



DATE: December 1, 2022
TIME: 11:26 – 12:24 pm
LOCATION: 100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032

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
- Nathan Durman DNR/MNRP /Vice Chair, System Managers’ Committee
- Phillip Via, Radio System Manager, Allegany County
- Seth Rhoades (Harford County EOC)
- Shannon Cotton, Sergeant, Towson University PD
- Steve Smith, Chief (Grantsville Fire, Garrett County)
- Major Donnae Reedy, MDTA

▪ Board Support Staff in Attendance

- Norm Farley
- Brandon Renehan
- Cindy Cole
- Justin Ellingwood
- Pat King
- Jennifer Zambito
- Curt Andrich

Call to Order – 11:26 am

Review Minutes from 9/1/2022– Pat King

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

Moved – Officer Cummins (Durman (DNR/MNRP)DNR/MNRP)

Second – Nate Durman (DNR/MNRP)

The vote was taken, and the minutes were approved.

Yea – Consensus

Nay – 0

Abstain - 0

Questions/Discussion MD FiRST Project Status Update – Patrick King

No discussion

Questions/Discussion MD FiRST Operations Status Update – Patrick King

No discussion

Open Discussion/Good of the Order

As a reminder, review your programs for commercial power at your sites: back-up generators, length of battery power, etc. MD FiRST/DoIT replaced generators and battery capacity at our core sites last year for improved power coverage.

MD FiRST/DoIT is now in the planning stages for FY24-25. Any new requests will go into the FY26 budget. We need budgetary proposals and requests as early as possible.

An ongoing challenge is getting MD radio users to switch over to the interoperable channels. This committee can help create policies, provide training, provide on-going communication with first responders to support using the interoperable channels. This committee could make recommendations to the Radio Control Board requesting they help inform counties and agency leaders to better utilize the statewide interoperability. **Examples:** At the Academy trainees must qualify for their weapon, they could have to qualify with their radio as well. DNR officers are not trained to understand how three Zones work or how to use the radio and interoperability. Howard county fire has written in their SOP to use MD TAC channels when in Patapsco area.

ACTION ITEMS:

Harold Taylor (Howard County) volunteered to write a recommendation for this committee and the SWIC.

Nate Durman (DNR/MNRP) to set-up a meeting to review interoperable procedures with MIEMSS and MSP to write up a Talkgroup sharing agreement.

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 March 2, 2023.

Moved – Nate Durman (DNR/MNRP)

Second – Harold Taylor (Howard County)

The vote was taken, passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 12:24 pm.

Chairman of Committee APPROVAL:
(Signature & Date)

William Patrick King

3/3/2025

Director of Board APPROVAL:
(Signature & Date)

Norman Farley

03/03/25