

## COMMITTEE REPORT

**COMMITTEE: Communication Up-Grade Committee**

**CHAIRPERSON: Mike Moser**

**DATE/TIME: September 17, 2009 @ 5:30 pm**

**PRESENT:**

John Duerr

Kevin Turner

Tom Winter

Bill Cooper

Ben Petitgout

Dan Schleicher

Mike Moser

**ABSENT:**

Joe Heim, Byran Bohnsack, Scott Toot, Jerry Westemeier, Randy Baysinger

Other Members: None

Others: Bill Salzman (Representing Jerry Westemeier)

A) Minutes Approval:

Kevin Turner made a motion to approve the committee minutes of August 20, 2009. John Duerr seconded and the motion passed.

B) Citizens' Comments: – None

C) Unfinished Business:

a) Review task items for radios.

Equipment list is still lacking from some of the towns and entities in Jo Daviess County. The lists will have to be collected so the committee has a working knowledge of the equipment that is in service.

b) Interference.

The Civil Defense frequency is still experiencing crosstalk. The situation will have to be resolved before we change to narrowband. John Duerr is researching our license for the Civil Defense frequency.

D) New Business

a) Funding.

There was much discussion on the subject and it was determined that the following sources should be investigated;

1. Pay to play
2. County funding
3. State funding
4. Private & Public grants, possibly with matching funds.
5. Combination of some or all.

## 6. Homeland Security.

Tom Winter will pursue if some grants will need matching funds.

### c) Tower Locations.

Micro wave is line of sight and there was a concern that there might be a problem during severe storms. The present towers would be upgraded and new towers would need to be added to the network.

### d) Grant Writing.

There was considerable discussion on grant writing. The consensus was that the county should look into a professional grant writer. We would need a company that specializes in diverse grants and is able to write grants for all county departments. Marv Schultz will bring up the subject at the next county board meeting.

### e) County Dispatch.

Ben Petitgout reported that the bulk of calls that come into the county are for other departments. Most calls are not of an emergency nature. The dispatcher must relay the calls to the proper department. This condition cuts in the efficiency of the county dispatch operation. The approximate cost to upgrade this system would be about \$7,000.00

### f) Safety Sales Tax.

The committee discussed this item and there was a need to educate the citizens to the fact of how bad the county communications system has deteriorated.

### g) Other Matters.

- 1) The RFP will be ready when all the needed information is submitted.
- 2) Comelec is having a open house in Grant County on 10/16/09. Grant county has a system similar to Jo Daviess County.
- 3) Sgt. Moser is preparing a "Power Point" presentation for the county board.
- 4) A letter from Motorola representative, Kristen Ptack was read. (Attached)
- 5) There is still a consensus from all the county entities that any system that is presented should be similar to the one we have now and is easy to use.
- 6) Meeting time was discussed because the groups from the east of the county have a hard time making the 5:30 pm meeting. There will be more on this subject at the next meeting.

Ben Petitgout made a motion to adjourn. Kevin Turner seconded and the motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 6:57 pm.

The next meeting of the Communication Up-Grade Committee will be on October 15, 2009 at 5:30 PM.