

Tri-Com Central Dispatch

FIRE OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes from May 27, 2021

Members Present: Deputy Chief Mark Einwich Geneva FD; Deputy Chief Craig Hanson, Batavia FD; Assistant Chief Tony Cavallo, St. Charles FD; Battalion Chief Joshua Lopez, Sugar Grove FD; Assistant Chief Mike Huneke, Elburn FD; Deputy Chief Mike Klemencic, North Aurora FD; Director Joe Schelstreet, Tri-Com; Deputy Director LaToya Marz. Tri-Com

Members Absent: Assistant Chief Matt Hanson, Elburn FD
Battalion Chief Jeremy Mauthe, St. Charles FD

Also Present: Tammy Kleveno, CAD Administrator, Tri-Com
Kristina Rohrbach, GIS Analyst, Tri-Com
Shevon Sherod-Ramirez, Administrative Assistant, Tri-Com

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 A.M. virtually via GoToMeeting.

Update on COVID-19:

Deputy Director Marz reported the following:

- City of Geneva is in bridge phase.
- Unvaccinated staff, visitors, and vendors need to wear masks.

Update on StarCom:

Deputy Director Marz reported the following:

- The radio management training went well. She hopes it was helpful.
- Chicago Communications or agency radio vendors will need to reprogram all radios to enable Wi-Fi capability
- Currently, we are five firmware versions behind
- Once the Wi-Fi programming is installed, a schedule for programming will need to be coordinated for all
- The 10th Street Tower Project is under way. 80% of demolition is complete inside. The generator is delayed.

Update on Basement Project:

Deputy Director Marz reported the following:

- The outside work is almost complete. Landscaping and clean up need to be done.
- The generator room is almost complete.
- Flooring on stairs is done. Tile is still on backorder.

Update on Staffing:

Deputy Director Marz reported the following:

- A new trainee will start in mid to late July.
- Caiti should complete fire training at the end of June. Shelley will begin fire training after.
- Two additional trainees are set to be released to do call taking and police dispatch at the end of June.
- Another new hire started recently.

Director Report:

Director Schelstreet reported the following:

- Delays on the 10th Street Tower Project. The original completion date was June 11. That has been pushed back due to the original welder having an emergency.
- There needs to be a common SSID for radio management. Everyone please discuss with staff.
- The water treatment construction has begun.
- Submitting five more requests for funding to ETSB totaling approximately \$500,000. The largest is for radio management.
- There is a possibility of sharing tower sites. Still have \$180,000 budgeted for phone lines.
- Chief Eul is the Board Chair. Chief Swanson is the Vice Chair. The structural documents will be worked on this year (IGA, by-laws, financial policy, and funding formula).
- Contract negotiations started. Will take some time due to scheduling of all involved.
- Financial close out for Fiscal Year 2021. We did not use the \$350,000 spend down from Tri-Com reserves. Funds were added to the fund balance due to rise in wireless surcharge money and lower phone line costs.

Deputy Director Report:

Deputy Director Marz reported the following:

- The console project is almost done. There are a few punch list items to complete.
- With staffing increasing, there is more availability to attend training. If your agency has any upcoming training that would be beneficial for dispatchers to attend, please let her or Andrew know.

CAD Report:

Tammy Kleveno reported the following:

- There have been issues with paging due to strict guidelines by cell providers on use of IMResponding and Active911. Batavia FD is trying to work with their alternate provider.
- If you have a call that is upgraded and you do not receive a page, let her know.

GIS Report:

Kristina Rohrbach reported the following:

- NG 911 is starting to move forward again. Address verification is extremely important for NG911 to work. This will take time to complete.

- Please let her know when your agency will be able to start the address verification process and she will get you set up.

Training Coordinator Report:

Absent. None.

St. Charles Items:

AC Cavallo stated that BC Mauthe wanted to know if it would benefit everyone to simulcast on StarCom and VHF. Dir. Schelstreet stated that in February 2020 Genesis Multi Select had an estimate of \$37,500 for software and seven console positions. There are now nine positions. This could put out a signal on both StarCom and VHF. Genesis is affiliated with Motorola. Funding could be requested from the ETSB, but that would be a Board decision. It allows transmission on multi-select. Unsure if it can receive. Dir. Schelstreet will reach out to Peoria to see how it is working or them.

The DVRS is working, but there are issues with delays. It is delaying outgoing transmissions from inside buildings.

Geneva Items:

DC Einwich stated that transmit volumes from dispatch has been low. They have to put volume up very high and when something else comes in, it is extremely loud.

One of their POCs stated that DuComm is no longer providing Code 100 information over air. Geneva would like to continue. Dir. Schelstreet stated that the Board would probably be getting rid of screening questions in July. Tammy Kleveno stated that, while dispatching, the screening questions are delaying call taking because callers are explaining that they are vaccinated, had Covid, etc.

DC Einwich asked that everyone move to a training channel while having multi-company training. BC Hanson stated that they use the Ops channel.

Batavia Items:

DC Hanson asked if there was a timeline to replace the radios that are not Wi-Fi enabled.

He asked if when arriving on-scene to a working fire, Tri-Com could automatically hit a working fire alarm. This gets additional units to start responding. AC Huneke stated that they use “special alarm”. If everyone could discuss with staff and get back to DC Hanson regarding use of “working fire”.

Elburn Items:

None.

Sugar Grove Items:

BC Lopez stated that they are having active shooter training at Harter Middle School on June 24 and 25. Tabletop on June 23.

North Aurora Items:

None

Other Items

None

Action Items:

ALL:

1. Let Kristina know if you can begin address verification
2. Check with IT staff to see if a common SSID for radio management would be okay.
3. Check to see if using a compute stick would work for everyone
4. Check to see if everyone is interested in Gemini Software for multi-select
5. Discuss use of “Working Fire” instead of “Special” with staff and respond to DC Hanson

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:15 A.M. The next meeting of the Tri-Com Fire Operations Committee is Thursday, June 24, 2021 at 10:00 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Shevon Sherod-Ramirez

Administrative Assistant