



NEW HANOVER COUNTY PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS CENTER

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Steve Smith
Director

Memorandum

To: Public Safety Communications Center Policy Board Members
From: Steve Smith, Director
Subject: January 22, 2009 Board Summary
Date: February 2, 2009

A Public Safety Communications Center Policy Board meeting was held on Thursday, January 22, 2009 at 10:00 AM in the Emergency Operating Center, 220 Government Center Drive, Wilmington, North Carolina.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sterling Powell
Michael Core
Warren Lee
Brenda Hewlett
Jerry Brewer
William Younginer
Tom Eason
Leslie Stanfield
Dorian Flowers
Todd Curry

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Robbie Matheson, Excused
Andre' Mallette, Excused
Sharon Braxton, Excused?
Robert Matheson, Excused?
Ron Jordan, Excused?

GUESTS:

Helen Nelson, NHC IT
Jan Kavanaugh, NHC IT
Debora Cottle, NHC Public Safety
Wayne Pearce, NHC Emergency Management
Bob Hamlin, Federal Engineering
Robert Llorca, Motorola
Mike Cavalluzzi, Motorola/Wireless
Andrew Curd, Motorola
Jason Adams, Motorola/Wireless

Chairman Powell called the meeting to order at 10:13 A.M.

Chairman Powell asked if everyone had reviewed the December 11, 2008 minutes and if anyone had any questions, comments, changes or deletions. Chairman Powell asked if there was a motion to approve the minutes, Warren Lee made a motion and Chief Younginer seconded. Motion approved.

Old Business:

Rebanding:

Chairman Powell stressed the importance of the agency members to send a representative to the Board meetings as it is on a timeline. Please let them know that it is important to attend these meetings if you see any of the Board members.

Warren asked if the department heads that are members can be sent a copy of the minutes of the Board Meeting to ensure they are aware of the importance of the meetings and attendance.

Chairman Powell asked if everyone realized there was a standardized template for digital. This is the perfect time for analog to be switched to the standardized template. Does everyone agree with creating a duplicate of the duplicate and have the duplicate as the analog?

Leslie asked if the PS talk group is set up in analog. Jason said that it was not set up and Leslie said that it would have to be created to be usable. This would be nice as Leslie is not sure where the County is with replacing all radios. This would be easier for the telecommunicators to patch. This may lead to decluttering if everyone takes a look at the templates to get rid of some of the other stuff. Leslie believes it may be more than a year before the Sheriff's Office purchases all the radios. Jerry said that they have purchased about a third of the radios needed.

The County is aware that the radios need to be replaced and it will have to be put forth as a Capital Project, it is just a matter of when it can be accomplished.

Jerry said they have to work out different templates and ideas as some of the guys don't understand the difference between the analog and the digital channels.

Jason stated that there were two analog systems, one on Flemington and one on Seabreeze and to have that duplicated at both how will that be addressed with the radios?

Leslie suggested the Sheriff's Office on the southside group to be the first to go digital so that there will be minimal use on Seabreeze. This would save from creating everything. There would have to be a sit down between the Sheriff's Office and IT to discuss this and the people who need to make that decision will be there.

Brenda asked if the date was still 2010 for the switch and Warren said that it was as far as he knew.

Leslie said that it cost increases each year in maintenance to keep Flemington online after end of life.

Leslie asked if the system had enough capability for those people that needed both north and south in their radios. Jason said that it depended on the model of the radio. This could all be discussed in the planning with the appropriate agencies that require the future migration.

Chairman Powell asked if Fire could be included or another meeting set up for them for the migration and what their needs are before the next Board meeting. Leslie asked what the deadline was for the templates. Chairman Powell stated that the next Board meeting is the cutoff to have the templates. Leslie stated that the meeting was in the works for the Sheriff's Office.

Warren stated that in a meeting last week Pender County requested access to County Fire dispatch and talk groups as well as Dynamic Regrouping and PSCC Roamer talkgroups. Donnie has agreed but since then Warren has discovered that it is not that easy. Pender is on Viper and New Hanover is analog and digital so they will have to work that out to have shared common channel.

Warren stated they are looking into giving the fire people that may be participating in mutual aid a Viper ID so that they are not out of range with digital and they will be in certain areas of Pender and Brunswick.

Leslie asked how many ID's they had for our use. Warren said he had 100 but recently individual agencies have been able to get some on their own. Warren suggested that County Fire check into making application with the State for their own Viper ID's. The form would have to be filled out and they would be issued ID's but they take a look at reasonable numbers of ID's the agencies are requesting. Jason said the thing with Viper is that is not for everyday use for local as it doesn't have the coverage. For the agencies on the Board it is a useful tool for mutual aid or if the digital system goes down.

Chairman Powell asked if we are considering giving Pender County Fire Dispatch and Tactical talkgroups. Warren said yes they were.

Chairman Powell asked how many talkgroups it would take to be functional on their system. Warren said that would be everything on Area 3 of the common template, at a minimum that would be 16.

Chairman Powell asked if there was anything else discussed before this was agreed upon. Jason stated that there needs to be a minimum radio requirement for access.

Chairman Powell made a motion to authorize Pender County to have access to County Fire dispatch and talk groups as well as Dynamic Regrouping and PSCC Roamer talkgroups and use only capable digital radios. Michael Core seconded the motion. Chairman Powell asked if all in were in favor, aye, any opposed, nay. Motion passed

Chairman Powell turned the meeting over to Bob Hamlin with Federal Engineering.

Bob requested everyone review the lists he had and was passing around and verify or update the contact information he had on each person listed.

There are two radios for Carolina Beach that they do not have serial numbers for and they may belong to Operations.

Mike Cavaluzzi said that if anyone gets a replacement radio and they cannot find the radio it is to replace, do not open the box.

Bob showed everyone the form required for reimbursements. He also passed out CD's to each of the agencies of the templates Federal Engineering had to date. The updated templates need to be turned in by the next Board meeting.

Bob asked if they were going to use the standard template and Chairman Powell informed him that is not know until they have the meeting with the Sheriff's Office.

Chairman Powell asked if it was alright if the agencies brought in a standard and a non-standard template at the next meeting. Bob Hamlin said this was a one-time no-charge deal to reprogram the radios. You will also need to turn in the reimbursement forms for time and mileage. Warren and Leslie said this will go to the general fund not the individual departments so the County will get reimbursed for your time.

Bob said the forms will be sent again once the reconfiguration starts. They needed to be submitted weekly. If you don't have time, then don't turn in a reimbursement form.

Bob would like to emphasize that February 26, 2009 is the drop dead date. The negotiations have been going on since 2006 and we don't want to have to start re-negotiations again with Sprint/Nextel.

If anyone needs to contact Bob his information is:

Phone: 910-575-0839, Cell: 518-852-9591, bhamlin@fedeng.com

Bob would appreciate if anyone is done with their template before February 26, 2009 that they email it to him.

Chairman Powell asked if anyone had anything else on rebanding. He stated that the timeline is getting critical and the agencies involved needed to get moving.

IT

Chairman Powell asked Leslie to update everyone about IT. Leslie stated that IT had nothing to report.

New Business:

Public Safety Communications Center:

Brenda updated everyone on the Center.

- The monthly stats went out by email.

- There are two full-time positions and two part-time positions to fill to be fully staffed.

Brenda passed out a CD for the members to review. It is a review of the past year for the center.

Chairman Powell asked if there could be a patching training at the next meeting if possible.

Chairman Powell adjourned at 11:20 A.M.