

RIVERCOM USER GROUP MEETING
RiverCom Conference Room,
140 S. Mission St. 3rd Floor
Wenatchee, Washington
Tuesday, January 6, 2009

Present: Dennis Ashmore, CCFD#7; Karl Jonasson, CCPHD#2 EMS; Mike Dingle, DCSO-EM; Phil Mosher, CCFD#1; Wayne Walker, Lifeline Ambulance; Jim Brown, WPD; Stan Smoke, WFD&R; Jerry Corder, IT Manager, Jackie Jones, Operations Manager and Millie Tirapelle, Director, RiverCom.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Karl Jonasson at 11:15 a.m. in the office of Director Tirapelle, RiverCom.

Approval of the Minutes: The minutes for the December 9, 2008 meeting were approved unanimously.

Directors Report:

Director Tirapelle said that snow is now preventing access to our radio sites; Jerry and the Technicians are working on internal RiverCom projects.

Lower Badger –Sometime prior to the regionalization of RiverCom a generator was purchased for the DAY Wireless radio site at Lower Badger Mountain in exchange for reduced lease costs. This arrangement was noted as a one line addendum to the annual contract, but there were no parameters defined in an MOU. Over the past few years the number of site tenants has grown and RiverCom has added equipment. DAY Wireless is now in the process of developing contract language that would require RiverCom to pay a higher lease rate or purchase a bigger generator to support the site. Director Tirapelle will be taking a survey of the equipment at this site to determine how to proceed. Jerry Corder noted that RiverCom could use the generator at Moses Stool.

Wayne Walker asked what had become of the large generator that RiverCom owned. Director Tirapelle said that the generator was too large for RiverCom's use and was sold to the City of Wenatchee. The revenue from the sale was used to purchase the generator for DCPUD Upper Badger Mountain.

Director Tirapelle reported that RiverCom has been paying Cherry Creek Radio for our portion of a shared tower lease for the local law enforcement mutual-aid radio network (Supernet), however there has been no formal contract in place. Cherry Creek is in the process of writing a contract and will present it to Director Tirapelle.

KOZI Radio (Icicle Broadcasting) recently increased their fee from \$75 to \$125 per month; RiverCom will be moving from this site.

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Chief Stan Smoke reported that Wenatchee Fire and Rescue, in partnership with the Sheriff's Department, have also received rescue training from climbing expert, Doug Clark.

911 Funding:

Director Tirapelle and Jackie Jones, Operations Manager attended the Chelan County Commissioner's meeting and the presentation of the Crisis/Mental Health group's request for councilmatic adoption of a 1/10th of 1% sales tax. The group was asked to develop a funding plan to bring back to the Commissioners.

Director Tirapelle will be presenting our 1/10th of 1% sales tax Resolution and Funding Agreement to the RiverCom Board for approval tomorrow. RiverCom board members have asked her to remove the budgetary numbers from the funding agreement. Auditors from Douglas County, Thad Duvall and Chelan County, Skip Moore recommended March as the best time to put the 1/10 of 1% Measure on the ballot, as costs would be split with Wenatchee School District and Eastmont School District. If put on the ballot in April or May RiverCom may have to pay the entire cost.

There was discussion of the pros and cons of putting the measure on the ballot in March vs. August. Karl Jonasson said there may be a hospital measure in August 2009. Chief Smoke said they would be pursuing council approval on Thursday for another possible bond to renovate the old downtown station and construct a new fire station. After further discussion, Phil Mosher made a motion to support the placement of RiverCom's 1/10th of 1% Measure on the March ballot, and it passed unanimously.

There was further discussion about how this measure would affect the sales tax in the two counties, which have lower tax rates than most Washington counties. Director Tirapelle explained that there is no sunset clause in the measure; however, the funding model would be re-evaluated in five years.

Operations Manager Report:

Jackie Jones spoke about an ongoing issue with RiverCom's bordering agencies in getting calls processed by the proper agency. She has been working since August with the Multi Agency Communications Center (MACC) on how to use maps and build response plans. She is concerned that some of the remote areas of Grant County are not in MACC's geobase. Director Tirapelle said that she may need to refer this issue to Commissioner Mary Hunt.

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Committee Reports:

Jackie Jones shared the Fire/EMS TAC meeting notes dated December 3, 2008:

Code 9 /Deceased Patients – RiverCom will continue to dispatch these as a full response no matter how long the patient has been deceased.

Search and Rescue – Misty's response plan is complete and she is now working on training and edits.

MCI (Mass Casualty Incidents) – They will be using the same format as current response plans.

Ballard/Lifeline Units in Cad – Misty will enter all individual unit numbers into CAD, so that staff can begin broadcasting updated information to the specific unit rather than generically to the company. This will help on a major incident so that dispatch will know exactly what resource is on the scene or en-route.

The User Group briefly discussed the merits of working on a Regional Mass Casualty Plan.

Good of the Order:

Karl Jonasson said that he had met with Wayne Walker, Brian Pulse and Shawn Ballard and they were in agreement that an ex-officio position was not needed at the Board level for the transporting agencies. It was decided that Phil Mosher would present this to the RiverCom Board at the meeting tomorrow.

Director Tirapelle said that for 2009 Commissioner Dale Keane, Doug Williams and Jim Brown will be leaving the RiverCom Board. Commissioner Dale Snyder and Phil Mosher will be joining the Board.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 10, 2009 at 11:00 a.m.