



Mutual Aid Box Alarm System

Telecommunications, Communications & Dispatch Committee

Meeting Minutes

April 28, 2008

Members Present: Steve Rauter Co-chair, WESCOM; John Lozar, DuComm; A/C Bob Mierop, Bolingbrook FD; Dennis Higgins, Ford County 911; Alan Choutka, DuPage County; David Dato, Wauconda FPD; Rick Kleinhaus, Evergreen Park FD;
Conference Bridge: Jim Clausen, RED Center; Bill Bouma, Mt. Pleasant FD, WI MABAS Liaison; Larry Matkaitis, OSFM; David Riddle, Channahon FPD; Gregg Riddle Co-chair, IFCA; Kris Kindlespire, Grundy County 9-1-1; Carl Guse
Guests Present: Paul Maplethorpe, Greater Round Lake FPD

Agenda Item	Discussion/Decision	Follow-up/Responsibility
Call to Order	Co-Chair Steve Rauter welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 1007 hours at Lisle Woodridge FPD Station #1.	
Approve Minutes	Chief Dave Dato moved to approve the March 31, 2008 meeting minutes as presented. Second by A/C Bob Mierop. Correction of attendee Ron Kleinhaus; All AYES; motion carried.	
OLD BUSINESS		
2008 MABAS Conferences	Discussion about moving venue to a larger facility to provide more crossover between Chiefs & TC's. Current venue is too small. Also would like to facilitate some tabletop training. Status of Terry Lipinski? No official word on his current status in light of his recent appointment as Oak Forest Fire Chief. Moving forward with him in place, as usual. No reason to speculate otherwise.	Steve Rauter, Gregg Riddle
Starcom21 SOG	Discussion about progress of "Starcom 101" document by Rauter. Still being worked on. Starcom was used by MABAS in Effingham the day of the earthquake per Clausen. Dato relates that these are reasons to put out when/how Starcom should be used in these types of events. Otherwise there is danger of crashing the system with superfluous transmissions. Generic Starcom policy to be voted on at next MABAS Exec. Board meeting. Maplethorpe relates that new Starcom radios should be shipping soon.	A/C Mierop and Steve Rauter
Incident Benchmark SOG	No report. Bouma relates that he has received a lot of info from all the members in Wisconsin that received the benchmark inquiry. Bouma relates that there is some dissent in terms of altering the national benchmarks established by NFPA. Discussions centered on helping Comm Centers implement these benchmark policies or guidelines. Additional discussions centered on when the benchmark time begins; at the time of dispatch or the time of arrival? Bouma will follow up some more by developing a document to produce a policy rather than a guideline.	Bill Bouma and Jim Clausen

MABAS Computer network	Per Steve Rauter, MABAS has apparently contacted a vendor and may follow a template from Ohio. Nothing further.	
Narrowband Migration – Statewide Frequencies	Per Rauter, met in Grundy EOC. Barry Point is putting together a data base of compatible radios for narrowband compliance. Not all radios are compatible. Rauter went into some detail regarding the technical issues here. This committee tries to meet periodically, with Jerry Bleck representing Illinois APCO.	John Lozar, Steve Rauter and Dennis Higgins
Associate MABAS Membership for Comm Centers, Division Dispatch	Per Steve Rauter, a few attorneys have related that each individual Division may determine who is a member of their Division and at what level. Mother MABAS has referred the question to the Bylaws Committee.	
SIEC	Per Dave Dato, there is a change in leadership on this committee. The committee has dealt with their direction and not a lot of other major movement at last meeting. One issue that evolved was training and they're dealing with that. The sign-off on the SCIP is being resolved and essentially in place, per Rauter. Bouma asked Guse about Wisconsin's SCIP plan approval. No official word, yet.	Dave Dato
EMnet	Alan Choutka relates that not many installs have occurred in this Spring to wrap the 2007 list. Still have some MABAS PSAPs to complete. Some discussion on Exelon considering other alternatives to their NARS system with EMnet possibly being one consideration. Bouma awaiting results from "E-Sponder."	Alan Choutka
Statewide Radio License	Paul Maplethorpe says they're ready to send out for coordination.	
Cook County UASI Interoperability Committee	Per Steve Rauter, Len Edling relates that they will be stepping away from the plan to use V-Tech as area wide receivers. Will remain on agenda for a while yet.	
Chicago Interoperability – Guideline established	Per Steve Rauter, Chicago is migrating to non-trucked, conventional digital for fire dispatch.	
Naming Convention	Per Steve Rauter, using helper cards is fine. Kindlespire relates his committee's general discussion surrounding this issue with no real decisions as of yet. There will be 9 low-power local-use, and 3 designated for nationwide use. This is over and above the I/O channels. Rauter asked for more clarity on the use of mutual aid vs. tactical designations of these channels. Part 90.531B(?) is the guiding document in this issue per Rauter. Guse relates that we should not lose sight that there are defined national inter-op channels already. Kindlespire relates that the issue here is the non-P25 channels. Further discussion commenced on the subtle differences between these channels and the other P25 channels. Part 90.531B, 3 and 4 Rauter then added to the discussion.	Kris Kindlespire, Carl Guse

**Haz-Mat Operations
Frequencies**

This is a continuation of the original Starcom21 “give-away” program. Trying to get Motorola to get a better price on the equipment. The list of requesting agencies is larger than the funds will currently allow MABAS to provide radios to. The grant is \$500,000.

New Business

Naming Conventions for common interoperability channels – Based on the Yahoo Groups discussion over the weekend? The Itecs response by Kris was discussed. He’d prefer to see how the SIEC moves on this issue.

The IESMA conference Comm committee is being re-energized per Alan Choutka.

Dato has a meeting with FEMA Region 5 tomorrow, w/Ed Boukema and Bob Thomas on COO (Continuity of Operations) issues.

Gregg Riddle, IMERT access to MABAS frequencies? Tim Conley would like letter of authorization from MABAS so IMERT can use these frequencies as needed. Mr. Conley has been invited to a TCD meeting to further discuss this important issue. Dato relates the IMERT communications group has recently been reinvigorated and they may need some guidance on this issue before TCD addresses it further. We’ll add them to the next agenda.

Gregg adds that Dane County should be added to the MABAS test schedule that was put out last year. Asks if there are others that should be included in that effort? Rauter asks for someone on the committee to step up to “ride herd” on the testing schedule and related issues. Bouma “volunteers.”

155.16 MHz (PL 127.3) (defacto, Search and Rescue frequency) was raised by Rauter about the routine use of this frequency by many other entities. Should this be added to our state-wide licensing effort? Discussion followed. Without objection this frequency will be added to the licensing effort.

Liaison Information

MABAS WI – nothing.

Region 54/13 – nothing.

OSFM – B& E report available on-line. Also, this fall, school inspections will be done by OSFM or local FDs who have opted in as agents of the OSFM. Also, DCFS, close to signing an MOU with DCFS and new daycare facilities (small homes) will be inspected by OSFM.

Others – none

T/C Training – Clausen, nothing further. Rauter asks about the Motorola grant. Nothing from Maplethorpe on this.

**Information for the
Good of the Committee**

Adjournment

Dave Dato moved to adjourn the meeting. Second by Bob Mierop. All AYES; the meeting adjourned at 1136 hours.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Monday, May 19, 2008 at Lisle Woodridge FPD Station #1 beginning at 1000 hours.

Minutes taken by David Riddle.

