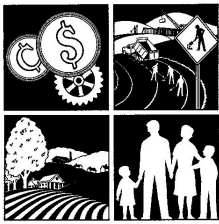


Franklin Regional Council of Governments

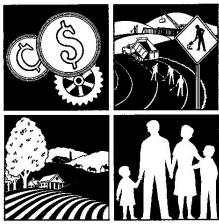
Meeting Minutes: Franklin County Emergency Communication System Oversight Committee			
Date	September 15, 2011	Location	Greenfield Police Station 321 High St Greenfield, MA
Time	10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Duration	2 Hours
		Facilitators	Walter Tibbetts, Chair
		Call in # PIN Code	

Agenda Items	Action Taken
1. Welcoming Remarks/Agenda/ Introductions	Meeting called to order at 10:00 AM. In attendance were Joe Cuneo, Bob Dean, Terry Dun, Butch Garrity, Chris Blair, Dana Johnson, Bill Perlman, Tracy Rogers, David Sprague, Walter Tibbetts, Bruce Beliveau, and Joe Camden. John Newton and Dave Guilbault were absent.
2. Review/Approval of August 18, 2011 Meeting Minutes	MOTION: Bill Perlman moved to approve the minutes of August 18, 2011 as written. Dana Johnson seconded. Captain Sprague asked to change the word “Shelburne” to “Buckland” in last sentence under item #5, MSP update. Voted unanimously to approve with Captain Sprague’s amendment.
3. Chairman’s Report	None.
4. Member Reports a. Police b. EMS c. Fire d. Dispatch e. Radio System Manager f. Sheriff’s Office g. FRCOG	<p>Police: Chief Blair attended on behalf of Chief Guilbault. No report.</p> <p>EMS: Northfield Ambulance complained their radios are not narrow banded, included Simul-cast radios. If they’re Kenwood radios, we didn’t have anything to do with programming them, so that could be true. Dana is in the process of contacting Linda Moriarty on the status of WMEMS going to narrow banding.</p> <p>Because of a combiner issue, it turned out to be more expensive for BHA to use the Med-10 channel than anticipated. They will have more money in October and will try again then.</p> <p>Fire: Assistance for Firefighters Grant deadline extended to 9/23 5pm. Radios in New Salem and Shutesbury receiving interference. New Salem tower is fine now.</p> <p>Dispatch: Replaced generator at barracks/dispatch center. Dispatch Center rehab done. Now addressing power issues—increasing size of generator. The national communications exercise proved issues they already knew were there. Personnel did a good job during exercise.</p> <p>Radio System Manager:</p> <p>Mt. Toby—Call box system being removed before winter allowing us to move our equipment toward entry area and clean up the space. Bruce would like to coordinate with MSP to re-ground the equipment. MassDOT expressed interest in getting their dish off the tower.</p> <p>Country Hill—Roof still open. Hope to get rubber roof on next week.</p> <p>Borden Mountain—Northeast Utilities replaced roof. Will need diesel in generator before winter. NEU asked who will repair the road. The Committee discussed that others occupy the space, but don’t pitch in. Terry will speak to Major Grady.</p>



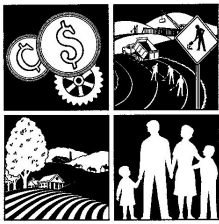
Franklin Regional Council of Governments

