

Illinois P25 Working Group
May 12th, 2022 Meeting Minutes 9:30 A.M.
Moline Police Department's Community Room
1640 6th Ave. Moline, IL 61265
Project Manager Captain Darren Hart Presiding

Attendees: Mark VanKlaveren, John Winters, Jeff Ramsey, Doug Maxeiner, Jeff Snyder, Bob Vitas, Shawn Johnson, Steve Seiver, Darren Hart and Ron Erickson.

Absent: Jamie Morris and Jason Foy

Public: Terry McMaster, Scott Ryckeghem, Darren Gault, and Tim Krebs

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

1) Approval of the Minutes from the April 14th, 2022 meeting:

Motion made by Jeff Snyder, seconded by Doug Maxeiner: Roll call voice vote taken, motion carried.

10 Yes and 0 No

2) Approval of the April 14th, 2022 Financial Report:

Motion made by Steve Seiver, seconded by Bob Vitas: Roll call vote by municipality taken, motion carried.

5- Yes and 0 No

3) Approval of the May 12th, 2022 Financial Report:

Motion made by Doug Maxeiner, seconded by Bob Vitas: Roll call vote by municipality taken, motion carried.

5- Yes and 0 No

4) Tower Site Updates (RICO):

A) Locations: We are awaiting the removal of the old Silvis Site Tower and movement of some legacy fire paging and antennas from it. The tentative date of June 30th, 2022 may be moved up soon. There are some access control issues at the Oak Glen Site caused by the proxy readers.

B) RICO Change Orders: The Rock Island portable radio antennas and the Moline Fire Department's firmware and patch upgrades discussed at the last meeting are still pending. Invoices will be forthcoming and presented for discussion.

5) Tower Site Updates (Scott County): Their civil closeout is being completed, they are closing out with T-Steele. The extra warranties have been provided by Generac and T. Steele for the generators.

6) OTHER BUSINESS:

A) Agency Migration Update- East Moline and Silvis are complete. Moline Fire is done and the Police Department will transition over once their BDA is installed. Rock Island P.D. is done and the Rock Island Fire portables are done. Pete from RACOM is working on the fire department's mobiles and hopes to be done today or tomorrow. Next week they will try to coordinate with Milan and finalize the sheriff's office after that. Volunteer fire departments and ambulance services will follow the core agencies.

B) Moline and Sheriff's Office Bi-Directional Amplifier (BDA) Update- They will be starting the installation tomorrow at the Moline Police Department. The Davenport Electric Company (DECO) will be doing the work as a sub-contractor for RACOM. They estimate the job will take about one week to complete. The Sheriff's Office BDA has a final design from Anixter. Tri-City Electric has walked through the buildings with maintenance staff and they had some concerns, so it has been sent back to Anixter for a redesign. We have no cost estimates at this time.

C) BDA or Distributed Audio Systems (DAS) Discussion for Private Entities- When we conducted the Delivered Audio Quality (DAQ) testing there were several sites that failed. Scott County has worked extensively with their business to educate the businesses and facilities on the need for a BDA or DAS. We have documentation that we can provide the fire departments in our group when inspections are being done to educate the businesses and facilities in their respective communities on the need for a BDA or DAS. Not all buildings were tested during the DAQ, so new locations may be identified as problem areas.

D) EDACS System Maintenance Costs- RACOM's project manager communicated that they were trying to find a way not to lose money by them having to keep the EDACS system operational during the transition. It is costing them about \$21,000 a month to keep it operational. They thought it would be best to split the costs between Scott and Rock Island County. Scott County would cover 2/3rd the cost at \$14,000 and Rock Island County would cover 1/3rd the cost at \$7000. They were advised that there was never a discussion of us keeping their system operational. We are the owners of a new P-25 system and as agencies migrate off of EDACS, they no longer will pay EDACS fees. Migration was supposed to happen in December of 2021 and we are still in the process of migrating. Agencies who are still using EDACS are going to pay their access fees but that will cease once they migrate over to P25. Scott County believed it was a good option for them as they are paying higher access fees than what their portion of the proposed cost would be. This is the last EDACS system that RACOM owns. This discussion is still pending.

E) System Access Agreements- None to Consider

F) IA/II Advisory Group Meeting- May 25th, 2022 at 2:00 p.m.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT:

QComm Director Terry McMaster voiced frustrations over the quality of the P25 System and RACOM's response. He voiced concerns about Moline P.D. migrating over as this will create an increased amount of users and the current communications concerns will multiply. He requested that we ask RACOM representatives to sit in QComm to listen to communications and address the issues accordingly. Preferably when Moline P.D. migrates. We are addressing fire SCBA issues and have representatives coming in to work with us on those issues. It would also benefit us on training our officers better than we initially did on this equipment. There have been reports of poor communications but once the recorder is listened to, the transmission was clear. This would identify an issue at the console or some other area of the system. Noise cancellation has been turned off to help remedy issues. Programing profiles have varied from agency to agency. We are now using what Harris said is the best profile. We are not getting complaints from Scott County. Every agency is on the system except for Davenport P.D. Pinpointing the location of the user who has a poor transmission needs to be done to help identify issues. Coverage testing has not been done yet as RACOM is awaiting full foliage covering. We can assume adjustments will be made at that time. Video training on equipment use was discussed.

8. NEXT MEETING:

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Thursday, June 9th, 2022 starting at 9:30 a.m.

9. ADJURNMENT:

Motion made by Bob Vitas, seconded by Doug Maxeiner: A voice vote was taken and the motion carried for adjournment.

10- Yes and 0 No