



9-1-1 Technical Operations Committee

Meeting Notice

**Thursday
September 15, 2016
10:00 AM**

**MESB Office
2099 University Ave W
St. Paul, MN 55104**

Mark Your Calendars

Metropolitan Emergency Services Board

9-1-1 Technical Operations Committee

**Tentative Agenda
September 15, 2016**

1. Call to Order

2. Approval of Minutes

3. Old Business

- a. Wireless Issues (see attached)
 - i. Wireless Work Group
- b. GIS Issues (see attached)
- c. Data Issues (see attached)
- d. Next Generation 9-1-1
 - i. State 9-1-1 Program 9-1-1 Services RFP Update
- e. PSAP Operations Round Table Work Group
 - i. Minimum Training Standards for Telecommunicators
- f. Storm / Natural Disaster Procedures

4. New Business

- a. Radio TOC Request – Metro Interoperability Zone Changes

5. Adjourn

Metropolitan Emergency Services Board
9-1-1 Technical Operations Committee
Draft Meeting Minutes
July 21, 2016

Committee Members

X	Nancie Pass, Ramsey (Chair)	X	Kathy Hughes, Hennepin
X	Bob Dowd, Isanti (Vice-Chair)		Lisa Lovering, Isanti
X	Val Sprynczynatyk, Anoka		Heather Hunt, Minneapolis
	Mike Utecht, Bloomington PD		Dave Pikal, Ramsey
X	Tim Walsh, Carver		Ken Dvorak, Scott
X	Jon Eckel, Chisago	X	Darlene Pankonie, Washington
X	Cheryl Pritzlaff, Dakota		Doug Anschutz, Washington
	Rose Kruchten, Dakota		

Alternates

	Susan Bowler, Carver		Kyle Blum, Anoka
	Troy Ruby, Dakota	X	Christine McPherson, Minneapolis
	Jeff Schlumpberger, Hennepin		Denise O'Leary, Ramsey
	Deb Paige, Carver		Bob Shogren, Isanti

Others Attending

Pete Eggimann, MESB
Martha Ziese, MESB
Gordy Chinander, MESB
Marcia Broman, MESB
Jill Rohret, MESB
Kay Simons, MESB
John Brown, RCECC
Scott Wosje, Northland Business
Heidi Hieserich, MAC

Jake Jacobson, CenturyLink
Matthew Hoffer, CenturyLink
Jeff Lessard, U of M
Lauren Petersen, MAC
Tony Martin, Edina PD
Dana Wahlberg, ECN
Chris Kummer, MAC
Victoria Peckman, AHEMS

1. Call to Order

Nancie Pass called the meeting to order at 10:03. Nancie asked if there were any objections to removing Legislation, item 3.f, from the agenda as there was nothing new to report since the last meeting. There were no objections.

2. Approval of Minutes

*Motion to approve the draft April 21, 2016 Minutes (Hughes/McPherson) Approved.
Since there were several new people at the meeting, Nancie asked everyone to introduce themselves and tell the group what agency they represented.*

3. Old Business

a. Wireless Issues – Gordy Chinander (see written report)

Gordy highlighted some of the items in his written report for the committee.

Gordy reported that 90% of requests are now for wireless routing for overlays that have already been approved in the sector routing. With WERM, there will be an option to do this in the same manner or each request could be determined individually. He receives thirty to forty routing requests per day at times for the metro area, with a five-day response time to get back to the carriers. Today Gordy uses the previously approved sector routing in almost all cases and does not send a new confirmation request to the PSAPs. Since the PSAPs will have direct access to the WERM system, Gordy asked the committee how they wanted him to handle the overlay requests once the WERM system is turned up. Jon Eckel said he preferred that Gordy continue to do what he has been doing in using the previously approved sector routing. Although no vote was taken, the rest of the committee concurred with Jon on leaving the current process in place.

Gordy asked the members to review the contact information for each of their PSAPs that was currently loaded in the WERM system to ensure that the information was correct and that the right people for each agency were on the list.

