



DATE: March 2, 2023

TIME: 10:01 – 11:19 am

LOCATION: 100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032

MD FIRST System Managers Committee

Quarterly Public Meeting

▪ **Members in Attendance**

- John Butts (DNR)
- Jerry Calabrese (MD Judiciary)
- Dave Christner (DNR)
- Tony Clare (Queen Anne's County)
- Shannon Cotton (Towson University PD)
- Andrew Cummins (DNR)
- Paul Duray (MDH)
- Nathan Durman (DNR)
- Willy Gayle (SHA)
- David Green (Carroll County)
- Michael Harrod (Howard County)
- Jim House (MDP)
- Justin Hoyer (Adams County)
- Murray Hunt (DNR)
- Steve Hurlock (Caroline County)
- Richard Jaramillo (MDTA)
- Scott Keener (York County)
- Mike Keiser (Ocean City)
- Yvette Kelly (MD DHS)
- Michael Lamb (Loudoun County)
- Robbie Larimer (Dorchester County)
- Dave Larsen (MDOT)
- Tony Maiese (DPSCS)
- Jack Markey (Frederick County)
- Matt Meekins (Dorchester County)
- Justin Orendorf (Garrett County)

- Tim Perry (Wicomico County)
- Troy Plutschak (Caroline County)
- Donnae Reedy (MTA Police)
- Seth Rhoades (Harford County)
- Bobby Ritchie (Allegany County)
- John Ross (Towson University PD)
- Brad Russum (Kent County)
- Charles Santerra (MPA)
- Jeremy Scheinker (MDEM)
- Brad Shenk (Lancaster County)
- Delawrence Smith (MD DHS)
- Steve Smith (Garrett County)
- Harold Taylor (Howard County)
- Chris Thompson (St Mary's County)
- Dave Tyler (Talbot County)
- Phil Via (Allegany County)

▪ **Board Support Staff**

- Jennifer Zambito (DoIT)
- Brandon Renehan (DoIT)
- Cindy Cole (DoIT)
- Justin Ellingwood (DoIT)
- Pat King (DoIT)
- Curt Andrich (DoIT)
- Charley Bryson (DoIT)

Call to Order – 10:01 am

Review Minutes from 12/1/2022– Brandon Renehan

Proposed Motion: The System Managers Committee approves the minutes from the December 1, 2022, meeting.

Moved – Phil Via (Allegany County)

Second – Tony Clare (Queen Anne's County)

The vote was taken, and the minutes were approved.

Yea – Consensus

Nay – 0

Abstain – 0

Proposed New Interop User:

Lancaster County, PA: Representing Lancaster County was Communications Brad Shenk. Lancaster has ~7000 UHF radios county-wide, the southern county fire departments would like interoperability with mostly Cecil and Harford counties. Initially this will be ~6 TDMA radios for fire/EMS units. They are planning to purchase an additional 7/800 MHz-capable radios that will be TDMA capable.

Proposed Motion: System Managers Committee suggests approval of Lancaster County, PA application to become a Communications Interoperability User on Maryland FiRST.

Motion – Nate Durman (DNR)

Second – Seth Rhoades (Harford County)

The vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

Yea - Consensus

Nay – 0

Abstain – 0

Project Status Update & Coverage Improvement – Jen Zambito

Jen presented a project status update and coverage improvement status, reporting the following: The Enhanced Interzone Cutover was complete 1/2023. Phase 5 will go live on our target date April 19, 2023. MD FiRST and Motorola are beginning work for the T1 to Ethernet conversion for Phases 1-4. A review was presented of the coverage improvement accomplishments and plans from FY21 – FY24 (Carroll County Simulcast cell, La Vale, Swallow Falls, Greenbrier SP, Davidsonville, Cumberland, Patapsco, Queenstown, Elmer School Rd). In addition, FY21-FY29 has a proposed total of ~28 new sites.

The coverage improvement locations are based on testing and input for the users. Managers and Users were asked to use the MD FiRST App for reporting all coverage issues. This is very helpful in testing and identifying coverage issues. <https://forms.gle/EkpDvQBK8qMXsDhr9>

Program Coverage Improvement – Brandon Renehan

Brandon presented on the Coverage Improvement Program testing and enhancements to Klej Grange and Waste Treatment (Howard Co) as well as other sites.

There were no action items based on his brief.

Operations Status Update – Brandon Renehan

Brandon presented an Operations Status brief: System is up to almost 95,000 users and close to 3M Push-To-Talks (PTT). In addition to these stats, tracking will begin on some additional metrics such as site utilization.

An update was given on the Critical Connect/Smart Connect pilot program. This pilot program requires volunteers from this committee to review SOPs, usage, etc., please contact Brandon with volunteer names and contact information.

Potential cellular interference testing continued. Motorola is doing more internal testing and will get back to MD FiRST with potential mitigation options. MD FiRST does have some results that can be shared, please contact Brandon to make a request.

There were no action items based on his brief.

MD FiRST Redundancy Overview – Brandon Renehan

A MD FiRST Equipment, Backhaul, Backup Power and LMR redundancy overview was provided.

Open Discussion/Good of the Order

Tim Perry/Wicomico Co. – Trying to schedule an Anritsu Master Certification class, need 8 students and only currently have 6. This is a 4-day class, \$2499 fee, it will be held in Wicomico Co. A date and site location can't be defined until all 8 seats are filled. Please send Tim an email if you are interested in this class:
tperry@wicomicocounty.org

Charley Bryson/MD FIRST invited everyone to the April 26, 2023, Region 20 Meeting to be held at Crownsville, including deployable trunking equipment on display in the parking lot and PACE training in the afternoon. For all that have 4.9GHz licenses, there will be 2 new requirements to keep this license, please contact Charley with any questions regarding these license requirements. For those who want to be on the Region 20 mailing list, please contact Charley to be added to this list at charles.bryson@maryland.gov

Brandon Renehan/MD FIRST announced that University of Maryland (College Park) Police Department is now live on MD FIRST. Please contact Brandon if you want a Talkgroup sharing agreement.

Closing/Adjournment

Proposed Motion - I move that we adjourn and reconvene June 1, 2023

Moved – Mike Harrod (Howard County)
Second – Seth Rhoades (Harford County)

The vote was taken, passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 11:25 am.

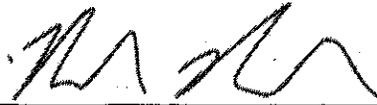
Yea – Consensus

Nay – 0

Abstain – 0

Chairman System Manager Committee APPROVAL:

(Signature & Date)



6/15/2023

Director of Board APPROVAL:

(Signature & Date)

