



TOLLAND COUNTY MUTUAL AID FIRE SERVICE INC.

56 TOLLAND GREEN P.O. BOX 6 TOLLAND CT. 06084

Proudly serving since 1950

Dispatch – 860-875-2543 Operations Director – 860-872-2421 Finance Director – 860-871-8684

Fax – 860-872-0382



Board Report from Radio Committee July 11, 2012

Attendance:

Jack Turner

Wayne Fletcher

Tyler Millix

Mark Dittrich

William Stanek (Consultant)

Jack Fisher

Open Project Status:

EOC/Board Room radio and status board project is in process. One remote is in and still awaiting second remote and status monitor. Once received J&S will be doing the wiring and installation.

453/459.275 radio expansion licensing is still in progress. Bill Stanek reported on the stumbling issues he encountered with the license expansion but feels that we are now beyond that and should see some activity at the FCC in the next few weeks. He had to agree to the FCC that we would not exceed 6 watts output at the Gates Hill site.

The new Alpha Paging radio has been installed at the Stanek Box Mountain site.

The replacement schedule of the remaining 153.125 Tone and Voice paging radios will be put on hold until funding has been reviewed considering the upcoming additional requirements as described further in this report. Those remaining are Birch Mountain, Bald Hill Tolland and Union.

A power monitoring Demon was recommended to be installed at the Bald Hill Tower site to monitor the power consumption being used by the AT&T Cell Phone equipment. However upon further investigation it was found there already was one in place. Tyler will use it to monitor the AT&T power usage. We also discussed having CL&P run a test on the current power load coming into the Bald Hill Tower to make sure that we are not exceeding the street transformer loading. Board of Director Curt Dowling had some concerns and suggested we contact CL&P. Tyler will follow up on this.

The AT&T upgrade project is still moving in a positive direction and it was suggested that as a part of this new Contract negotiation another option regarding their monthly rental would be to require they put in their own meter and pay for their own power. It is felt that they may be consuming far more than we realize. By going with their additional proposed equipment additions this draw could increase substantially.

Dedicated 911 and dispatching services for the following communities:

ANDOVER - ASHFORD - BOLTON - COLUMBIA - COVENTRY - EAST WINDSOR - ELLINGTON
MANSFIELD - SOMERS - STAFFORD - TOLLAND - UNION - VERNON - WILLINGTON



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Some discussion regarding the UPS for the dispatch room was had. Jack Turner was given a couple of options to research.

New Projects:

Tactical Communications is working on providing us with a full Maintenance Contract proposal for all of our current Dispatch Center and remote site radios. Along with this is the repair/update of the MDS microwave system at Bald Hill. Another meeting is scheduled for the morning of July 11th to further discuss this project.

There was a long discussion concerning the move by the Hebron Fire Department from KX to TN as of July 1, 2013 with regards to the infrastructure required to support the radio requirements. Bill Stanek is looking into the possibility of acquiring a new UHF frequency along with the possible usage of one of our current non used UHF low power channels, providing we can receive a waiver to increase one to a higher power. On further review it was discovered that Hebron has a UHF channel licensed to them (453/458.2875) which could possibly be used for this purpose, depending on what its current usage is in Hebron. Tyler will contact them for further review of this option. A meeting with Hebron on this subject is planned for Monday, July 16th.

We have asked Tactical Communications for a quotation for the necessary radio and supporting equipment for both the Hebron site and for TN.

Additionally we have asked Tactical for a quotation for a “TN Kit” of spare Daniels parts that could be used as an emergency repair kit. Al Koepke currently has one of these for TN but we are not sure what the status of it is.

There was an extensive discussion to review the current frequency loading with the coming move of Hebron to 33.44. There are some departments ready to move entirely to UHF operations due this the current overloading in some areas. Scott Haddad joined the meeting to further discuss these concerns and indicated that adding additional channels for operations (such as UHF) will only add to the work load and possible confusion with the dispatchers. One suggestion is to ask Tolland Fire if they would be interested to move to 33.86 for a test period. Tyler has approached Tolland and they are considering this move.

Mark Dittrich will prepare a new frequency loading analysis of TN’s frequency, for our review.

Our next Radio Committee meeting will be August 2, 2012 @ 10am, @ TN.

Respectfully:

Jack Fisher Chairman

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