Gordy also called the committee members attention to a standardized community abbreviation table that he was going to use in the WERM system. This should ensure that the information in the community name field was a consistent seven characters, which should make the ALI information flow into the CAD systems more accurately.

b. GIS Update – Marcia Broman (see written report)

A written report on the MESB activities regarding GIS was provided in the meeting packet.

Marcia reported on the status of the MSAG / GIS Synchronization Project and shared the table she uses to track the progress throughout the metro area. Her goal is to complete the synchronization project by the end of the year.

Marcia also reported that phase 2 of the MRCC regional centerline build out will include the public safety attributes. It is anticipated this version of the centerline could be released to the public by November.

c. Data Update – Marcia Broman (see written report)

A written report on the MESB activities regarding ALI data was provided in the meeting packet. None of the committee members had any new data issues to discuss with the group.

d. Next Generation

i. State RFP Update – Dana Wahlberg

Dana Wahlberg said DPS/ECN is still in contract negotiations with the number one vendor. DPS and the MESB are involved in the negotiations. The Department of Administration is handling the terms and conditions. There are approximately 25 items of disagreement to be resolved. Of those fifteen appear to be relatively easy to resolve. Mike Brick, the Department of Administration's representative in the negotiations, is of the opinion that the remaining issues will be more difficult to resolve. Dana is preparing a draft response to the vendor that will go to the MESB for review and comment before it is sent on to Mike for communication to the vendor.

Regardless of whom the vendor is, the state is moving forward with some of the initiatives for an interim SMS Text to 9-1-1 solution. The state wants to deploy a state wide solution but not all PSAPs will be ready at the same time. The goal is to have one PSAP in every region that will have text to 9-1-1 capabilities. That PSAP would be responsible for taking the text calls on behalf of the other PSAPs in the region that were not ready at the time the system is turned up. Then, as the other PSAPs become ready, the text calls would be re-routed from the regional PSAP to the new PSAP coming on line. Text call routing is determined by the cell site sector that initially handles the text message, similar to the way wireless calls are routed.

Dana said there may be challenges in getting multiple PSAPs ready for text messaging in a short period of time because of the limited number of answering application vendors and their technician resources. She wants to prioritize getting at least one PSAP in each region ready to go before the vendor resources are moved on to the other PSAPs. Dana suggested that the PSAPs contact their vendor and identify what would have to be done to make their current answering application capable of receiving text messages integrated into the regular call taking interface.

Jill suggested that the committee work on drafting a standard on how text messages received by the regional PSAP were going to be communicated back to the PSAP having jurisdiction for the emergency response to the caller's location from where the text was sent.

Dana also distributed a draft brochure to the committee members that her staff had been working on that would become part of a public education effort on the use of text messaging to contact 9-1-1, including some of the limitations (e.g. poor location information).

Several committee members expressed interest in taking their own text messages when the system went live rather than using the regional PSAP. Some of this may depend on the timing and the vendor resources.

e. PSAP Operations Roundtable - Heidi Hieserich

Heidi walked through the process that lead to the creation of the draft minimum training standards for telecommunicators in the metro area. The committee now has that draft standard for review and to take action on. The request to create the draft standards came from the committee after it was identified as a priority in a survey of metro PSAP managers conducted by the MESB last January.

The PSAP Operations Roundtable work group formed a smaller work group from their members who wanted to work on the draft. That work group met several times and developed the draft. During the process a group of national standards organizations, including NENA and APCO released an outline of topics that they considered should be included in a minimum training standard for telecommunicators. The work group compared and incorporated the national work into the proposed metro area draft minimum training standard. When the small work group completed the initial draft, it was distributed to the entire Roundtable membership for review and comment. The current draft has incorporated the Roundtable member input.

Jill told the committee that the MN Sheriff's Association was aware of the committee's work on this draft metro standard and has given at least some of the sheriffs a heads up. Christine suggested that the cover memo or any future communication regarding the draft standard should include the names and agencies of the work group participants who developed the draft in order to emphasize that a number of metro agencies were involved. Nancy and Dar both noted that the MSA had tried to get some standards for PSAP operations created four or five years ago, but the effort stalled. Both the MESB survey in January and an earlier one done by ECN indicate that PSAP managers are concerned about the need for standards to help reduce the liability exposure for PSAPs. Dana said she had tried to set up a meeting with the MSA to discuss telecommunicator training standards, but that the meeting had to be rescheduled and has not taken place yet.

