

1 **RADIO COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS COMMITTEE**

2
3 Sheriff's Office
4 West Bend, Wisconsin

November 19, 2013
10:30 a.m.

5
6 Present: Daniel Goetz, Rick Gundrum, Brian Krebs, Dennis Myers, Thomas Niebler, Herbert Tennes

7
8 Also present: Sheriff Schmidt, Captain Gonwa, County Purchasing Agent, John Schrader, Chief Groves,
9 and Chief Paul Fahey. Present by phone: Jack Hart, Nick Tusa, and Todd Mechler from Tusa Consulting

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11 Excused: Chief Dean Schmidt

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13 County Board Chair Tennes called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. and read the affidavit of posting

14
15 **MINUTES**

16 Minutes for September 16, 2013 – Moved by Supervisor Niebler and second by Supervisor Gundrum to
17 approve the minutes of September 16, 2013. Motion carried.

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19 **EXPLANATION OF NEED FOR BER TEST - TUSA CONSULTING**

20 Jack Hart presented the updates via telephone. Tusa has completed the propagation; completed the
21 coverage model and the drive testing. Their preliminary study shows there are many adjacent licensed
22 channels in Washington County which could be competing for or interfering with one or more of our
23 channels. The difficulties we've had are intermittent which is congruent with interference by surrounding
24 users on a different channel.

25
26 The BER test and noise floor interference tests would be the two tests suggested by Tusa. As the BER test
27 is very intensive in man-hours, they feel it would be in our best interest to do the noise floor test first. They
28 believe this will tell them where interference is coming from and then the BER test won't even been
29 needed. The noise floor testing will let them know if there is any degradation from inbound traffic.

30
31 Harris was contacted and their charge to do just the BER test would be \$17,000. Tusa feels confident that
32 the right company to hire to do the noise floor test and if necessary, the BER test would be Williams
33 Communications.

34
35 Williams will charge \$8,000 for the noise floor test and Tusa has agreed to pay \$4,000 of this cost.
36 Williams has quoted the price of \$26,280 for both the BER test and the noise floor test.

37
38 Discussion regarding Harris noise floor test resulted in a statement that is over 3 years old and a current one
39 will be better and current for all surrounding licensed channels other than ours. This will also allow their
40 (Tusa) people to be present, along with their engineer. They feel this test will discover our problems and
41 may not need the BER test.

42
43 Williams Communications is ready to go as soon as they get approval from Washington County. Todd
44 Mechler will coordinate the time with them so he will also be present.

45
46 More discussion and requests for costs by Williams, if they do both tests. If both tests were done at once,
47 would we get a discount? Tusa will request this information from Williams; however they don't believe we
48 should just pay for both tests when only one may be needed.

49
50 Discussion on wording of the actual RFP and subsequent contract. It was also disclosed by Tusa that when
51 our frequencies were submitted there may have not been any interference with other channels, however if

1 newer licenses were issued and close attention was not paid to our locations, this may be the cause of our
2 problems. It was stated it was cheaper to change frequencies on a channel or two than to erect a tower.
3

4 It was moved by Supervisor Goetz to go ahead with the noise floor test through Williams Communications,
5 not to exceed \$8,000. Second by Supervisor Gundrum. Vote 5 for; 1 opposed. Motion carried.

6 Tusa will get back with the Sheriff to give start and estimated finish date of this testing. It was anticipated
7 this would be completed and reports submitted to the County by the end of the year.
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9

10 **NEXT MEETING DATE**

11 The next meeting date was not set at this time. It was agreed the next meeting will be determined on noise
12 floor testing and estimated time for Tusa to complete a report on their findings.
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14 **ADJOURNMENT**

15 Moved by Supervisor Gundrum second by Supervisor Krebs to adjourn at 11:58 a.m. Motion carried.
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19 Dale K. Schmidt
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