

Tri-Com Central Dispatch

FIRE OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes from January 9, 2019

Members Present: Assistant Chief Scott Swanson, St Charles FD; Deputy Chief Mark Einwich Geneva FD; Assistant Chief Tate Haley, Elburn FD; Assistant Chief Matt Hanson, Elburn FD; Chief Bill Perkins, Sugar Grove FPD; Deputy Chief Craig Hanson, Batavia FD; Assistant Chief Eric Ekstrom, North Aurora FPD; Director Nicole Lamela, Tri-Com; Deputy Director Sarah Stoffa, Tri-Com

Members Absent: None

Also Present: Joe Schelstreet, Chief, St. Charles FD
Mike Bayard, Elgin Dispatch
Tiffany Myers, Training Coordinator, Tri-Com
Shevon Sherod-Ramirez, Admin. Asst., Tri-Com

The meeting was called to order at 10:08 A.M. at Tri-Com.

Update on Starcom:

Dir. Lamela introduced Mike Bayard from the Elgin dispatch center who has experience with the programming of the StarCom radios. Creating a dispatch channel was discussed. Chief Schelstreet stated that a dispatch channel may be good if there is consolidation.

Mr. Bayard stated that on a digital system, pager tones are a little lower on the receive side. They decrease the pager quality. May need to play around with the programming on the Unication pagers to get a good pager tone. He stated that for station alerting, the encode and decode will come in and out at different Hz. The primary station alerting pathway is through fiber.

He also stated that Elgin has it set up that tier 1 is network and tier 2 is LSK data (radio programmed broadcast or talk group). Voice takes precedence over data. Pager and data will not go out. Tier 3 is non-functional, old fashioned pager system knows to try next tier automatically for redundancy. You would need consolettes for dispatch and radio channel.

Dir. Lamela stated that there will be 9 consolettes. Mr. Bayard stated that there needs to be enough CCGW at 4 radios per CCGW. Dir. Lamela stated that multiple dispatch channels will be needed. Chief Schelstreet stated that we must be aware of density issues and plan for the future.

Chief Perkins stated that South does not have issues right now. They have tried to limit radio traffic. AC Ekstrom asked if they can still scan ops channel with the pager open. Mr. Bayard stated that, by state protocol, you cannot scan. You can scan on VHF. You cannot scan on VHR

and 800. AC Ekstrom asked if a pager can scan two 800 radios. Mr. Bayard was unsure. AC Haley stated that we need to find out if the Unication pagers can scan multiple channels.

Chief Schelstreet left the meeting at 10:40 A.M.

Mr. Bayard stated that they are moving away from tones. High Speed DTMF can send out the same page instead of long tones. Chief Perkins asked how they will hear Big Rock, Bristol-Kendall, etc. Dir. Lamela stated that they would patch 2 channels.

DC Einwich asked how often StarCom was done. Mr. Bayard said they have never had it down to a point where they were unable to use it. If the master site is down, they can still talk within the city. Dir. Lamela asked if the microwave can be used as a backup. Mr. Bayard stated potentially.

Mr. Bayard stated that they had to force Motorola to redesign the microwave design. The storm paths followed the microwaves. It broke two links and they lost system.

Dir. Lamela stated that they will need a template for Motorola to program radios. Motorola is programming radios one time. Mark Marzetta and Jeremy from Sugar Grove are taking a class to learn how to program them. Mr. Bayard stated that there are 3,000 different selections. Must be sure that all commonalities are the same.

A discussion on different types of channel assignments. AC Ekstrom wanted everyone to be aware that there will be 6 agencies on a channel with some options.

Mr. Bayard stated that they had an issue with emergency beepers going off repeatedly. They set the length of press to 0.75 seconds to avoid them being set off when brushed against.

Dir. Lamela will find out the cost of software maintenance for Chief Perkins in case he wants to send someone to the radio programming class.

Another meeting was set for 01/18/19 at 1:00 P.M. at Elburn FD to continue the discussion on radio programming.

AC Ekstrom left the meeting.

Tri-Com Items:

None

St. Charles Items:

AC Swanson stated that there was an issue with adding a unit before closing a unit out. He also stated that when the truck goes down, take the tender. Dir. Lamela stated that the jump company may not be working in CAD. She will ask Ms. Kleveno.

He also asked about the fix for MCT One Solution. Dir. Lamela stated that St. Charles needs to fix it. She will let Ms. Kleveno know. Only two MCTs are working.

Geneva Items:

None

Batavia Items:

None

Elburn Items:

None

Sugar Grove Items:

None

North Aurora Items:

None

Action Items:

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:04 P.M. The next meeting of the Tri-Com Fire Operations Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, February 6, 2019 at 10:00 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Shevon Sherod-Ramirez

Administrative Assistant

Tri-Com