Motion was made to accept the draft Minimum Training Standards for Telecommunicators as presented by the Roundtable and to table further discussion until the next meeting to allow everyone sufficient time to review the draft. (McPherson/Pankonie) Approved.

4. New Business

a. Storm / Natural Disaster Procedures

Christine McPherson stated that there were very few busy signals during the recent storm even though hundreds of calls were coming in. McPherson asked if there should be some discussion on how to handle calls during storms, especially calls that are coming from outside the PSAP service area. Should we look at how the wireless network is configured to cut down on calls being transferred? Gordy said callers should get fast busy signals if all of the PSAP's 9-1-1 sessions are full. Pete added that the nature of the wireless system allows a phone to look for a tower that is not busy and will keep looking until it finds one. This could lead to calls being routed to neighboring PSAPs when towers are congested in a particular area. This topic will stay on the agenda for the next meeting.

b. Committee Member Roundtable

(Committee members shared what was happening at each of their PSAPs that might be of interest to the group.)

The committee agreed to cancel the regular August TOC meeting because of the conflict with the national APCO conference. The next regular meeting will be on September 15.

Call to adjourn (Hughes / Sprynczynatyk)

Technical Operations Committee

9-1-1 Database Update – 09/08/2016

Metropolitan Emergency Services Board
2099 University Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55102
Web: www.mn-mesb.org

1. MSAG/GIS Synchronization Project work continues throughout the metro area with most PSAP areas actively involved.
 - a. Attached is a high-level summary of the data synchronization activity by PSAP that is currently underway in the metro area.
 - b. Highlights:
 - i. The **Airport** PSAP is finishing GIS updates from their ALI geocoding error resolutions.
 - ii. **Anoka County** is working on resolving a second round of ALI geocoding errors.
 - iii. **Bloomington** has approved their PSAP/ESZ boundary, responded to their street name validation issues, and scheduled their MSAG postalization.
 - iv. **Carver County** completed their MSAG postalization and their GIS department is finishing ALI geocoding error resolutions (one community left.)
 - v. **Chisago County** completed their centerline-generated MSAG to ALI MSAG comparison and is working to add address points for remaining ALI addresses. They are nearing completion of their transition to the MRCC schema format. Anoka and Washington County GIS managers have been asked to work with Chisago County on centerline edgematching.
 - vi. **Dakota County** GIS is working the remaining errors from the ESN/ESZ validation.
 - vii. **Eden Prairie** resolved all street name validation issues and MESB has run their ALI geocoding.
 - viii. **Edina** approved their ESZ boundaries and has scheduled their MSAG postalization for October 2016.
 - ix. **Hennepin Co Sheriff's Office** has approved their ESZ boundaries. ESZ polygons for the entire county have been provided to Hennepin Co GIS.
 - x. **Isanti County** has completed the first pass through their ALI geocoding errors. An October meeting will be scheduled with County staff, MESB, MnGeo, DPS, MnDOT to discuss the centerline differences and the need for ongoing county-wide GIS support.
 - xi. **MECC** is reviewing several MSAG changes dealing with the borders with several of their neighboring PSAPs. MECC MSAG postalization is set for December 2016.
 - xii. **Minnetonka** is substantially complete at the city-level for now. Hennepin County GIS is working with its cities to make sure county GIS data reflects everything in the city data.

