

RADIO SYSTEM ADVISORY WORKGROUP
1024 S 9th St, Manitowoc, WI
January 26th, 2022

Members in Attendance: Steve Denzien, Jason Freiboth, Joe Jeanty, Mike Koeppel, Brian Kohlmeier, Todd Cummings, Jason Orth, and Travis Waack

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Travis Waack at 9:01am.

Approve Minutes: A motion was made by Jason Orth and Mike Koeppel to approve the November 2021 minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

Review & Consideration of System Authorization Requests: A discussion took place regarding consistency of decisions regarding encryption requests. The workgroup generally agreed that departments could only designate one "command vehicle" and that vehicle should be department owned, stored in the station, have a permanently mounted radio, and have a primary function of command. The workgroup re-iterated its past decisions to authorize ambulances and deny requests for portables. Travis Waack will add these general guidelines to the SOG's, which will be formally approved at a future meeting.

Additional discussion took place regarding the pros and cons of authorizing access to law enforcement encrypted channels to departments outside of law enforcement. Travis Waack stated his view that authorizing public safety entities generally enhances safety during emergencies while other members outlined the merits of preserving the confidentiality of law enforcement communications. The workgroup agreed that utilization of assets, such as the County Command Vehicle, and Unified Command practices are viable alternatives.

One authorization request from the Manitowoc County Highway Department was considered for law enforcement encryption on MTSO on the Commissioner's portable and 3 Supervisor vehicles. A motion was made by Steve Denzien, seconded by Joe Jeanty, to deny the request. The motion passed unanimously.

A second authorization request from the Newton Fire Department was considered for law enforcement encryption on MTSO in Command Squad 15 and EMS Squad 10. A motion was made by Brian Kohlmeier, seconded by Steve Denzien, to approve the request. The motion passed unanimously.

A third authorization request from the Branch Fire Department was considered for law enforcement encryption on MTSO in Command 93 and 95. A motion was made by Mike Koeppel, seconded by Steve Denzien, to partially approve the request with approval for only one of the two command vehicles of the department's choosing. The motion passed unanimously.

Update on Communications System SOP's and Interoperability: None

Update on Communications Unit: None

Adjournment: A motion was made by Mike Koeppel and seconded by Jason Orth to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 9:45am.

Respectfully submitted,



Travis Waack
Director
Manitowoc County Emergency Services