



NEW HANOVER COUNTY PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS CENTER

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Steve Smith
Director

Memorandum

To: Public Safety Communications Center Policy Board Members
From: Brenda Hewlett, Acting Director
Subject: September 27, 2007 Board Summary
Date: October 1, 2007

A Public Safety Communications Center Policy Board meeting was held on Thursday, September 27, 2007 at 10:00 AM in the Emergency Operating Center, 220 Government Center Drive, Wilmington, North Carolina.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sterling Powell
Andre' Mallette
Sharon Kane
William Younginer
Warren Lee
Leslie Stanfield
Tom Eason
Wayne Pearce
Cynthia Deacon
Robert Matheson
Ron Jordan
Jan Kavanaugh
Brenda Hewlett
James Moore
Michael Core
Jerry Brewer

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Steve Smith, Excused
Brian Roberts, Excused
Donnie Hall, Excused

GUESTS:

Jason Adams, Wireless Communications
Tommy Pope, Wireless Communications
Debora Cottle, NHC Public Safety Communications Center

Chairman Powell called the meeting to order at 10:06 A.M.

Chairman Powell asked if there were any questions, comments or changes regarding the August 23, 2007 minutes. No one had any comments or changes. Motion to approve minutes made by William Younginer and seconded by Tom Eason. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS:

800 MHz System

Chairman Powell asked if Warren Lee could give an update and Warren informed everyone that they were waiting on pricing from Wireless Communications for an additional fiber box to connect to give redundant fiber from the closet to the tower. This will separate the fiber since they both run on the same channel.

Chairman Powell asked if they were having problems with digital and Warren said there were issues with the flash upgrade. If you do the flash upgrade it takes you out of analog with the version they sent to Carolina Beach Police Department. Jason will look at the radios for Billy Younginer. Chairman Powell asked if the flash upgrades taking the radios out of digital and Billy Younginer said no that it was the ones that came last year wouldn't do encrypting but they have all their flashes now.

Chairman Powell said that Motorola was absorbed or purchased by a group out of Florida by the name of Coastal Electronics. We are waiting to see how that will work out as far as parts and availability. **(Per Chairman Powell, this should be Radio One, not Coastal Electronics)**

Warren Lee introduced Jason Adams and Tommy Pope who were both here from Wireless Communications.

Ron Jordan asked Jason and Tommy if Wireless having Motorola Rep status and Tommy informed him yes, they had New Hanover, Pender and Brunswick Counties.

Jason said that the radios are P25 capable and they lose the analog functionality for Carolina Beach Police Department and if that is what Billy Younginer wanted. Billy said no and Jason said that he will straighten that out with Andrew and about the secure encryption key.

Chairman Powell asked if it was possible to do both on the radios and Jason said yes that you have to have radios above the XTS or XTL 1500, the 2500 and 5000's will do both. The 1500's will do one or the other.

Tommy said that he has talked to the plant and talked to the right person and was told to deal directly with them so there aren't any problems with the flashes anymore; for example: there is frustration with the flashes being sent for mobiles instead of the portables. Chairman Powell asked if Tommy had a contact, to find out what had been sent to each agency, this would be a big help. Tommy said he would find out what was ordered and check on the status. Chairman Powell asked to be kept posted.

Rebanding Project

The Rebanding Project is on track. Warren Lee is waiting on information from some of the departments that he sent an inquiry out to regarding individual radios subject to scrutiny with the FCC, Motorola and Sprint/Nextel. The radios have an FCC ID that ends in a (47) or (49) determines whether they get flashed or replaced and this is the information Warren is waiting on.

Negotiations with Sprint/Nextel are on track and supposed to be completed and have the agreement with them for what is to be replaced or retuned in place by December 15, 2007.

NEW BUSINESS:

Public Safety Communications Center:

Brenda Hewlett distributed the monthly agency reports to Committee members and gave an update on the happenings in the Center.

- Steve Smith will return from active duty on Tuesday, October 2, 2007.
- Brenda has asked Leslie about AVL and it will wait for when Steve gets back to set up a meeting for those involved.

Chairman Powell wanted to know who else was thinking about going with AVL and Leslie informed everyone that it was important for IT to know so that when they are sizing the server they can be prepared.

Chairman Powell would like to get updates from everyone who is going to use AVL and *asked to have the agenda item added to the October Agenda*. Jan stated that she will bring a quote for everyone so they will know the cost. Leslie stated that it does require an MCT, that is how it communicates back and it has to be a newer model, not a (98).

- AT&T brought in an independent contractor with out notifying Brenda or Warren. Brenda came down to the Center and found him going through the equipment room. They spoke with Warren and wanted to see where the electrical panel and the main power came into the building. The issue he identified is that the electrical ground went to the UPS not to the main ground. Warren did not want him to do anything without Inspection approval as the drawings are stamped electrical plans that have been approved and not to do anything in this area without approval.
- The 9-1-1 Center dispatched 37,792 calls for service during the month of August 2007.

IT

Jan stated that she and Debora have been working on unit recommend for County Fire. The first demo group is set for next week for Donnie Hall and then it will be demoed again to bring in some of the chiefs and volunteers from the stations.

Chairman Powell stated there was an issue with the EMS side with unit recommend. One of the Wrightsville Beach squads is not being recommended to be dispatched. Brenda stated that was not correct. The unit thought they were part of EMS when in fact they are part of Fire. Chairman Powell was not included on the memo. He would like the issues of changes brought to the Board for discussion.

Chairman Powell reiterated that each agency make sure they attend or make sure the alternate attends to stay informed of the issues.

Chairman Powell adjourned the meeting at 10:29 A.M.