

**Meeting of the STARCOMM Executive Board  
with Technical Committee**

**May 3, 2017**

(Regular April 12, 2017 Meeting Postponed)

**STARCOMM Executive Board Members Present**

Tom Everett, Fire Chief, Sioux City  
Richard Headid, Police Chief, North Sioux City, South Dakota  
Ed Mahon, Police Chief, South Sioux City, Nebraska  
Scott Pack, Police Chief, Sergeant Bluff  
Doug Young, Chair/Police Chief, Sioux City

**Absent**

Rocky De Witt, Supervisor, Woodbury County Board of Supervisors  
Dave Drew, Sheriff, Woodbury County  
Chris Kleinberg, Sheriff, Dakota County  
Dan Limoges, Sheriff, Union County  
Judy Oberg, Director of Communications, Union County Sheriff's Department  
Bob Scott, Mayor, Sioux City

**STARCOMM Technical Committee Members Present**

Mark Aesoph, Fire Marshal, Sioux City Fire Rescue  
Gary Brown, Director, Woodbury County Disaster & Emergency Services  
Joe Durham, General Manager, Electronic Engineering  
John Obermeyer, Communications Technician, Sioux City Police Department  
Scott Pack, Police Chief, Sergeant Bluff  
Glenn Sedivy, Director, Woodbury County Communications Center

**Absent**

Doug Bock, Network Manager, WCICC-IT  
Tony Carpenter, Calhoun Communications  
Don Groves, Jail, Woodbury County Sheriff's Department  
Paul Hansen, Electronic Engineering  
Greg Koinzan, Police Officer, South Sioux City Police Department  
Roger Kriesler, Calhoun Communications  
Eric Larson, Electronic Engineering  
Scott Main, Electronic Engineering  
John Malloy, Information Services Director, WCICC-IT  
Andrew Pattison, Electronic Engineering  
Ray Roggow, Emergency Manager, Union County  
Greg Stallman, Deputy, Woodbury County Sheriff's Department  
Bob Welte, Director of Operations, Siouxland Paramedics

**Also Present**

Wendi Hess, Ops Supervisor, Woodbury County Communications Center  
Derek McIntosh, North Sioux City Police Department

### Item 1 Call to Order

The May 3, 2017, meeting of the STARComm Executive Board was called to order at 1009 hours by Chairperson Doug Young. The meeting was held at The Security Institute, Western Iowa Tech campus. (April 12, 2017 meeting had been postponed).

### Item 2 - Approve Minutes

The first order of business was to approve the minutes of the March 2, 2017 meeting.

### Motion Item 2

**Tom Everett made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 2, 2017 meeting, seconded by Richard Headid; all voting aye, motion carried.**

### Item 3 - ISICS State of Iowa Radio system Update

The 48-volt power supply systems have been replaced at tower sites with four batteries being replaced by least 20 at each site providing 8 hours of run time.

Backup 48-volt systems are available for each of the smaller remote sites and one for WIT.

Joel Bates with Motorola will begin installation of a redundant prime site which will provide backup in the event the connection to the state is lost. A prime site will be located at WIT and a redundant at the AT&T site. Calhoun Communications has provided new network connectivity for connections to the State alongside the existing system. Hardware will then be upgraded at all other sites. Glenn received the final fleet map containing all new configuration for all talk groups which will be built into the radios; new ID's will be assigned as well.

Old equipment will be taken out of service and transferred to County Fire.

Glenn programmed two APX 8000 radios to the new talk groups and sent them with Joel Bates to Des Moines to test with the State system. TDMA will be tested as well.

Glenn, John Obermeyer, Greg Stallman, and Don Groves will begin building code plugs for new radios; it is necessary to be ready when Motorola is.

New radio consoles have been installed in the Comm Center. Dakota County has similar equipment with four positions. Dakota County and Woodbury County PSAPS are connected to the Iowa Communications Network which connects to the State core. Two redundant fiber optics ring connections exist to Dakota County and now a fiber optic network exists from Dakota County Comm Center to the Homer site via a new Long Lines link. A very robust network is developing.

This summer a fiber connection to West from WIT will provide an additional small ring between the WIT and West Towers by using microwave and fiber optics. A fiber optic connection will exist to three of the five sites.

When the switch-over occurs, the entire system will be off the air and backup resources will be used; this could possibly take one day to a week. The ultimate deadline is June 16.