- xiii. **Ramsey County** is finishing up its review of addresses with ESN assignment differences (i.e. across 4 methods: MSAG-assigned ESN, centerline attribute ESN, address point ESN, and centerline geocoded (point-in-polygon) ESN).
 - xiv. **Saint Louis Park** is substantially complete at the city-level for now. Hennepin County GIS is working with its cities to make sure county GIS data reflects everything in the city data.
 - xv. **Scott County** completed their MSAG postalization and is working on their ALI geocoding error resolution.
 - xvi. **U of M** is working with MESB on MSAG changes associated with several changes to their Minneapolis campus ESZ boundary. MSAG postalization is scheduled for December, along with MECC.
 - xvii. **White Bear Lake** MSAG postalization begins the week of September 12, 2016. Capt. Dale Hager replaced John Sells.
 - xviii. **Washington County** has nearly completed their street name validation errors.
2. Public release of the MRCC regional centerline, including public safety attributes, is set for November 18, 2016.
 3. Work is underway on aggregating the individual metro county ESZ polygons into a region-wide coverage snapped to the MRCC regional centerline. Six of the nine counties have been completed.
 4. Metro county GIS stakeholders met on 8/31/16 and provided their input on modifications to the MetroGIS Address Point data schema in order to accommodate the State's NG911 needs. The intention is for the State's NG911 Address Point Data Standard to align with the modified MetroGIS standard. Another version of the State's NG911 GIS Data Standard will be released for comment this fall. Adam Iten now anticipates final approval of State NG911 GIS Standards in the beginning of 2017.
 5. PSAP MSAG Coordinators have new 911NET features for TN query of telephone number records associated with that PSAP's MSAG, as well as for mass creating/updating MSAG and TN Change Requests.
 6. 4th Quarter 2016 **MSAGs** will distributed to the PSAPs at the beginning of October.
 7. PSAP **ALI Audittrail** reports have been distributed.

Summary of 9-1-1/GIS Data Preparation for NG9-1-1 (as of September 8, 2016)

PSAP	9-1-1/GIS Data Synchronization						GIS Integration				
	ESZ Validations	Response Area Validations	Street Name Validations	Postalize MSAG	Address Validations	Address ESN Validation	Integration to Regional Centerline	Integration to Regional ESZ Layer	Integration to Regional Address Points	GIS MSAG	Integration to Statewide SIF & ECRF/LVF
Airport	complete	na	complete	complete	active	not started	active	active	not started	not started	not started
Anoka	complete	active	complete	complete	active	not started	active	active	not started	active	not started
Bloomington	complete	na	active	scheduled	not started	not started	active	active	not started	not started	not started
Carver	complete	complete	complete	complete	active	not started	active	active	not started	not started	not started
Chisago	complete	complete	complete	complete	complete	not started	active	active	not started	active	not started
Dakota	complete	complete	complete	complete	complete	active	active	active	not started	not started	not started
Eden Prairie	complete	na	complete	complete	active	not started	active	active	not started	not started	not started
Edina	complete	active	complete	scheduled	not started	not started	active	active	not started	not started	not started
Ft Snelling/Airbase	active	not started	na	complete	na	not started	active	active	not started	not started	not started
Hennepin Sheriff	complete	not started	complete	complete	active	not started	active	active	not started	not started	not started
Hopkins (closed)	complete	na	complete	na	complete	na	na	na	na	na	na
Isanti	complete	not started	complete	complete	active	not started	active	active	not started	not started	not started
Minneapolis	active	not started	active	scheduled	not started	not started	active	active	not started	not started	not started
Minnetonka	complete	complete	complete	complete	complete	not started	active	active	not started	not started	not started
Ramsey	complete	active	complete	complete	complete	active	active	active	not started	not started	not started
Richfield (closed)	complete	na	complete	na	complete	na	na	na	na	na	na
Scott	complete	active	complete	complete	active	not started	active	active	not started	not started	not started
St Louis Park	complete	na	complete	complete	complete	not started	active	active	not started	not started	not started
U of M	active	not started	not started	scheduled	not started	not started	active	active	not started	not started	not started
Washington	active	not started	active	complete	not started	not started	active	active	not started	not started	not started
White Bear Lake	complete	na	complete	scheduled	complete	not started	active	active	not started	not started	not started

Technical Operations Committee

GIS Manager's report- 9/15/2016

Metropolitan Emergency Services Board
2099 University Ave W
Saint Paul, MN 55104-3431
Web: www-mn-mesb.org

TOPIC

Wireless

Verizon- active routing request for sector overlays on existing sectors (previously approved)

ATTMO -

Sprint -

Tmobile-

Wireless outage-

Wireless Emergency Routing Management System- is still going through testing. No go live date has been set yet.

