MD FIRST System Users Committee

Quarterly Public Meeting

- **Members in Attendance**

    - Andrew Cummins, Officer, MNRP
    - Bobby Ritchie, Chief, Lonaconing Fire Department Allegany County
    - Christopher Parker, Officer, MNRP
    - Curtis O'Neil, Lt. (Garrett County Emergency Services)
    - Dan Dougan, Lt. (Garrett County Sheriff)
    - David Larsen, MDOT
    - Harold Taylor (Howard County)
    - John Butts, Officer, MNRP
    - Joshua Bosley, EMS Captain, Cresaptown Fire Department, Allegany County
    - Korey Rounds, Lt., Cumberland City PD
    - Phillip Via, Radio System Manager, Allegany County
    - Seth Rhoades (Harford County EOC)
    - Shannon Cotton, Sergeant, Towson University PD
    - Shawntae Privette   (UMDB)
    - Steve Smith, Chief (Grantsville Fire, Garrett County)
    - Major Doanne Reedy, MDTA

- **Board Support Staff in Attendance**

    - Pat King (DoIT/Chairman)
    - Norm Fairly (DoIT)
    - Brandon Renehan (DoIT)
    - Justin Ellingwood (DoIT)
    - Jennifer Zambito (DoIT)
    - Curt Andrich (DoIT)

Call to Order – 11:25 am

Review Minutes from 3/2/2023– Pat King

A correction to the minutes was proposed: the motion to reconvene should be corrected to read June 21, 2023.

Proposed Motion: The System Managers Committee approves the minutes from the March 2, 2023, meeting.

Moved – Andrew Cummins/MNRP

Second – Phil Via/Allegany Cty

The vote was taken, and the minutes were approved.

Yea – All

Nay – 0

Abstain - 0

Questions/Discussion MD FiRST Project Status Update – Patrick King

No discussion

Questions/Discussion MD FiRST Project/Program Coverage Improvement – Patrick King

No discussion

Questions/Discussion MD FiRST Operations Status Update – Patrick King

No discussion

Old Business

Regarding past discussions about trying to standardize the use of interoperable zone across disciplines is still concern and goal for our committee. The MD TACS are regularly monitored, and interoperability is improving in Maryland. One example of this - the day Phase 5 went live there was a task force following a suspect going south on 95 from Baltimore City into Howard County. This included a Baltimore City helicopter, an unmarked vehicle with police/detectives and they were running the operation on a MD TAC channel. The car being followed takes exit 198 into Prince George's County where the police eventually caught to vehicle. The timing was critical because Prince George's County, on Phase 5 had only been live for about 15 minutes.

A position paper on the Standardize Use of Interoperable Zones was created by Harold Taylor/Howard County. Please review this paper and provide edits and comments by the next meeting, September 12, 2023. In discussion some concern was expressed regarding different regions like NCR, varying jurisdictions, MD FiRST defining differing standardization. MD FiRST provides SOPs, SOGs for any users on MD FiRST, but not CMARC, NCR, exit. The SWIC could work with all of these groups in an effort to bring these varying standards together and consistent. The region 20 template that has been available for a year has helped with this situation.

The finalized position paper on standardization will be presented to the SWIC when the position is filled.

New Business

Elections for Chair and Vice Chair will be during the next meeting in September. Nominations for both positions are open and will be considered during the next (September 2023) meeting.

The purpose of this committee is to get LMR users like 911 centers, incident commanders, DNR police, etc. to get the input from the people using the LMRs. The task is to have the Radio Technicians from our System Managers Committee to recruit the actual users to come to these committee meetings.

Contact MD FiRST to take the tactical BDAs into the field to run tests.

Closing/Adjournment

There being no further business to conduct, a motion was considered to adjourn the meeting.

Proposed Motion - I move that we adjourn and reconvene prior to the next RCB meeting on September 20, 2023.

Moved – Andrew Cummins/MNRP

Second – Seth Rhoades (Harford County)

The vote was taken, passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 12:02 pm.

Director of Board APPROVAL: _Norman Farley_   6/30/2023
(Signature & Date)

Chairman of System Users'
Committee APPROVAL:
(Signature & Date)

William Patrick King   6/30/2023