Dear Town Chairs and Supervisors,

On March 18, 2014 the Board of Supervisors of Town of Blue Mounds notified County Executive, Joe Parisi, ENP Director, John DeJung and County Treasurer Adam Gallagher that we are holding the payment due in February for the last half of 2013 maintenance fees until some of the issues are resolved with DaneCom and it’s actually up and running. We have concerns about continuing maintenance fee payments for a system that isn’t operating and seems to be mired in problems.

Just this year we have been informed three different times of further postponement of the burn-in date:

On March 16, 2012 in a presentation by HARRIS Corporation, they stated the 30-day burn-in would take place between May 21, 2013 and June 30, 2013. In an e-mail from Chad Fleck dated April 25, 2013, he stated; "**October 2013:** 30-day 'burn-in'. DaneCom will be powered on and the system will operate at full power and capacity."  And, in an e-mail from Chad Fleck dated January 31 2014, he stated; “The best info I can share with this group is that the DaneCom ‘burn-in’ will happen no earlier than mid-February 2014,”

In addition, we have received similar information, throughout this year, regarding the 'go-live' date.

E-mail from Chad Fleck dated January 31 2014:

“DaneCom ‘go-live’ date will be no earlier than mid-March 2014”

E-mail from Chad Fleck dated February 19, 2014:

“The “go-live” date for DaneCom P25 continues to be in a state of flux.”

E-mail from Chad Fleck dated March 28, 2014:

“DaneCom ‘Go-Live’ will be summer 2014”

In the minutes of the DCTA Executive Board meeting, held January 15, 2014,

“Dane Com – Exec. Board members noted that the paging final testing is proceeding and changes are being made. They also noted that towns will have the opportunity to drop out of the Dane Com contract next year. Many are very uncomfortable not knowing what operation and maintenance costs will be. Renée commented that we brought this topic up with the County Executive at our last meeting – to warn him it was likely towns would consider not signing another contract. His response was that that was over a year away.”

This is, however, not exactly correct.

**IN THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN DANE COUNTY AND OTHER MUNICIPALITIES WITHIN DANE COUNTY CREATING A COUNTY WIDE INTEROPERABLE VHF-BASED EMERGENCY RADIO SYSTEM KNOWN AS “DANECOM**”, section 9. WITHDRAWAL states; “A party may withdraw from this Agreement upon 18 months notice prior to the beginning of the calendar year in which withdrawal takes place, except that:

 **A.**  **The County may not withdraw from this agreement; and**

       **B.** **No party may give notice to withdraw until after December 1, 2015.**

This means all municipalities will continue to pay operational and maintenance (O&M) costs; for the earliest any municipality could withdraw would be 2017.

The members of the Town of Blue Mounds Board of Supervisors requests all Town Chairs and Supervisors consider a similar action in an attempt to bring about more accountability from Dane County Public Safety Communications and Mr. Chad Fleck, DaneCom Radio System Administrator.

Town of Blue Mounds Board of Supervisors