WERM PSAP training - Because of the delay of the WERM go live date, PSAPs are urged to sign into WERM and play with the training data in WERM. .

MNGEO NG9-1-1- Web Portal- (<https://ng911.gisdata.mn.gov/>) Counties statewide will push their GIS Data through this portal to the state. This is also a data access point for the PSAPS to access NG9-1-1 compliant datasets (i.e centerlines, cell towers and sectors

GIS Update

NG9-1-1 State GIS centerline standard-DPS /MESB continue to work with the States NG9-1-1 GIS standards workgroup to review and answer comments from the public review of the State NG9-1-1 centerline standard.

NG9-1-1 GIS Standards Workgroup Purpose

The workgroup's purpose is to recommend and develop standards needed to integrate locally collected and maintained GIS data into statewide layers deemed critical for the Emergency Call Routing Function (ECRF) and Location Validation Function (LVF) of Next Generation 9-1-1. These layers include road centerlines, site/structure address points, PSAP boundaries, emergency service boundaries (law, fire, emergency medical service, first response, and rescue), and NG9-1-1 GIS data maintenance authority boundaries.

NG9-1-1 State Address Point Standard- MnGEO/DPS, MESB and MetroGIS met last month to review the NG9-1-1 requirements of Address points. MetroGIS Address Point workgroup has agreed to align the MetroGIS address point schema the NENA NG9-1-1 standards that will meet the needs of NG9-1-1. This standard will be out for public review around Sept 30, 2016



METROPOLITAN
EMERGENCY SERVICES BOARD

2099 UNIVERSITY AVENUE WEST
SUITE 201
SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA
55104-3431

PHONE 651-643-8395
FAX 651-603-0101
WWW.MN-MESB.ORG

MEMO

To: Nancie Pass, 911 TOC Chair
Fr: Troy Tretter, MESB Radio Services Coordinator
Date: August 31, 2016
RE: Change Management Proposal, Metro Interoperability Zone Changes

The Metro Radio Technical Operations Committee (RTOC) accepted into change management, proposals for changes to the Metro region interoperability zone.

These requests, which are still under review by the change management workgroup:

- Adding (2) additional ME-TAC interoperability channels
- Adding (2) encrypted ME-TAC interoperability channels
- Creating a regional field to PSAP hailing channel (ME-CALL)

Before the workgroup makes a recommendation to the RTOC, we value the input from the 911-TOC on the following questions or any relevant feedback.

1. Is there a need for a regional hailing channel for field units to hail the PSAP?
2. Should METCOM be opened up for field units?
3. Is there a need for more ME-TAC channels?
4. Is there a need for encrypted ME-TAC channels, if so would the PSAP's need/want to monitor them?
5. Should the Encrypted channels be limited to Law Enforcement Only?
6. Should the additional unencrypted (clear) ME-TAC's be available for everyone or restricted to public safety?

7. Currently ME-TAC1-4 are available for public safety only, and ME-TAC5-8 are available for everyone, should this change?

Ron Jansen the regional system administrator from Dakota County, the workgroup chair, and vice-chair of the RTOC along with myself will be present at the September 911 TOC for feedback.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Troy Tretter
Radio Services Coordinator
Metropolitan Emergency Services Board

Allied Radio Matrix for Emergency Response (ARMER)

Change Proposal

1. Administrative Information:

Type of Change (Technical or Operational)

Technical and Operational

Date Submitted:

March 10, 2016

Submitter (agency):

Hennepin County Sheriff's Office

Change Sponsor (Individual) Contact Information:

John Gundersen, Curt Meyer

2. Summary of proposed change(s):

Add four (4) encrypted regional tactical talk-groups for law enforcement use.

