

Rensselaer County Radio Communications Committee

Meeting Minutes

June 29, 2022 in-person and via Zoom

In attendance: M. Lacivita, Chair; D. Jordan, Co-chair; P. Glasser, BPS; M. Hubbs, Battalion 2; J. Thomas, BPS; A. Haley, Batt 5; J. Lacivita, EGB; D. Valyou, Batt 1; B. Maloney, Legislature; D. Basle, Batt 3; P. McCooey, Averill Park FD;

Via Zoom: M. Church, Taconic Valley; M. Sheline Jr., Batt 1; Castleton Ambulance

1) Reports

- a) Director – no report
- b) Deputy Director
 - i) Vote in the Legislature regarding funding for new APX Next LMR/LTE radios expected in August.
 - ii) Affected fire departments have been notified; local Law Enforcement and RCSO will also receive these new radios to replace outdated radios
 - iii) 50 new portables have been delivered based on requests received with the approved formula applied; BPS has several battery chargers, single & gang, available.
 - iv) There are 25 mobile radios available from the initial new system order.
 - v) A question was raised regarding the availability of the new LMR/LTE portable radios for EMS, specifically Hoosic Valley Rescue and North Greenbush. EMS needs will be reviewed in the future
 - vi) The Administrative Secretary in BPS has retired.
 - vii) Bureau offices will be relocating to the new county office building in East Greenbush.
 - viii) Communications Center Supervisor John Mainello is handling day-to-day operations at the 911 Center.
- c) Fire Coordinator – no report
- d) EMS Coordinator – no report
- e) Law Enforcement – no report
- f) Highway – no report
- g) RACES – no report

2) Update / Status Reports / Ongoing Issues

- a) NYSTEC
 - i) As noted by the Deputy Director, a vote in the Legislature regarding funding for LMR radios expected in August. This is consistent with the report to address the identified areas lacking appropriate portable radio coverage
- b) TriTech/CAD
 - i) Albany & Saratoga counties replacing their CAD Systems. This had been a 3-county system and the CAD Vendor has not met their contractual obligations.
 - ii) Records Management System is not up and running, CAD is not affected.
 - iii) Rensselaer County is exploring options Looking at other vendors and licensing requirements.
 - iv) Box Alarms/Response Plans on hold pending resolution of CAD
 - v) Field Ops Software also hold for CAD

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- c) I Am Responding (IaR) / Text Messaging
 - i) Agencies are reminded that updates for members are their responsibility.
 - ii) The county updates only for BPS staff and Coordinators.
 - iii) BPS is planning on implementing a Countywide IaR by January 1, 2023. This will cost the county approximately \$28,000. Individual agencies will no longer need to individually subscribe. This plan has not yet been funded.

- d) 800 System Update: All hardware is at PSB, installation scheduled for September

- e) Policy Issues
 - i) Non-compliant radio use (cursing and "CB" type language) continues to be an issue; Battalions are encouraged to assist BPS in addressing compliance with radio standards.
 - ii) Battalions are also encouraged to promote radio training; refresher course is required every three years and should be incorporated into agency drill schedules.
 - iii) EMS agencies especially are reminded of the need for initial & refresher training.

- f) Field Inventory
 - i) Agencies that have not yet complied are receiving reminders; for the system to work as planned and to the benefit of all greater participation is necessary.
 - ii) Still seeking a new intern for the fall semester to assist with data organization and input.

- g) Interoperability
 - i) Talk groups with neighboring counties have been set up and programmed. Still working with Albany County.
 - ii) No recent update from the Law Enforcement group other than that Harris radios are being replaced with ones from Motorola.

- h) Grants
 - i) Four applications are pending including PSAP and interoperability upgrades.

Next Meeting: September 21, 2022 at Stephentown FD

Meeting notes taken by D. Jordan, transcribed by W. Stewart