

COMMUNICATONS COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes of Monday, February 10, 2014

Agenda Item #1: Call to order. The Chairman calls the Communications Committee Meeting to Order at 11:30 AM at the Vilas County Courthouse Conference Room 2 & 3, 330 Court St. Eagle River, Wisconsin. Chris Mayer recognizes that a quorum is present.

Committee Members Present: Chris Mayer, Chairman
 Ron DeBruyne, Vice-Chairman
 Mark Rogacki

Others Present: Sheriff Joseph A. Fath
 Chief Deputy Mark Collins
 James Galloway
 Lt. Dale Soltow
 Jason Hilgers

Agenda Item #2, Approve Agenda: **Motion by Ron DeBruyne to approve the agenda in any order to be discussed by the Chair, seconded by Mark Rogacki; All say Aye, motion carried.**

Agenda Item #3, Approval of the previous minutes: **Motion by Mark Rogacki to accept the previous meeting minutes as presented, seconded by Ron DeBruyne, All say Aye, motion carried.**

Agenda Item #4, It is anticipated that a motion will be made and seconded to convene into closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. sec. 19.85(1)(g) for the purpose of conferring with legal counsel who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the committee regarding litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved (2012CV000222, Heartland Communications Group, LLC v. Thomas A. Rohlff).

Motion made by Ron DeBruyne to convene into closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. sec. 19.85(1)(g) for the purpose of conferring with legal counsel who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the committee regarding litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved (2012CV000222, Heartland Communications Group, LLC v. Thomas A. Rohlff), seconded by Mark Rogacki, roll call vote, all say Aye, motion carried at 11:31 AM.

Agenda Item #5, Adjourn closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. sec. 19.85(1)(g): **Motion by Ron DeBruyne to adjourn closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. sec. 19.85(1)(g), seconded by Mark Rogacki, all say Aye, motion carried at 12:20 PM.**

Agenda Item #6, Committee may take action on matters discussed in closed session: **Motion by Ron DeBruyne to provide written notice to Heartland Communications to negotiate a new contract for lease of the Heartland Communications Tower, Land O' Lakes, seconded by Mark Rogacki, all say Aye, motion carried. Motion by Mark Rogacki to draft an RFP for outside legal services for representing Vilas County's interest in Vilas County Case #2012CV000222 and tower access, seconded by Ron DeBruyne, all say Aye, motion carried.**

Agenda Item #7, Fire/EMS Simulcast Project report: James Galloway reports the system has now been up and operating for about 2 weeks and it is working well. Chris Mayer advised the committee that the firefighters and EMT's that he has talked to have given him good reports on the new system.

Agenda Item #8, Expansion of County Wide channel to Lac du Flambeau and Weber Towers: James Galloway explained that expanding the County Wide channel to Lac du Flambeau and Weber Towers will give departments equal access to the County Wide channels. The departments have been trained to limit their use of the Vilas Fire channel because it is the emergency channel for all of the Vilas County Departments. This will allow the Eagle River Fire/EMS departments and Lac du Flambeau Fire/EMS to have an alternate repeated channel to use. **Motion by Ron DeBruyne to repurpose two repeaters for the County Wide channel at a cost not to exceed \$27,500.00, seconded by Mark Rogacki, all say Aye, motion carried.**

Agenda Item #9, System Operation Report: Still working with Motorola to fix the issue with the Sheriff's Office mobile radios.

Agenda Item #10, Tower Issues: Lt. Soltow reported that some lights were replaced at the Weber Tower and they are waiting to be invoiced. Ron DeBruyne asked if the alarm and monitoring systems are adequate. Lt. Soltow explained that they are exploring options to upgrade the system as part of the Fire/EMS Simulcast project.

Agenda Item #11, 2013 Communications Budget report: Lt. Soltow reports that the 2013 Communications Budget should be complete with approximately \$6,845.00 left unexpended. Jason Hilgers commented that the revenues are up too.

Agenda Item #12, Communications Project Budget: James Galloway reported that there are some items left to pay for under the budget but it is still under budget.

Agenda Item #13, Letters and communications: Chris Mayer has had members of fire departments and ambulance departments ask about getting help with paying for the reprogramming of their radios. James Galloway explained that Northway has agreed to a lower price for reprogramming the radios.

Agenda Item #14, Set next meeting date and time: The next meeting is set for February 19, 2014 at 9:00 AM.

Agenda Item #15, Adjournment: **The meeting of the Communications Committee was adjourned at 12:55 PM**

