

D7 Radio Committee Meeting

Oxford Fire Department

April 14, 2016

*Meeting called to order at 16:00 by Chairman Hamilton
5 members present (Hamilton, Wilson, Maynard, Liard, Carnavale)
0 guests present:*

Secretary report: Sent electronically. Motion to accept by Maynard, Seconded by Carnavale: Unanimous

Treasury report: Radio Committee account is \$14,772.16. This is after paying 2 bills which totaled \$818.08

Radio Status:

Southbridge Fire and link – OK
Mendon Tower – OK
Oxford Tower – OK
Charlton Tower- OK
W.Brookfield Tower – in need of radios

Old Business

- Update on the deployable antenna, some parts are in, progress is being made
- Update on the mutual aid alert system, dispatch inventory almost complete

New Business

- No new updates on the agreement between DCR and District 7
- Chairman Hamilton discussed updating the cache portables. We have 48 VHF & 8 UHF along with some 800 MHz and felt we should replace some worn parts as these are one of the most used pieces of equipment we have. After further discussion:
 - Motion Liard seconded by Maynard; To purchase 24 new antenna and 24 new speaker mics for the VHF cache radios, 12 of each to go to each Comm Unit cache: 4 for, 0 against, 1 abstain (Wilson)
 - Motion: Maynard seconded Liard; To purchase 8 spare batteries for the new UHF portables, 4 to go on each Comm Unit: 4 for, 0 against, 1 abstained (Wilson)
- Paul brought up the deployable antennas and how we could benefit from having adapters to go to portable radios to add flexibility to the set up: Motion Maynard seconded Carnavale; To purchase 6 adapters, 3 to go on each Comm Unit: 4 for, 0 against, 1 abstained (Wilson)
- The status of the recorder in the Sutton Comm Unit was discussed. It was agreed to test it and determine if one of the spare could replace it.
- Rich discussed the inventory update. A complete list of District owned radios and accessories is being undertaken. So far it's a very large list. Some more work is needed to get every model & serial number.
- The overuse of power on the red & blue channels was discussed. We are licensed for 5 watts only. Rich will send a notice to the District.
- The use of MDC-1200 IDs was discussed. It was agreed the red & blue channels should all have them, however the nationwide interop channels we use (such as VFire21, VTac14, etc) should not as the federal regulations do not allow it. Rich will also send a notice on that issue to the District.
- Roy updated the committee on the Oxford Fire Tower phone line; the line is active but needs a cordless phone. The Radio Committee will locate one.
- Roy gave an update on all the fire towers and predicted staffing, also no update on the DCR agreement

Motion to adjourn: Carnavale, Seconded: Maynard: Unanimous

Adjourned: 17:30 hrs

Next Radio Committee meeting scheduled for Thursday May 12th, 2016, 4:00 pm Oxford Fire Headquarters.

Rich Hamilton, Chairman