3. Existing MESB standards impacted:

3.14.0

4. Scope of Change:

Impact on users (e.g., majority of users, minority of users, number of counties):

All law enforcement radios that are equipped with DES-OFB encryption.

Impact on the placement of resources in communications equipment (e.g., upgrades):

4 encrypted talk groups to be added to encrypted law enforcement radios.

Impact on operational procedures (e.g., changes to operational standards):

Language for encrypted regional law enforcement radio resources must be added to the existing radio standard.

Impact on user training (e.g., training required for compliance):

Some training would be required as currently there are no regional encrypted radio resources.

Impact on reprogramming or configuration of end-user equipment:

Subscribers: All encrypted law enforcement radios.

Consoles: All law enforcement PSAP radio consoles would add the resources.

Other equipment: These new resources should be recorded.

5. Existing deficiencies, problems, needs addressed by the proposed changes:

Currently there are no regional encrypted law enforcement resources so users in this region have relied on statewide encrypted talk groups for interoperability when statewide coverage was not operationally necessary.

There are now more encrypted law enforcement users in the region and this region has monopolized the current encrypted statewide talk groups making them unavailable for users outstate.

6. Expected improvements & benefits resulting from the change

Regional encrypted interoperable law enforcement solution that was not previously available.

7. Proposed implementation & transition plan including timeline, milestones and training:

Start and End Date:

Beginning of the next Change Management radio programming cycle. No end date.

Description of Implementation Plan:

Add to dispatch consoles, then to subscriber radios.

8. Preliminary assessments which have been completed (documentation attached):

See attached talk group study.

9. List of Attached proposed new or revised Standards, Plans or Best Practices Guides:

Amend Metro ARMER Standard 3.14.0

10. Other Attachments:

11.Tracking and Approvals:

Submitter Approval:

Signature _____ Date _____

MESB Receipt:

Signature _____ Date _____

Radio TOC Determination of Need:

Signature _____ Date _____

MnDOT Approval (if needed):

Signature _____ Date _____

TOC Approval of Assessments:

Signature _____ Date _____

Finance Committee Approval:
(if required)

Signature _____ Date _____

Final MESB Approval:

Signature _____ Date _____

Allied Radio Matrix for Emergency Response (ARMER)

Change Proposal

1. Administrative Information:

Type of Change (Technical or Operational)

Both technical and operational. This will be a major category change.

Date Submitted:

3/31/2016

Submitter (agency):

Washington County Sheriff's Office

Change Sponsor (Individual) Contact Information:

Nathan Timm, 651-430-7863. Nate.timm@co.washington.mn.us

2. Summary of proposed change(s):

Add ME CALL

Add ME TAC 9 (all users)

Add ME TAC10 (all users)

Incorporate a recommended public safety ME zone:

- 1) < local choice >
- 2) ME CALL (new)
- 3) ME TAC1
- 4) ME TAC2
- 5) ME TAC3
- 6) ME TAC4
- 7) ME TAC5
- 8) ME TAC6
- 9) ME TAC7
- 10) ME TAC8
- 11) ME TAC9 (new)
- 12) ME TAC10 (new)
- 13) ME TAC11E LE only
- 14) ME TAC12E LE only
- 15) < local choice >
- 16) < local choice >

3. Existing MESB standards impacted:

Regional talkgroup standards, 3.14.0 – Metro ME TACs.

4. Scope of Change:

Impact on users (e.g., majority of users, minority of users, number of counties):

All metro users and consoles. Also metro interop partners.

Impact on the placement of resources in communications equipment (e.g., upgrades):

All equipment will need to be updated.

Impact on operational procedures (e.g., changes to operational standards):

Procedures will need to be updated; 3 zone radios must be taken into account.

Impact on user training (e.g., training required for compliance):

All users will need to be briefed on the changes

Impact on reprogramming or configuration of end-user equipment:

Subscribers: All

Consoles: All

Other equipment: May be applicable

5. Existing deficiencies, problems, needs addressed by the proposed changes:

Using MSP call in an emergent situation will induce delay as State Patrol Dispatch contacts the local PSAP for a backup request. There is a benefit in having the field unit speak directly with the responsible PSAP. MSP Call can be confusing for a radio user in stress with the need to hail a regional PSAP; ME CALL stands out with a clear purpose.

