



DATE: September 18, 2019

TIME: 1:00pm-3:00pm

LOCATION: 100 Community Place, Crownsville, Maryland 21032

Maryland Statewide Interoperability Radio Control Board

Quarterly Public Meeting

Voting Members in Attendance

- Michael Leahy (DoIT)
- Sean Powell (Designee for Pete Rahn, MDOT)
- Ted Delbridge (MIEMSS)
- Craig Moe (NCR)
- Bud Frank (SWIC, MSP)
- Clay Stamp (Talbot County)

Board Support Staff

- Norman Farley
- Curt Andrich
- Cindy Cole
- Justin Ellingwood
- Maria Hooe
- Brandon Renehan
- Jennifer Benedictis

Members Not Present

- Tony Rose (Charles County)
- Charles Summers (WAGIN)
- Wayne Darrell (Kent Co.)
- Walter "Pete" Landon (GOHS)
- Colonel W. Pallozzi (MSP)

Call to Order – Secretary Michael Leahy, 1:03PM

Review Minutes from 6/19/2019 – Michael Leahy

Proposed Motion: The Radio Control Board approves the minutes from the June 19, 2019 meeting.

Moved – Sean Powell

Second – Bud Frank

Yea – 5

Nay –

Abstain - Craig Moe

The vote was taken and the minutes were approved.

New Business - Norman Farley

Proposed New Comm Interop User:

NSA Police, Fort Meade, MD

The NSA Police requested to be an Interoperable user on MD FiRST. They would like to enter into Talkgroup Sharing Agreements with the FBI, Kent County and MSP. They have 72 TDMA radios in the region. This application was reviewed and supported by the Operations Committee.

A discussion ensued concerning their desired use of MD FiRST for situational awareness and for multijurisdictional incidents. MD FiRST was not to be used on a daily basis. After the discussion the following motion was made:

Proposed Motion - The Radio Control Board approves the application of NSA Police to become a Communications Interoperable User to Maryland FiRST and authorizes the Chairman to conclude the appropriate MOU with NSA Police.

Moved – Clay Stamp

Second – Craig Moe

Yea –All

Nay –

Abstain –

The vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

SOP- Talkgroup Sharing Agreements SOP #8:

A new proposed SOP concerning the development and management of Talkgroup Sharing Agreements (TSA) was introduced. The SOP established the documentation of TSAs and requires that copies be provided to the System Manager as a central repository. The SOP sets the policy that only a Primary User may enter into a TSA, of its own talkgroups, with another Primary or Interop User. The SOP had been reviewed and approved by both the Eastern and Western Ops Groups.

A short discussion ensued concerning the need and purpose of the SOP. After the discussion the following motion was made:

Proposed Motion - The Radio Control Board approves the adoption of SOP 0.08 "Talkgroup Sharing Agreements".

Moved – Bud Frank

Second –Sean Powell

Yea – All

Nay –

Abstain -

The vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

System Performance Reports - Brandon Renehan

Brandon Renehan provided a System Performance Report. Currently there are 20,441 primary users on the system and another 43,168 interoperable users. There were 2 busies in June, one busy in July, and zero busies in August. We have reports from Delaware that moving forward all their radio purchases will be TDMA, however it could take up to 10 years to replace all their FDMA radios. All border counties outside of MD understand our TDMA requirements. The number of maintenance cases has been relatively stable during this period.

Project Status Update – Curt Andrich

- Phase 4 Status – Table Rock bids are due for tower construction on September 24, 2019--anticipated completion is spring 2020.
- Phase 5 Status- Backhaul and LMR equipment going into the field. Phase 5 is going in as Ethernet, adding to redundancy and network resiliency. Completion expected by the end of 2020. Several existing towers will require remediation work, as there are new standards for towers.

Nice Bridge- scheduled for completion by the end of October, 2019.

Montgomery County: The goal is to present the procurement to BPW on October 16, 2019.

