



DATE: September 1, 2022

TIME: 1:00 – 2:28 pm

LOCATION: 100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032

MD FIRST System Managers Committee

Quarterly Public Meeting

▪ Attendees

- Andrew Cummins (DNR)
- John Butts (DNR)
- Larry Miedzinski (St Mary's County)
- Bud Frank (SWIC / MSP)
- Bobby Ritchie (Allegany County)
- Tony Clare (Queen Anne's County)
- Jeremy Scheinker (MDEM)
- Justin Orendorf (Garrett County)
- Robbie Larimer (Dorchester County)
- Phil Via (Allegany County)
- Tim Perry (Wicomico County)
- David Larsen (MDOT)
- Nate Durman (DNR)
- Dave Tyler (Talbot County)
- Shannon Cotton (Towson)
- James Hamilton (Worcester County)
- Korey Rounds (Cumberland PD)
- Steve Hurlock (Caroline County)
- Jeremy Magorka (Anne Arundel County)
- Marcos Collins (DHS SSC)
- Daniel Duggan (Garrett County)
- David Green (Carroll County)
- Jared Juliano (Prince William County)
- Chuck Kuhler (Fauquier County)
- Cherie Martin (MTA PD)
- Anjanette McBride (MTA PD)
- Eric Parker (Alexandria)
- Steve Smith (Garrett County)
- Donnae Reedy (MDTA)
- Jack Markey (Frederick County)
- Jerry Calabrese (MD Judiciary)
- John Ashcraft (USFWS)
- Seth Rhoades (Harford County)

▪ Board Support Staff in Attendance

- Norm Farley (DoIT)
- Jennifer Zambito (DoIT)
- Curt Andrich (DoIT)

- Brandon Renehan (DoIT)
- Cindy Cole (DoIT)
- Justin Ellingwood (DoIT)
- Pat King (DoIT)
- Charley Bryson (DoIT)

Call to Order – 1:00 pm

Review Minutes from 6/9/2022 – Brandon Renehan

Proposed Motion: System Managers Committee approves the minutes from the June 9, 2022 meeting.

Motion: Tony Clare (Queen Anne's County)

Second: Phil Via (Allegany County)

Discussion:

The motion passed unanimously.

Yea – Consensus

Nay – 0

Abstain – 0

New Member Considerations

Proposed New Interop Users:

City of Alexandria, VA

Representing the City of Alexandria was Eric Parker, Radio System Manager.

Alexandria requesting to become an Interoperability User on MD FiRST for access to standard interoperability talkgroups and as part of Region 20 Interop Template. City employs a total of ~1,300 subscribers, Fire already TDMA, LE will be upgraded over next 2 years. Initial request is primarily for 7 TDMA consolettes for dispatch center.

Proposed Motion: System Managers Committee recommends approval of the City of Alexandria's request to become a Communications Interoperability User on Maryland FiRST.

Motion – Nate Durman (DNR)

Second – Tony Clare (Queen Anne's County) and Seth Rhoades (Harford County)

Discussion:

The motion passed unanimously.

Yea – Consensus

Nay – 0

Abstain – 0

Fauquier County, VA

Representing Fauquier County, Virginia was Chuck Kuhler, Radio Administrator.

Fauquier County is requesting to become an Interoperability User on MD FiRST. Approximately 930 radios between Fire/EMS and Sheriff's office, all TDMA capable. Desire to include MD FiRST as part of Region 20 Interoperability Template, plan to utilize MD FiRST when assisting with mutual aid to the DC Capital Region.

Proposed Motion: System Managers Committee recommends approval of Fauquier County, VA's request to become a Communications Interoperability User on Maryland FiRST.

Motion – Nate Durman (DNR)

Second – Phil Via (Allegany County), Tony Clare (Queen Anne's County)

Discussion:

The motion passed unanimously.

Yea - Consensus

Nay – 0

Abstain – 0

Prince William County, VA

Representing Prince William County, Virginia was Jared Juliano, Radio System Administrator.

Prince William County requests to become an Interoperability User on MD FiRST. Prince William County is a member of MWCOG, maintains interoperability with multiple MD Counties/Jurisdictions. Looking to add MD FiRST Interoperability Zones to their radio templates to increase capabilities in MD and D.C. ~3500 radios, all TDMA capable.

Proposed Motion: System Managers Committee recommends approval of Prince William County, VA's request to become a Communications Interoperability User on Maryland FiRST.

Motion – Tony Clare (Queen Anne's County)

Second – Nate Durman (DNR)

Discussion:

The motion passed unanimously.

Yea - Consensus

Nay – 0

Abstain – 0

Proposed New Limited-Primary User:

United States Department of Interior, Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS)

Representing USFWS was John Ashcraft, Zone Fire Management Officer.

USFWS is requesting Limited-Primary status on MD FiRST with 2 talkgroups to support prescribed fire operations and other special events as needed. Responsible for wildland fire management on all USFWS lands located in MD (Dorchester, Wicomico, Kent, Anne Arundel, and Prince George's counties). USFWS currently has 17 TDMA-capable subscribers, with a handful of new subscribers for future growth. Interested in Talkgroup Sharing Agreements with DNR, Counties previously mentioned.

Proposed Motion: System Managers Committee suggests approval of USFWS's request to become a Limited-Primary User on Maryland FiRST.

Motion – Nate Durman (DNR)

Second – Tony Clare (Queen Anne's County)

Discussion:

The motion passed unanimously.

Yea - Consensus

Nay – 0

Abstain – 0

MD FiRST Project Status Update – Jennifer Zambito

Jen presented a project status update, there were no action items based on her brief.

Coverage Improvement Program – Jennifer Zambito, Brandon Renehan

Jen and Brandon presented a coverage improvement program brief, covering proposed new RF Sites and enhancements to existing sites. There were no action items based on the brief.

Operations Status Update – Brandon Renehan

Brandon presented an operations status brief. Brief covered updated system usage statistics, interoperability trends.

Brief also included the following topics:

Active / Recent Maintenance Activities

CISA Cybersecurity Assessment Results

Greenbury Pt Site-Adjacency Issue Resolution

Safety Drive Antenna Reconfiguration Results

Critical Connect / Smart Connect Pilot

MD FiRST A2021.1 System Upgrade Effort

Open Discussion/Good of the Order

Worcester County provided an update regarding their plans to change out frequencies used on their system in effort to mitigate interference received during atmospheric ducting events.

Closing/Adjournment

Proposed Motion – Motion to adjourn and reconvene December 1, 2022

Motion – Seth Rhoades (Harford County)

Second – Phil Via (Allegany County)

Discussion:

The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 2:28 pm.

Yea – Consensus

Nay – 0

Abstain – 0

Chairman System Manager Committee

APPROVAL:

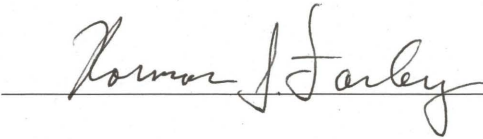
(Signature & Date)



12/7/2022

Director of Board APPROVAL:

(Signature & Date)

 12/7/2022