

RADIO COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS COMMITTEE

Sheriff's Office
West Bend, Wisconsin

April 13, 2010
9:01 p.m.

Present: Brian Bausch, Rick Gundrum, Donald Berchem, John Stern, Daniel Goetz, Herbert Tennes, Chief Dean Schmidt, Paul Fahey.

Also Present: Sheriff Dale Schmidt, Bill Kurer, Kim Nass, John Schrader, Mike Hetzel, Bob Klucka, Dominick Arcuri, David Gelyana, Scott Sievert, Dennis Buchholtz, Tom Fiethumel and Helen Neal

Chairperson Stern called the meeting to order and read the Affidavit of Posting.

MINUTES

Moved by Supervisor Tennes, second by Supervisor Goetz to approve the minutes of February 8, 2010.

UPDATE OF COUNTYWIDE RADIO SYSTEMS PROJECT

Scott Sievert – Harris Corp. provided an update on the project. Going with amplifiers is not an option because of the transmit frequencies. Pursuing new frequencies is an option but obtaining concurrence for those frequencies would be difficult. It can be done but would delay the project for 1-2 years, assuming that they were even available. A better option is to increase the signal levels throughout the county on a simulcast system and focus additional coverage of all the affected buildings while maintaining existing coverage in all the other areas. After reviewing multiple design scenarios, trying to get the best coverage for all areas, Harris Corp. came up with what they feel is the best fit.

Major Changes: Harris Corp. would change the antenna at Jefferson from 45 degrees to 150 degrees to increase the talk back. The majority of buildings affected were in the metro area of West Bend. This moves the signal from the northeast corner of the county back to the south to the buildings that were affected. The transmission on the tower was lowered to eliminate TDI. They also will change the receive antenna after going through multiple iterations of receive antenna. They did upgrade Farmington from just a receive site, and it now will also transmit to alleviate a site concern in the upper northeast section of the county. Kewaskum is the lowest area in the county and Harris Corp. had to put a site there to get reception. The receive antenna at Farmington was also changed to receive and transmit. One example of a building that did not pass is the Courthouse and the Jail.

Other criteria Harris Corp. had was to keep the contour throughout the redesign so there would be little or no need to send out letters to get more approvals from different counties and municipalities again. The contour after the redesign is a little less than or the same as the previous testing. No buildings that passed before the redesign will be lost after the redesign. The failed buildings were those just underneath the tower site. With keeping the power low and using a low gain antenna on the transmit side it was kept within the contour. Lovers Lane had the receive antenna changed by increasing the receive antenna there which picked up a lot of the buildings that did not pass before.

Talk out composite shows that all buildings previously not covered would be covered at 20 db. The talk back is the same. It improves with the redesign. Based on 15 db, Germantown and the Town of Wayne, Village of Richfield and the Town of Erin had no changes with the redesign as they had no failed buildings before or after the redesign. Contingencies are St. Joseph and Aurora Hospital, the Courthouse, Jail and the Sheriff's office. If in fact the redesign still does not bring in St. Joseph's, they have a BDA that could be used for frequency F2. If they place the base station at Lovers Lane on F2 frequency and utilize existing BDA already at St. Joseph's Hospital, there would be coverage. The same applies to Aurora Hospital, but a BDA would need to be put in there. This would be a conventional single-channel BDA system solution for these buildings. They could use the repeater with a base station and cover both the Jail and the Courthouse. These options would only be needed in the rare event that the redesign did not cover these buildings.

Scott Sievert asked if anyone had any questions. He was asked, out of the 41 buildings that did not make it before the redesign, which ones are still not going to be covered. The only buildings that would not be covered are all private buildings: Fleet Farm in Germantown, MBW and Carlisle Tire. Harris Corp. fully believes all will be covered except those private buildings that can't even get coverage with 40 db because of the density of the building, small amount of windows and heavy equipment and machinery within the buildings. At this point it is just a guess and Harris Corp. does not know for sure without testing which of the 41 buildings could possibly not be covered.

The redesign does move a bit north but because it is still within the contour of the original design, there should be no problem. Worse case scenario they may need licensing from a few municipalities. This should be cleared up with a second analysis. Harris Corp. is absorbing the costs for the redesign on their part.

Dominick Arcuri from RCC indicated that there may be additional costs involved. If the contour analysis does not show coverage within the same area, additional costs for testing, license work, coordination fees would be necessary. This would be

1 less than \$10,000. An increase in the lease agreement for Farmington is likely because more antennas were put up in that area.
2 No ETA can be given until an analysis could be done to see if letters of concurrence are needed, this could add 2 months to the
3 project. Permits and approvals will add time. It was discussed to move the Sheriff's Dispatch into the new room and consoles
4 because it is holding up the completion of remodeling that was to be completed in November 2009. A question of when the
5 warranty would start if this would happen. Harris Corp. stated the warranties would be staggered as usage increased for each
6 different part of the plan. It is the intent of Harris Corp. to do final testing in full foliage.
7

8 **CLOSED SESSION**

9 It was moved by Chairperson Stern and second by Supervisor Gundrum to convene into Closed Session to discuss the vendor's
10 performance relating to "must cover buildings" under the contract between Washington County and Harris Corp. for the
11 countywide radio project and strategies and options relating thereto. Roll call vote carried.
12

13 **OPEN SESSION**

14 Moved by Supervisor Gundrum and second by Supervisor Goetz to return to open session at 10:44 a.m. Roll call vote carried.
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16 **ACTION ON ITEMS DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION**

17 Moved by Chairman Stern to proceed with the redesign and contract renegotiations with Harris Corp. as discussed in closed
18 session and second by Supervisor Goetz. Motion carried by roll call vote.
19

20 **APPROVAL OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING TO UTILIZE DISPATCH CONSOLES AND**
21 **MICROWAVE LINKS**

22 The Sheriff requested the Dispatch area be able to move into and use the new consoles and microwave links. The move is
23 holding up the final remodel in the Front Office area. According to Beneficial Use Clause, Section 13C of the existing contract,
24 can we use the consoles without the warranty starting? It was discussed that this would be a negotiating contract amendment that
25 should be considered. Moved by Supervisor Goetz and second my Supervisor Bausch to allow the Dispatch area to move into
26 the new Dispatch room and use the new consoles and microwave links as soon as possible. The motion carried.
27

28 **NEXT MEETING DATE**

29 Next meeting will be held on Thursday, May 13, 2010 at 1:00 p.m. Topics to be included on the next meeting
30 agenda will be the RCC update and an update on the progress of the redesign contract with Harris Corp.
31

32 **ADJOURNMENT**

33 Moved by Supervisor Gundrum and Second by Supervisor Goetz to adjourn at 10:55 a.m.
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36

Dale K. Schmidt