

SAN JACINTO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

75 W. Cedar Avenue Coldspring, Texas 77331 Main - 936.653.4367 Fax - 936.653.5058

Date: 2/5/2024

Subject: County Emergency Communications Upgrade/Repair

To: San Jacinto County Commissioner's Court

Honorable Commissioner's Court:

As the Court is aware the Sheriff's Office suffered a catastrophic communications failure during the week of 1/7/2024-1/13/2024. The Court was publicly addressed by Chief Deputy Kean on 1/10/2024 and was instructed by the Court to do what was necessary to repair the situation. Chief Kean directed Command Communications to immediately begin whatever repairs or upgrades were required to reestablish the life saving County Emergency Communications system. The Sheriff's Office ability to dispatch Fire, EMS and Law Enforcement was nonexistent. During this same time period the 911 telephone system and the Information Technology System (IT) also shut down. Lives count on communications and reliability of those systems.

PROBLEM

Currently the system has a temporary patch which enables one channel communications only. We have one repeater with absolutely no back up systems. There is no back up power system for the transmission tower. We have no interoperability with adjoining agencies in an emergency. That was very plainly displayed in the past year during the mass shooting incident, chemical plant explosion and disastrous flood recently. There is no ability to remote dispatch if the Sheriff's Office Dispatch becomes disabled, must be evacuated or is damaged due to natural/manmade disaster. Communications equipment and IT equipment does not interface due to being obsolete.

SOLUTION

Command Communications was directed to remedy these conditions and has been working on fulfilling that emergency demand. To attain interoperability with other assisting agencies we must upgrade to the 800mghz system and gain access to the statewide Texas Wide Area Radio Network Trunking System (TxWARN). This will be done with total upgrade of Foxes Run Tower in Coldspring. TxWARN will give the county access to a statewide system and enable the use of a tower in Polk, Montgomery, Liberty and Walker Counties for our local dispatching. Polk County has led the way in this arena and set up their own tower in Livingston. Equipping the tower at county expense allows full access to TxWARN without service fees.

Install 3 new dispatch consoles and all equipment to allow integration of communication, 911 service and IT software into a cohesive operational system.

Upgrade current handheld radios and mobile radios with units compatible with the 800mghz system. This will ensure reliable secure communications for all emergency services regardless of location.

To enable a remote emergency dispatch communications operation, especially if main dispatch is disabled due to emergency a remote County Emergency Communications Center is required to provide redundancy and reliability in emergency conditions.

The County Emergency Communications System is completely inadequate due to aging infrastructure and is a current danger to the lives of First Responders and our Citizens alike. Command Communications is currently in the process of providing these repairs and upgrades due to the emergency circumstances. Reliable communications are a requirement to save lives and provide the emergency services the taxpayers deserve.

Attached is an itemized invoice for expenses from Command Communications repairing and upgrading the Emergency Communications System.

If I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

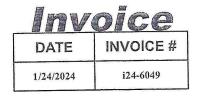
Tim Kean, Chief Deputy San Jacinto County, Texas Command Communications 416 Woodline Drive Spring, TX 77386 1-877-263-2666-Phone 1-866-929-4585-Fax

> BILL TO: San Jacinto County SO Attn: Greg Capers 75 West Cedar Avenue

SIGNATURE:



SHIP TO:



	Coldsprings, TX ' 936-653-4367								
	P.O. #	TERMS	DUE DATE	REP	SHIP	VIA	F.O.B.	PRO	JECT
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						Balance	Due	\$	497,500.00

NOTICE: ACCORDING TO THE TEXAS BUSINESS & COMMERCE CODE, COMMAND COMMUNICATIONS RESERVES THE RIGHT TO TAKE POSSESSION, REPOSSESS, THE VEHICLE IF THIS INVOICE IS NOT PAID ACCORDING TO THE TERMS PROVIDED ON THIS INVOICE FOR WORK PERFORMED, OR EQUIPMENT INSTALLED ON OR IN THIS VEHICLE.

PRINTED NAME:

Gentlemen,

Attached is a spreadsheet proposing the distribution of the SB22 funds among the Sheriff's Office and Jail personnel who are eligible. We are requesting approval pending receipt of the funds from the State and request this increase to be paid retroactively to the beginning of this budget year. The actual "loaded" (Medicare, Social Sec etc.) rate has been figured into the increase and there is absolutely no cost to the county taxpayer. The Auditor has reviewed this spreadsheet also. Thank you for your consideration. T. Kean

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