#### Item 4 – Current FY'17 Budget Update

##### TDMA

A Motorola TDMA CIP Funds spreadsheet was disseminated. As of March 30, the fund balance was \$306,295.94.

Still have CIP funds to collect. City of Sioux City, Dakota County, South Sioux City, Union County and North Sioux. Total funds due \$146,051.42.

Total \$452,347.36

TDMA project is \$598,000

Woodbury County 911 Board has paid \$149,500.

Owe Motorola \$448,500.

Woodbury 911 owes Motorola \$50,500 of that portion, leaving \$398,000 due to Motorola.

STARComm balance after TDMA project \$54,347.36.

##### Tower Sweeps

Glenn received a quote for \$7,780 from Electronic Engineering to have the 800 system antennas and lines swept at all towers. Still waiting for quote from Calhoun. It became too difficult to coordinate the 48-volt switch out, tower work and electrician. It was a challenge just to coordinate the electrician and Calhoun, to schedule a tower crew as well may be impossible as the weather is also a factor and the tower top antennas must be disconnected. The sweeping process takes the site off the air causing a 5 to 10 minute outage.

Mark Aesoph felt coverage was good during the site upgrade outages with few trouble areas and better than the backup system. Backup for Sioux City is a voting system, Public Works 1 and 2. The WIT site receives, the West Tower transmits and receives. It is 50 feet lower and analog.

#### Item 5 - Dispose of Old Radio Console Equipment from Woodbury, Dakota, Union 911 PSAP's; Purchased with Original STARComm Federal Grant

The AT&T site is full of old consoles and other equipment from Dakota, Union and Woodbury. The old 48-volt systems have been relocated to AT&T as well.

This equipment was purchased with the original grant; the 28E agreement indicates once the equipment is no longer under the Federal grant guidelines it becomes property of the STARComm Executive Board. The Public Service Radio System Governance Agreement, Section 12 – Disposing of Property: 2. Any property to be disposed of that is not subject to any Federal rules or regulations shall be sold in the manner calculated to return the best price for the property. Property may be gifted to another public agency to be used for a public safety purpose.

The Communication Centers in the area are moving to the new system. Glenn will reach out to CALEA members and 911 Centers across the country; if there is no interest, salvage value will be determined.

### **Motion Item 5**

**Richard Headid made a motion to gift the old equipment if possible and authorize the Executive Board Chairperson to sign transfer of ownership; if there is no interest, then salvage value will be determined; seconded by Tom Everett. All voting aye, motion carried.**

Gary suggested contacting a vendor who purchased old microwave equipment at scrap prices. Glenn felt they would only be interested in the 48-volt equipment.

Doug Young mentioned grant purchases require a refund to the government if resale profits exceed \$5,000. No danger in that with this equipment. There could very well be an expense to STARComm to dispose of it.

Glenn requested a month to determine if there is any interest in the equipment.

### **Request to Purchase Old Radio Equipment**

Doug Young was contacted by a vendor interested in purchasing old radio equipment. Glenn indicated the walkies and mobiles are property of 911 and cannot be sold. The old radio equipment is intended to equip rural departments.

### **Item 6 – Discussion Concerning Chief Doug Young’s Impending September Retirement – Chairperson Assignment**

Doug Young’s last day with Sioux City Police Department is August 31. A new chief may be appointed prior to Doug’s departure. The by-laws do not address appointment of a Chairperson. The next meeting agenda will reflect election of a new chairperson.

### **Open Items**

#### **Governance Agreement Amendments**

Gary asked about the Governance Agreement amendment progress. Glenn needs to meet with Dakota County and discuss their LEC Board configuration with Chief Mahon; he hopes to be able to address this at the next meeting.

New radio consoles were purchased by each individual agency; former consoles are property of STARComm. Woodbury 911 and CIP funds paid for Woodbury County Comm Center’s 7 new positions; South Sioux City and Dakota County purchased 4 new positions; Union County purchased 2 new consoles.

The old radio consoles were included in the STARComm budget for maintenance, the new consoles are no longer the property of STARComm; the Governance Agreement will need be changed to reflect that.

An arrangement between Motorola and STARComm will need to be discussed concerning new and remaining equipment.

**Scott Pack made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Richard Headid. All voting aye, motion carried; meeting adjourned at 1048 hours.**