Metro regional clear TAC's have been nearly consumed, especially during holiday events.

Having a standard metro zone will make assigning units to the appropriate talkgroup much simpler on interoperable events. However, it should be noted that a truly standard zone would not be possible for non-public safety (restricted from ME TAC1-4) and non-law enforcement (ME TAC11E and 12E).

6. Expected improvements & benefits resulting from the change:

Increased efficiency, officer safety, and increased regional capacity

7. Proposed implementation & transition plan including timeline, milestones and training:

Start and End Date: Start date to be determined. A multiyear implementation plan will be necessary.

Description of Implementation Plan: Similar to the last round of IC zone updates.

8. Preliminary assessments which have been completed (documentation attached):

Visual observations of LTAC5E-LTAC8E and metro regional TAC's on statusboard.

9. List of Attached proposed new or revised Standards, Plans or Best Practices Guides:

Pending approval of moving forward by Metro TOC.

10. Other Attachments:

11.Tracking and Approvals:

Submitter Approval:

Signature Date

MESB Receipt:

Signature Date

Radio TOC Determination of Need:

Signature Date

MnDOT Approval (if needed):

Signature Date

TOC Approval of Assessments:

Signature Date

Finance Committee Approval:
(if required)

Signature Date

Final MESB Approval:

Signature Date



Excelsior Fire District

Proudly Serving the Communities of:

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24100 Smithtown Road

Shorewood, MN. 55331

952-401-8801 Phone

952-960-1690 Fax

Wednesday, June 01, 2016

Curt Meyer
Assistant Radio Systems Manager
Hennepin County Sheriff's Office
1245 Shenandoah Ln
Plymouth, MN 55447

Dear Curt,

This letter is in regards to a request of adding additional TAC Talkgroups on the ARMER system for the metro area. There are times during the year when it is difficult to obtain an available ME TAC to use for a multiagency incident because they are either reserved or currently in use by other agencies for appropriate purposes. At the Excelsior Fire District, we notice this mostly based on the number of special events in our area and for emergencies on Lake Minnetonka with multiple public safety agencies.

My suggestion is to add an additional six Talkgroups to the metro region TAC Talkgroups for the purposes of Public Safety only. The use of encryption onto a number of public safety radios may also impact this consideration.

I would be more than happy to discuss this further if you have any additional questions or comments.

Respectfully,

Scott Gerber
Fire Chief

sgerber@excelsiorfire.org

952-960-1650

From: [Dan Anderson](#)
To: [John D Gundersen](#)
Cc: [Curtis J Meyer](#)
Subject: RE: ARMER Change Management
Date: Thursday, January 07, 2016 1:20:00 PM

Curt asked me the same question and I'll copy and paste my reply...

More is always better and in my gut I think if it really hit the fan we'd really need some for a short period of time. I haven't been here long enough to know, but has the current amount of talkgroup capacity ever been tested in a real or training setting where all or most are being used at the same time? Not so much an infrastructure capacity issue as an issue of talkgroup management during an incident. In practice we currently use regional talkgroups really for non-regional uses, so the addition of more Hennepin County Mutual Aid tactical talkgroups would actually free the regional talkgroups up more for their intended use, which is multijurisdictional and multidiscipline response from multiple counties.

Dan Anderson MN CEM, COML, AUXCOMM
Senior Coordinator – Data Collaboration and Communications

1600 Prairie Drive,
Medina, MN 55340
USNG: 15T VK5531 8851
(612) 596-0253 (office)
(612) 578-1372 (cell)
daniel.anderson@hennepin.us
Illegitimus non carborundum est

-----Original Message-----

From: John D Gundersen
Sent: Thursday, January 07, 2016 1:19 PM
To: Dan Anderson <Dan.Anderson@hennepin.us>
Cc: Curtis J Meyer <Curtis.Meyer@hennepin.us>
Subject: Re: ARMER Change Management

Another question... Do you see a need for more regional tacs?

