

**Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 P.M. by Chairman Ron De Bruyne in the Vilas County Justice Center conference room with the following committee members present: Ed Bluthardt, Jim Galloway, Gary Peske, Kathleen Rushlow and David Alleman. John Niebuhr was excused. Also present were Dave Leack and Jeff Nelson representing PSC Alliance. The Chair verified both proper open meeting notice and quorum present.

**Approve the agenda; discuss in any order at the discretion of the Chair:**

**Motion by E Bluthardt, 2<sup>nd</sup> by K. Rushlow to approve the agenda with the order of discussion to be at the discretion of the chair. All voted aye. Carried.**

**Approval of the previous minutes:**

**Motion by K. Rushlow, 2<sup>nd</sup> by E. Bluthardt to approve the September 20, 2010 minutes as presented. All voted aye. Carried.**

**Project budget and financial update:**

G. Peske asked to take this issue up under the next agenda item.

**Projects and committee budgets:**

G. Peske reported that all three projects would conclude in the near future. Specifically, the Communication Project should finish in early 2011. Sufficient funds remain in that budget to complete the project. The Lac du Flambeau Tower project should be complete by the end of 2010. Sufficient funds remain to finish that project. The Vilas/Oneida Interoperability Project should also conclude by the end of 2010. Sufficient funds also remain to close that project out.

**Committee vacancy and appointment of replacement:**

G. Peske reported that the retirement of Sheriff John Niebuhr created a vacancy on the Communication Committee that needed filling. He recommended that incoming Sheriff Frank Tomlanovich be appointed to fill the position. Motion by K. Rushlow, 2<sup>nd</sup> by E. Bluthardt to send a letter to Vilas County Board Chairman Charles Rayala, requesting that Sheriff Frank Tomlanovich be appointed to fill the vacancy on the Communication Committee. All voted aye. Carried.

**Fire and EMS Simulcast system:**

G. Peske reported that sufficient funds would not be available in the Communication Project budget to purchase a fire and EMS simulcast system. He stated that the current system was working fine as designed. J. Galloway gave reasons why a simulcast system would be an advantage to the County and local fire and EMS services. E. Bluthardt pointed out that no funds were budgeted in 2011 for the estimated \$446,325.00 cost of this proposed project. He recommends waiting until the other communication projects have closed out to see if any unspent funds remain. A decision could then be made to budget additional funds in 2012 to complete that project.

**Arbor Vitae interference issue:**

G. Peske reported that a Motorola engineer checked out the entire communication system. Various problems discovered and corrected included an intermittent

transmission interference problem at the Musky Mt. tower site. Correcting this problem has eliminated the Arbor Vitae fire department paging problem.

**LDF tower project:**

G. Peske reported that the tower project was nearly finished. J. Nelson reported that the tower and accompanying system was in operation since the third week of October, 2010. The FAA required warning beacon was damaged by vandalism and will be replaced, with the loss to be covered by the County's insurance.

**SonicNet LDF-Weber leases:**

G. Peske reported that the lease agreement with SonicNet for co-location on the Lac du Flambeau tower has been signed. Sonic Net will install their equipment when able.

**Mobile data project:**

Nothing presented.

**Squad radio replacements:**

**a. Radios:**

**b. Sirens and PA:**

**c. Installation:**

G. Peske reported that the older, although recently updated squad radios were becoming unreliable. Conversion and reprogramming of encryption hardware, to allow these radios to work with the new communication system, is causing a number of operational problems. He recommends purchasing new system compatible radio units and is currently testing two different brands. Motorola offers radio units with siren, PA and installation for \$2,983.00, and the Tait brand radio can be purchased, including siren, PA and installation for \$2,188.00. Due to local service issues, the Motorola radios would be preferred over the Tait radio. G. Peske also feels that Motorola's price can be negotiated lower. He would need 38 radios to equip all of the necessary Sheriff's Dept. vehicles. J. Galloway reported that the Law Enforcement Committee would be approving a resolution to purchase 5 additional radios using an OJA reimbursement grant. However, funds need to be found, as this is a recent grant opportunity and is not budgeted for. As sufficient dollars were projected to be available in the current Communication Project budget, R. De Bruyne suggested that all of the radios be purchased using those funds; the grant reimbursement could then be deposited back into the Communication Project Fund. **Motion by E. Bluthardt, 2<sup>nd</sup> by K. Rushlow to authorize G. Peske to purchase no more than 38 Motorola radios using Communication Project funds. All voted aye. Carried.**

**Motion by E. Bluthardt, 2<sup>nd</sup> by K. Rushlow to allow the purchase of 5 Motorola radios at the specifications required by the OJA grant, using funds from the Communication Project budget, with the total grant reimbursement to be returned to the Communication Project Fund. All voted aye. Carried.**

**Oneida – Vilas interoperability project:**

G. Peske reported that the project was complete except for some minor equipment procurement delays.

**Approve Bills and Requisitions:**

**Motion by K. Rushlow, 2<sup>nd</sup> by E. Bluthardt to approve the bills as presented. All voted aye. Carried.**

**Correspondence:**

G. Peske presented a letter to the County Clerk detailing the loss due to vandalism at the Lac du Flambeau Tower site. The Clerk will submit this information to the County's insurer.

**Set Next Meeting Date:**

The next meeting date will be determined.

**Adjournment:**

**Motion by E. Bluthardt, 2<sup>nd</sup> by K. Rushlow to adjourn. All voting aye. Carried.**  
Meeting adjourned at 2:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by:

David R. Alleman, Vilas County Clerk

Minutes reflect the recorder's notations and are subject to approval by the appropriate board or committee.