ASR Sites:

Cherry Town Chicken: The equipment purchase is in the contract modification process (hopefully to be sorted by next week).

Crisfield: DoIT is working with Crisfield and Somerset County on a three party MOU. The shelter is in the proposal review process. The equipment has been procured. The tower is already under construction and the project is moving along well.

Table Rock: The anticipated date of completion is currently spring 2020.

Calvert Cliffs: The tower is built and DoITs equipment will soon be added. This tower will provide coverage across the Bay and should help the southern eastern shore in Dorchester County.

Operations Status Update

- T1 to Ethernet Migration/Budget – DoIT had a productive budget meeting with DBM and DLS – DBM and DLS have concurred on the MD FIRSST Capital budget proposal for Ethernet. Due to the Ethernet cost increase the budget to build additional RF sites in FY 22 & 23 will be cut in half from 6 sites to 3 sites. DBM will plus up the RF site budget in FY 24 & 25 for the building of additional RF sites.
- CEN Upgrade – Equipment has been purchased and most of the labor has been funded.
- Next Major System Upgrade to 7.18 – This upgrade is still on schedule for March 2020.
- Cecilton ASR Site – Currently online. The antennas and placement on the tower did not meet expectations. DoIT is working with Motorola to adjust the antenna location and obtain correct antenna model.
- Cecil County 2-Channel Expansion – Has been successfully completed.
- Cecil County Migration – This was successfully completed at the end of June 2019. Migration went very well and the county is happy with the service.
- UPS Upgrade & UPS Replacement (spares) – 21 RF sites have been upgraded--many of which were in western Maryland or remote locations.
- Ocean City Tower Mapping/Antenna Relocation – DoIT is working to relocate and adjust the height of the antennas to increase coverage. The tower is 115% overloaded and Motorola is estimating \$150k-\$200k to strengthen the tower.
- Garrett County Migration – Some state agencies have loaned consolettes to Garrett. The county is receiving a grant which will permit it to procure subscriber radios for every sheriff deputy. They are working on the 911 center upgrades. County is very pleased with the MD FIRSST coverage.

- Purple Line 2-Channel addition – MTA is funding the augment of system capacity along the Purple line corridor.
- TV Hill RF Site – The Falls Road light rail train station has coverage issues due to the valley effect. MTA will fund a new tower site at TV Hill to provide coverage into the valley.

Operations Committee Status Update - Rich Berg

There were two meetings, one on the Eastern Shore (Aug 29, 2019) and the second in Cumberland, MD (Sept 11, 2019). It was decided that an annual meeting should be held where all statewide members can share ideas, etc. – and perhaps include an educational sharing event or a one-day workshop.
 Curt Andrich: ICTAP used to have money available for organizing an educational event.

Old Business - Norman Farley

- Working Committee to Establish Organization Policies:
 - Craig Moe, David Balthis and Bud Frank will be the working group and will schedule a meeting to discuss the issues of frequency of RCB meetings & remote/virtual attendance and make recommendations.
- Sean Powell announced that Chris Holland has replaced Bud Frank former position at MDOT. MDOT will designate Chris as a voting designee.
- Norman Farley announced that he attended an informative Interoperability Summit sponsored by DC SWIC to discuss the 6-year anniversary of the Navy yard shooting. Norm will send slides to everyone, if the slides are made available. Not only was the lack of interoperable communications a problem, there were problems with first responders self-deploying and then blocking the streets with their vehicles, creating gridlock so ambulances cannot move, etc. There were also issues of who the incident commander was and who was controlling communications.

Closing Proposed Motion - I move that we adjourn and reconvene on December 11, 2019.

Moved – Craig Moe
 Second – Sean Powell
 Yea – All
 Nay –
 Abstain –
 The vote was taken, passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourn.

Director of Board APPROVAL:
 (Signature & Date) Norman J. Farley 12/12/2019

Chairman of Board APPROVAL:
 (Signature & Date) Michael G. Farley 19 Dec 2019