911 COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION September 21, 2011

Chief Liggett called the meeting of the 911 Commission to order at 1:30 p.m. on September 21, 2011.

Members present. Chief Brad Liggett, Beloit Fire Department; Chief Scott McElroy, Evansville Police Department; Chief Rich LeFeber, Town of Turtle Police Department; Chief Norm Jacobs, Beloit Police Department; Sheriff Bob Spoden and Deputy Chief Barb Tillman, Rock County Sheriff's Office; Chief John Rindfleisch, Clinton Fire Department; Chief Dave Moore, Janesville Police Department

<u>Members Not Present</u>: Chief Jim Jensen, Janesville Fire Department; Chief Loren Lippincott, Milton Fire Department

Others present. David Sleeter/Kathy Sukus, Rock County Communications Center, Dara Mosley, Rock County IT; Chief Brian Demrow, Edgerton Fire Department

- 1. Call to Order and Approval of Agenda
- Minutes July 20, 2011
 Motion to approve minutes as written by Spoden. All in favor. Minutes approved.
- 3. Comments from the Public No Public Present
- 4. Analog to Digital Radio Conversion Project Update
 Sleeter stated the digital radio conversion project has been moving ahead as planned, and workgroups have been meeting jointly in preparation. Sleeter stated the infrastructure should be completed by the end of this year, with agencies ready to be on the system in the first quarter of 2012.

Sleeter stated there is a request from the Rock County Fire Officers Association to push back the project timeline slightly, and Edgerton Fire Chief Brian Demrow was present to discuss this further. Demrow stated that five fire departments have recently applied for the Assistance to Firefighters grant in hopes to obtain money to purchase radios for the conversion project. These departments are requesting the timeline be pushed back to see if they'll be awarded this grant. Demrow questioned whether it would be possible to delay radio programming for the fire departments.

Discussion ensued as to the repercussions of extending the timeframe for radio programming for the fire departments as requested, one of those being additional costs. It was also mentioned that the closer the deadline for the

federal narrowbanding mandate comes, the busier vendors become, which could result in more delays. It was noted that agencies were given two budget cycles to prepare for this conversion. A suggestion was made that the fire departments purchase the radios they absolutely need to have, and wait for the grant decision before purchasing additional. Demrow stated besides the extension, this was the kind of alternative option the Fire Officers Association was looking for.

A motion to move forward with the project installation deadline of 3/30/12 as planned was made by Moore. Second by McElroy. Motion passed.

5. Informational Items & Updates

I. Quality Assurance Sleeter distributed 3rd Quarter Quality Assurance Reports. He stated scores represent past standards.

II. IFERN 2 Base Station Grant Sleeter announced the equipment for the IFERN 2 base station is being

installed. Agencies will be notified when it has been tested and is ready to go.

III. WISCOM Frequency

Sleeter stated the Communications Center has applied for a grant that will cover 100% of the cost to install an interface to the WISCOM radio system here at the Communications Center.

IV. CAD/Mobile Data Cutover

Mosley stated the hardware has arrived and software installation in planned for October 3, which will last a couple weeks. He stated agencies should be okay with current hardware in their possession, but will know for sure well before it goes live.

Mosley mentioned it was a "rough month" for mobile data, and those issues have been resolved. Hopefully agencies will notice a countywide improvement. He will be contacting chiefs soon about a "mobile data user" contact list. He also said a South Station access point has been put in the budget. This will be primarily beneficial to the Sheriff's Office.

V. Budget

Sleeter outlined some of the big projects slotted in the 2012 Communications Center budget: Blackhawk Technical College hotspot, airport hotspot, microwave link at the Communications Center backup site, and a Mill St. radio equipment building.

Sleeter noted the Communications Center is also due for CALEA reaccreditation in April of 2012.

- 10. Next Meeting November 16, 2011 Rescheduled to December 14, 2011
- 11. <u>Adjournment</u> Motion Jacobs, Second LeFeber, Meeting Adjourned at approximately 2:32 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jara Hanley

Tara Hanley

Support Specialist

Rock County Communications Center