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Police Department

**OZAUKEE COUNTY EMERGENCY DISPATCH TASK FORCE
January 22, 2014
Mequon City Hall
11333 N. Cedarburg Road**

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Chief Steve Graff at 2:04 p.m.

Members present were:

Bialk, David	Mequon (Fire Chief)	Nicholson, Scott	Thiensville (Police Chief)
Frank, Thomas	Cedarburg (Police Chief)	Rice, William	Grafton (Fire Chief)
Graff, Steve	Mequon (Police Chief)	Szymborski, Lee	Mequon Administrator
Grams, Mark	Port Washington Administrator	Vansholtz, Jeffrey	Cedarburg (Fire Chief)
Hingiss, Kevin	Port Washington (Police Chief)	Wenten, Charles	Grafton (Police Chief)
Meaux, Thomas	Oz. Co. Administrator		
Mertes, Christy	Cedarburg Administrator		

Interested persons:

Albrinck, Jim	Radio Users Group
Anderson, Shawn	Oz. Co (Radio Services)
Dwinzel, Jason	Oz. Co. (Asst. Co. Administrator)
Wollin, Rick	radio service supporter at Oz. Co.

1. Review of Minutes of December 11, 2013, Meeting

Action: Motion to approve the meeting minutes December 11, 2013 (Meaux/Mertes).

Result: Vote: 12 aye, motion approved.

2. Public Comment

Chief Graff opened the meeting to public comment; none was made.

3. Presentation by Harris Corporation: Forward-looking Plan for the Future of Public Communications in Ozaukee County.

The following staff from Harris Corporation participated in the presentation: Mike Lunebach, Sales Engineering Manager/RF Communications; Don Griffis, System Sales Engineer; and Tommy Simmons, Central Region Sales Manager/Public Safety and Professional Communications/RF Communications.

Harris staff noted Ozaukee County uses an 800 MHz EDACS system for their radio communications and described which Harris hardware and software products would assist in migrating from the EDACS system to P25 Phase 1 or Phase 2. Phase 2 uses less antenna sites and more signal, plus cell phones can connect to it, if it is in the area of an antenna. P25 is the North American standard for mobile land radios for public safety. The federal government's plan is to migrate public safety to LTE (Long-Term Evolution) system.

Harris' ISSI (Inner Subsystem Interface) gateway connects with P25 systems manufactured by other vendors; and Harris' portable and mobile radios support EDACS and P25, which would simplify Ozaukee's migration to P25. EDACS systems could still be used by bus drivers, school systems, etc.

Harris' technology is able to transmit two simultaneous conversations on a single radio channel using three antenna sites in the county: Belgium, the Justice Center, and Mequon.

Issues with poor radio coverage in Cedarburg were reviewed with Harris staff noting the city is located in a low geographical area with stone buildings and/or buildings with tin ceilings and/or walls. Harris staff recommended using the digital mode on the radios (vs. the analog mode), which would allow clearer communications. They also found Ozaukee's southern antenna pointed toward Milwaukee (the direction had been changed three years ago), which affects the quality of radio communications. Harris staff recommended replacing it with an Omni-directional antenna. Mr. Anderson stated a new antenna should arrive the first week of February.

Harris' Voice Interoperability Data Access (VIDA) is a core network offering video surveillance, GPS mapping, data, over-air radio programming, and interoperation to any agency. VIDA is available in three levels, going from a low-cost entry point for small systems (VIDA Foundation) to very large, multi-region systems (VIDA Enterprise). VIDA Enterprise utilizes less hardware, less power, and less shelf space. Using VIDA, agencies are able to first upgrade consoles or first upgrade radios or first upgrade to a BeOn application. Symphony HW/Maestro SW consoles, at \$30,000 per dispatch position, are used with P25 radios and have the same look and feel as the old consoles (no retraining).

An EDACS migration gateway (EMG) allows communication between users on EDACS and VIDA, up to 24 concurrent calls in each direction, caller ID on calls across the gateway, encrypted call support, etc. The gateway is a temporary device used while moving from EDACS to P25, antennas on the towers can use EDACS and P25, and antennas would not be moved but would be tested to eliminate areas of poor coverage. EMG options can be purchased for \$40,000 or leased for \$7,950 the first three months and \$1,250 thereafter. Software maintenance is provided by Harris as long as EDACS updates are available at no cost.

Discussion: Question: What is the overall cost? Answer: Cost is dependent upon the options chosen. Question: Fire departments utilize portable and mobile radios which must operate on VHF when responding to mutual aid outside Ozaukee and when other departments enter Ozaukee responding to mutual aid. Purchasing two types of radios is not wanted. Currently, Milwaukee and Waukesha counties have radio patches with Ozaukee, but this is not working well. Answer: Two radios is the only solution.

Mr. Anderson stated the current radio platform has a future of ten years, but a five-year timeframe is needed to migrate to P25 to public safety first and then to public works. A partial migration allows the county to utilize equipment and retain spare parts. Cedarburg's lack of radio communications in certain areas will be solved by the installation of equipment on the tower in the next month or so. Pricing has not yet been received.

4. Memorandum of Understanding with Ozaukee County Regarding Hiring a Consultant to Complete an Independent Review of Emergency Dispatch Services

Mr. Meaux stated an outside consultant, reviewing the reports of the three subcommittees and the work of the task force, would analyze and clarify the information, consider any other issues of consolidating emergency dispatch services within Ozaukee County, and present the cost/benefits of dispatch consolidation. Each of the six municipalities on the task force is free to review the study. The consultant along with the task force will present the results of the study to the county board. The county board has agreed to fund the consultant at \$50,000.

Discussion: Question: Does anything specific need to be identified? Answer: Mr. Szymborski stated no, but an overview of an outside group can come to no harm.

Action: Motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with Ozaukee County Regarding Hiring a Consultant to Complete an Independent Review of Emergency Dispatch Services (Grams/Szymborski).

Result: Vote: eight aye, motion approved. The result of the hand vote follows:

<u>Aye</u>	<u>No</u>
Bialk, David	Frank, Thomas
Grams, Mark	Graff, Steve
Hingiss, Kevin	Nicholson, Scott
Meaux, Thomas	Wenten, Charles
Mertes, Christy	
Rice, William	
Szymborski, Lee	
Vansholtz, Jeffrey	

5. Other Business

No other business was brought forward.

7. Next Meeting

Members agreed to meet on Thursday, February 13, 2014, at 2:00 p.m. at the Mequon C. Nuernberg Hall.

8. Adjourn

Action: Motion to adjourn the meeting (Mertes/Szymborski).

Result: Vote: 12 aye, motion approved. The meeting was adjourned at 3:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
CITY OF MEQUON POLICE DEPARTMENT
Nancy Niven, Executive Secretary