John Gundersen
Sent from my iPhone

> On Jan 7, 2016, at 12:20 PM, Dan Anderson <Dan.Anderson@hennepin.us> wrote:

>

> Good afternoon John...

>

> Previously Curt and I had talked about the possibility of adding additional Hennepin County talkgroups. He had suggested that I send you an official request for such, and this morning urged me to expedite my request.

>

> Much like the STACs and the METACs, Hennepin County could use several Hennepin County Mutual Aid Tactical talkgroups. I could immediately utilize 4 such talkgroups every time we activate our SMS for summer weather activities. I envision each of the 4 emergency planning groups using a talkgroup, with a possible fifth as a "Command" talkgroup (though that could be the existing HCEOC talkgroup if we needed to).

>

> As events grow and cascade, there could be a need for more mutual aid talkgroups beyond the 4 (for damage assessment, response, disaster recovery, staging, etc.), if for instance the 4 were already being utilized for

emergency management planning group storm spotting. I could easily see 4 additional talkgroups, bringing the total to 8 county mutual aid tactical talkgroups.

>

> My guess is that not all of these would be new. Perhaps there are ways to rededicate existing, barely-used talkgroups and reconfigure/rename them for this purpose. But having them in a block or zone in one convenient grouping would go a very long way in creating ICS-205 radio communications plans for SMS activations, which I intend to do this summer.

>

> So in summary, I feel that we need 8 countywide mutual aid tactical talkgroups, available to any Hennepin County Public Safety agency, reservable through our dispatch or the Status Board.

>

> If you have any questions please let me know. Thanks in advance...

>

>

> _____
> Dan Anderson MN CEM, COML, AUXCOMM

> Senior Coordinator - Data Collaboration and Communications

>

> 1600 Prairie Drive,

> Medina, MN 55340

> USNG: 15T VK5531 8851

> (612) 596-0253 (office)

> (612) 578-1372 (cell)

> daniel.anderson@hennepin.us

> Illegitimus non carborundum est

>

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Curtis J Meyer

> Sent: Thursday, January 07, 2016 10:41 AM

> To: Dan Anderson <Dan.Anderson@hennepin.us>

> Subject: ARMER Change Management

>

> Dan, it's starting.

> Submit you additional talk group requests clear and encrypted to John Gundersen as soon as you can.

>

> Thanks, Curt

> Sent from my iPhone



Wednesday, June 01, 2016

Curt Meyer
Assistant Radio Systems Manager
Hennepin County Sheriff's Office
1245 Shenandoah Ln
Plymouth, MN 55447

Curt Meyer,

This letter is in regards to a request of adding additional TAC Talkgroups on the ARMER system for the metro area. There are times during the year when it is difficult to obtain an available ME TAC to use for a multiagency incident because they are either reserved or currently in use by other agencies for appropriate purposes.

My suggestion is to add an additional six Talkgroups to the metro region TAC Talkgroups, two clear Talkgroups and four encrypted Talkgroups for the purposes of Public Safety only. I feel with more and more agencies starting to add encryption onto their radios, we are going to see an increase in demand of encrypted regional Talkgroups. Currently there is a limited number of encrypted Talkgroups and the majority, are on the statewide level. I believe that if we add the four encrypted regional Talkgroups, this will help alleviate the demand for the statewide encrypted Talkgroups.

My recommendation is the following:

- ME TAC 1-6 Public Safety Only (Police, Fire, EMS)
- ME TAC 7-10 Public Service (Anyone)
- ME TAC 11E-14E Public Safety Only Encrypted

I would be more than happy to discuss this further if you have any additional questions or comments.

Thank you,

Tony Martin

Tony Martin
PSAP Manager / Edina Communications Center
TMartin@EdinaMN.gov
952-833-9523

EDINA POLICE DEPARTMENT

4801 West 50th Street • Edina, Minnesota 55424
www.EdinaMN.gov • 952-826-1610 • Fax 952-826-1607