was sent out to departments.
- Todd Smith is handling the box alarms. They will get reviewed before taking effect; not always the same day.
- Tri-Tech – Changing over hierarchy, affects the way we do business. Not splitting calls, use of IAR [I Am Responding]. All information the same with exception of police. Testing started to include numbers, time stamp – web browser. Fire departments can go into it, view your information, specific to your agency. Many to be tested, starting with station 1 (Averill Park). The “Rip-and-run, computer or Fax, requires an IP address (a print file). Albany goes live next week. There’s much going on in CAD.

- IAR – call sent to IAR address, then goes out to individuals. Will keep data base, but only use the address.
- Paperwork sent to the county attorney for sign-off on the 800 system. The county executive will need to sign as well.
- Police agencies are expected to be up on 800 system by September 5, with the exception of Troy and Rensselaer. This will affect scanning capabilities. The system will have no fire and EMS availability to police / law enforcement {Can't monitor 800}. Some agencies like East Greenbush and North Greenbush Police might have a town-wide radio frequency; their initiative.
- Multi-agency interoperability: Have met with Albany and Schenectady counties. A share resources using one system. Very preliminary; talking with NY state.
- Control stations connect – waiting on Albany, there will be swap keys in order to patch. This includes licenses, and will be a benefit for going out of county (i.e. going to Mechanicville).
- New alert tone in Motorola console, and developing an “All-Out” evacuation tone to be heard from dispatch.
- Authorized Radio identifiers – Must be approved (before use by agency), letter requesting use should be sent to Fire or EMS coordinator. We will need to enforce or discipline to keep under control. Consoles will show the UID (unit identifier), and will need to maintain these ID's in the computer to further identify. Each department should maintain the location or identity of a radio for this...Move a radio to another unit, need to identify this.
- .Training – Glenn Myers was appointed to the radio committee for training. Berlin and Hoosick will get training, Glenn will contact those chiefs to set up a class; Greenwich FD is waiting for a class as well. It was mentioned with the closing of the Easton FD, we need to check on our radio inventory.
- The Bureau of Public Safety web page has links for forms and is doing pretty good!
- The system acceptance is expected to be about September – October.
- All mobile installations have to be completed by 8/31. After that the project will be “wrapped up” and agencies will then pay on their own.
- Any radio problems, contact P Glasser. Please include date, time location, mobile or portable when reporting issues. He will verify issues and investigates the complaint before contacting Wells Communications. He will respond back to any complaints within ten days. (He will verify receiving – pagers, etc.) .
- They will be testing some areas of Hoosick on Monday.
- EFJ equipment is “decommissioned” and going thru a punch list / audit check list {safety issues and in our best interest}
- VHF paging – a few complaints received being checked. One concern was that of low volume – it was mentioned that the use of headsets, which also is paired to the phone too sometimes get turned down , with the level of volume, and not always gets turned up in time (outgoing volume). They are looking to get a new component that affects the outgoing volume. The tones are different than voice.
- Inter-Op meetings – Waiting to meet with Bennington, VT, Have met with Columbia, Albany and Schenectady counties.

- Discussion on Policy & Procedures {Review of work sheet, handed out}. It was mentioned that the work group make recommendations to the Radio Committee, and the radio committee forward approved recommendations to the Bureau.
- Discussion on the way the mobile radios are programmed; recommendation to not change it, it would revert back to where you were. It should be programmed as to not transmit on the ALERT channel. Also approved was the radio profile where fire radios can monitor EMS, and EMS can monitor fire (ZONE 5 position) A **motion was made** by R MCCLave to accept the Policy and Procedure recommendations by the work group and is to be forwarded to the Bureau for approval. **Motion was seconded** by B Stewart; all in favor and motion carried.
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3). Other items:

- It was mentioned that contact information need be sent to the Bureau to keep up to date.

Adjournment - Meeting concluded at 2010

4.) Meeting Schedule

Our next Radio Committee meeting – 8/15/18 – at station 17 (Hoosick Falls), other locations yet to be determined.

Other meeting dates are: 10/17, and 12/19

Respectfully submitted,
Dave Jordan
Co-Chairman, Secretary