



**DATE:** September 5, 2024

**TIME:** 10:00 – 11:29 am

**LOCATION:** 100 Community Place  
Crownsville, MD 21032

## **MD FIRST System Managers Committee**

### **Quarterly Public Meeting**

#### **▪ Members in Attendance**

- Andrew Cummins (NRP)
- Adam Karsin (USHHS)
- Bethany Brown (DHS)
- Bobby Ritchie (Allegany County)
- Chris Pavon (ATCC)
- Dave Christner (DNR)
- David Larsen (MDOT)
- Dave Tyler (Talbot County)
- Donnae Reedy (MTA Police)
- Harold Taylor (Howard County)
- James Hamilton (Worcester County)
- John Coll (SHA)
- Joseph Dauksys (US HHS)
- JP Garvin (Johns Hopkins PD)
- Justin Hoyer (York County, PA)
- Justin Orendorf (Garret County)
- Ladie Geronimo (JHPD)
- Matt Meekins (Dorchester County)
- Michael Harrod (Howard County)
- Mike Himmer (MDTA)
- Murray Hunt (DNR)
- Phil Via (Allegany County)
- Randall Cunningham (Harford County)
- Robert Larimer (Dorchester County)
- Richard Miller (Univ of MD @ Baltimore PD)
- Steve Hurlock (Caroline County)
- Tiffany Gamble-Sanchez (MD Judiciary)
- Tony Clare (Queen Anne's County)

- Wayne Anderson (WSSC)
  
- **Board Support Staff**
  - Brandon Renehan (DoIT/Chairman)
  - Norm Farley (DoIT)
  - Jennifer Zambito (DoIT)
  - Brandon Renehan (DoIT)
  - Cindy Cole (DoIT)
  - Pat King (DoIT)
  - Justin Ellingwood (DoIT)

**Call to Order – 10:00 am**

**Review Minutes from 6/13/2024– Brandon Renehan**

**Proposed Motion: The System Managers Committee approves the minutes from the June 13, 2024, meeting.**

Moved – Murray Hunt (DNR)

Second – Phil Via (Allegany County)

The vote was taken, and the minutes were approved.

Yea – All

Nay – 0

**Proposed New Interop User**

Bedford County, PA – Represented by Brittany McConnell

Bedford currently has ~200 subscriber radios and mutual aid agreements with Allegany, Garrett, and Washington Counties. They plan to use MD FiRST in TDMA radios only. The initial use will be for Hyndman Volunteer Fire Department with approximately 25 radios. Bedford intends to communicate with mutual aid partners in Allegany County, the City of Cumberland, LaVale VFC, Corriganville VFC, MT Savage VFC, Ellerslie VFC, and others.

*Expected capacity impact: Minimal due to Interop only usage.*

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

Moved – Murray Hunt (DNR)

Second – Dave Christner (DNR)

The vote was taken, and the motion was approved.

Yea – All

Nay – 0

Abstain – 0

**Project Status Update & Coverage Improvement – Curt Andrich**

Curt presented the Project Status and Coverage Improvement update. The talkgroups required for the DC site will be determined when the site goes live. Channel capacity is being added to Howard, Harford and Anne Arundel Counties.

**System Performance/Operations Status Update – Brandon Renehan**

Brandon presented the System Performance and Operations Status update.

**SOP 0.13 Subscriber Decommissioning Procedures and Upcoming SOPs**

Brandon presented SOP 0.13 for the Subscriber Decommissioning Procedures. The committee would like more time to review SOP 0.13 before presenting it to the RCB for approval. Suggestion made to include language for destruction of radios that can not be cleared using normal means. Upcoming SOPs for review and committee approval will be Commercial Aviation/Air-to-Ground Conventional System and updating SOP 5 MD FIRST User Type/Application Process.

**Open Discussion/Good of the Order**

Worcester County has transitioned to new frequencies, reducing the interferences being experienced. Harford County will make a public announcement about their encryption mid-September. Will switch law enforcement to encrypted communications. BWI conducted an active shooter training event. DoIT/MD FIRST participated with other local, state, and Federal agencies. MD FIRST was used for communication during this training event. It was run/hosted by. Customs and Border Control. It was suggested that future events at BWI include MDTA. Mike Himmer provided update regarding MDTA codeplug updates, integration of 3 new talkgroups for VRU / maintenance operations.

**Closing/Adjournment**

**Proposed Motion - I move that we adjourn and reconvene on December 3, 2024**

Moved – Murray Hunt (DNR)

Second – Phil Via (Allegany County)

The vote was taken, passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 11:29 am.

Yea – All

Nay – 0

Abstain – 0

**Chairman System Manager Committee APPROVAL:**  
(Signature & Date)



1/14/2025

**Director of Board APPROVAL:**  
(Signature & Date)

*Norman Farley*

01/14/2025