	<p>Shelburne Control—CPU had network (NIC) card problem. Easton suggested shipping the CPU back to them. They're repairing.</p> <p>Mary Lyons Repeater—Moving today to roof of Buckland Fire Station. WPCS found an issue with wiring in back and fixed. Audio now much better, but coverage still shaky until move.</p> <p>Spare GPS receiver is out for repair.</p> <p>Preventive maintenance of all generators happening in one day. Terry asked to have transfer switch at Adams Hill tested as well.</p> <p>Preventive maintenance of radio system starts on 10/4 and will take about a week. Will re-sync simulcast as well, which will hopefully address oscillating interference in New Salem and Shutesbury.</p> <p>Received email from Joe Brooks, radio supervisor for the Boston Fire Dept. He would like to add a zone to their radios for interops in case they have to travel out west again. Bruce asked if the Committee support this and what channels would they recommend to be included? The Committee did support it and suggested WMLEC II. Bruce asked if there was any interest in including Boston FD's channels on our radios? The Committee decided it would use UTacs if we get called out there. Tracy will get Russ Sienkiewicz's contact information to Bruce so he can assign an ID to Boston Fire.</p> <p>Vernon Fire wants IDs for mutual aid. Committee approved. Bruce will assign.</p> <p>Colrain—Construction started. Generator moved. Hope to finish site by end of October.</p> <p><u>Sheriff's Office:</u> No report.</p> <p><u>FRCOG:</u> Operating Procedures were officially approved.</p>
<p>5. Old Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Regional Data Sharing Project b. Dispatch Feasibility Study c. PSIC grant/Rt. 202 project d. Colrain Generator 	<p><u>Regional Data Sharing Project:</u> No one present to report.</p> <p><u>Dispatch Feasibility Study:</u> GeoComm meeting 9/22 to present final report. They'll also come back to the FRCOG Council one more time. At the Fire Chiefs' meeting there was strong concern that Greenfield Fire was left out when the different models were chosen to examine. Some of the models exclude Greenfield Fire. The Committee commented that Greenfield's dispatch center was represented in the meetings and that there was a meeting of fire personnel with GeoComm at the Greenfield station. All should be clear that this is just a study, not a decision.</p> <p><u>PSIC Grant/Rt. 202 Project:</u> PSIC microwave bid has been awarded and deals mostly with MSP links. Working with Motorola on Athol site solution. It is still the plan to relocate Simulcast 1 and 2 to Royalston from Mt. Grace.</p> <p>Rt 202—Orange water tower site still in process. EHP study will be released fairly soon. Planning on moving cabinet, fuel tank, and generator from Charlemont to Orange. Homeland Security purchased extra bims so we won't face the end of life issue discussed previously. All but Royalston is now off low-band.</p> <p><u>Colrain Generator:</u> Should we hold onto it? With the Charlemont generator going to Orange, that leaves Colrain as the only spare. Mt. Massamet might be surplus if we're successful in</p>



Franklin Regional Council of Governments

	<p>bypassing it (microwave from Buckland to Grace), but we don't know how soon that might happen. Tracy will explore getting the Colrain generator and tank from Northeast Utilities.</p>
<p>6. New Business a. Double Door in Erving</p>	<p>Double Door in Erving: Bruce asked if the Committee wanted to spend \$3500 (\$1450 for materials, \$2050 for labor) to replace the door in Erving. The current door is allowing mice and insects in and is a security risk. He will also add a drip edge over the door too, to protect it. Dana Johnson moved to replace the door using funds from the capital account with an amount not to exceed \$3500. Joe Cuneo seconded the motion and it was carried by a unanimous vote.</p>
<p>7. Business Not Reasonably Anticipated 48 Hours Prior to the Meeting</p>	<p>Bruce reported that it takes a handheld programmer to modify the alarm system box we own, which is \$300, and it would save us future calls to Easton for assistance. He requested permission to purchase the programmer. Dana Johnson moved to allow the purchase. Bill Perlman seconded the motion and it was carried by a unanimous vote.</p> <p>Terry reported that the Homeland Security funding has been cut 50%. The Committee should think now about significant expansion before the money runs out. Members should get their ideas directly to Terry. Some discussion occurred about address the holes in coverage, such as in Ashfield. It was suggested that Bruce try to define these holes during the preventive maintenance process. The Committee asked Tracy to issue a survey to departments to identify where they have experienced holes in coverage. Bruce will assist.</p> <p>Bruce had heard a report from Ken Short that the backup consoles at Shelburne Control don't work very well. Butch reported that they work fine.</p> <p>Tracy reported that she will be attending a meeting with DCR re the MOA for their sites and asked if anyone would be available to join her. The Committee thought the issue was already taken care of. Since we allow DCR to use our system, those should be considered our in-kind services.</p> <p>Tracy reported that she is considering proposing to Homeland Security that she conduct a regional after action review of the response to Tropical Storm Irene. The Committee suggested the AAR focus on how well the <i>regional</i> response operated.</p> <p>The Committee discussed what needs to be done for Turners Falls Fire Dept. so their paging can get off of Simulcast. Turners is the only community that is currently paging on their own. They say they can't get coverage off Country Hill to be able to get paging. The new fire chief talked about putting a regional frequency in using his own funds, which would mean us losing control of the network. Bruce will look into how to fix paging issue.</p>
<p>8. Wrap Up, Next Meeting and Adjournment</p>	<p>The next meeting will be held on October 20th at 10AM at the Greenfield Police Station.</p> <p>MOTION: Butch Garrity moved to adjourn the meeting. Joe Cuneo seconded. Meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.</p> <p>Minutes taken by Tracy Rogers.</p>



Franklin Regional Council of Governments

9. List of Documents
Considered in the
Meeting

- Minutes of August 18, 2011 meeting