



Mutual Aid Box Alarm System Communications Committee

Meeting Minutes

April 23, 2007

Members Present: Paul Maplethorpe, Round Lake; Steve Rauter, WESCOM; Bob Mierop, Bolingbrook; Dennis Higgins, Livingston County; Larry Matkaitis, OSFM; John Lozar, DuComm; and Gregg Riddle, IFCA.

Guests Present: Alan Choutka, IL EMnet Coordinator

Agenda Item:	Discussion/Decision:	Follow-up/Responsibility:
Call to Order	Co-Chair Paul Maplethorpe welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 1022 hours at Lisle-Woodridge Station 1.	
Approve Minutes	<p>Minutes from the February were presented. Mr. Matkaitis moved to approve the February 2007 minutes as presented. Second by Mr. Higgins. All AYES; motion carried.</p> <p>Minutes from the March meeting were presented. Several corrections were provided. Mr. Rauter moved to approve to March 2007 minutes as presented. Second by Mr. Matkaitis. All AYES; motion carried.</p>	
First Intercom Trial	Chief Maplethorpe provided an overview of the First Intercom Interoperability System and the status of the current trial.	
EMNET System Brainstorming	<p>Chief Maplethorpe introduced Alan Choutka who works for both DuPage and Kane County's EMA. He is also working as the coordinator for the EMnet Deployment Program for Illinois.</p> <p>Mr. Choutka reported on the deployment of EMnet terminals to fire departments in Illinois. He provided the following status report on terminal installations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EMnet Terminals have been provided to nearly every county • Most 9-1-1 PSAPs have received terminals • ITTF Project to Equip all 1200 IL fire departments • Departments prioritized into 3 categories • 19 Priority 1 fire departments will receive unused PSAP terminals • 283 fire departments will receive terminals in 2007 • Additional fire departments in nuclear EPZs will also be Priority 1 • EMnet not intended for 1st Responder Dispatch • 12 POD Hospitals also equipped 	

<p>OLD BUSINESS: MERCY Base Stations</p>	<p>Mr. Choutka discussed some of the planned uses for EMnet in Illinois:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Severe weather notifications • E-NAWAS • CTAN – Chicago Transit Alert Network • Secured Homeland Security Messaging <p>A brainstorming session ensued concerning additional potential uses for EMnet by the fire service on Illinois. The following represents a summary of the potential uses discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statewide deployment orders/documentation • Training bulletins/Safety messages (daily, monthly, etc.) • Meeting Announcements • OSFM Test Dates/Locations • Special Team Messages • Weather & EAS messages • Paging/Alerting of special/technical rescue teams via message forwarding • RED/Orland messaging for statewide deployments (IEMA to RED/Orland to Responding Divisions) • USAR Dispatching (IEMA to RED/Orland to Wauconda Fire) • Division to Division messaging • Division to member department messaging • DHS Alert Status Changes and just in time messaging • IEMA messages • IDPH alerts • Hospital (By-pass) Status • POD Hospital – Mass Casualty Communications • CTAN • Regional Message Groups <p>Mr. Choutka also related that some existing terminals have been off-line for a period of time. He related that for the EMnet terminals to function properly they should never be shut down or have passwords applied.</p> <p>Mr. Rauter agreed to begin development of an Advocacy Statement to address EMnet for the Illinois Fire Service. Mr. Choutka agreed to help develop the statement.</p> <p>Mr. Matkaitis questioned the status of the MERCY base station project. Mr. Rauter reported that it was nearly completed. One issue that remains open is the use of MERCY 280 for mass casualty coordination. This concept has not been presented statewide. Mr. Mierop agreed to follow-up with IDPH</p>	<p>Steve Rauter & Alan Choutka – prepare Advocacy Statement</p> <p>Bob Mierop to follow-up with IDPH</p>
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VHF Interoperability	No report	
Rock Island County	No report.	
Southwest Central	No report.	
EMnet	See prior notes.	
MABAS Dispatch Yahoo Group	No report.	
Statewide Radio License	No report.	
Carbondale Area	No report.	
Statewide Interop Executive Committee	No report.	
Starcom21	Mr. Matkaitis reported that Starcom21 is being rolled out for the Illinois State Police on a per district basis. Chief Maplethorpe related that frequency issues remain due to the Nextel rebanding that have hampered development of the network. Chief Mierop questioned ownership of the Starcom21 radios issued to local governments. Consensus of the committee was that these radios are the property of the local governments.	
BLUE Fireground	No report.	
New Business:	None	
Information for the Good of the Committee		
IR Camera Bid	Mr. Matkaitis reported that MSA and Bullard are the finalists in the bid process for thermal imaging cameras for both fire and law enforcement use. One or both cameras may be offered. The master contract should be let by CMS in mid-May.	
CFD Interop	Mr. Riddle questioned what will happen to interoperability if Chicago Fire migrates to UHF for operations.	
NG9-1-1 Symposium	Mr. Riddle reported that a Next Generation 9-1-1 symposium will be held in Springfield at the Crowne Plaza Hotel on May 21 st from 0900 to 1500hours.	

Adjournment	Mr. Matkaitis moved to adjourn the meeting. Second by Chief Mierop. All AYES; the meeting adjourned at 1220 hours.	
Next Meeting	The next meeting will be held on Monday, June 4, 2007 at Lisle-Woodridge Station 1 beginning at 1000 hours. Minutes taken by Paul Maplethorpe.	