

**Meeting of the Starcomm Executime Board
with Technical Committee
April 10, 2024**

Starcomm Executive Board Members Present

Tom Everett, Fire Chief, Sioux City, Board Chair
Ed Mahon, Police Chief, South Sioux City, NE
Richard Headid, Police Chief, North Sioux City, SD
Rex Mueller, Police Chief, Sioux City, Acting Board Chair
Jim Prouty, Sheriff, Union County, SD
Jason Westcott, Union County, EMA

Executive Board Absent

Sara Beatty, 911 Coordinator, Union County, SD
Chris Kleinberg, Sheriff, Dakota County, NE
Mark Nelsen, Woodbury County Supervisor
Scott Pack, Police Chief, Sergeant Bluff
Bob Scott, Mayor, Sioux City
Chad Sheehan, Sheriff, Woodbury County

STARComm Technical Committee Members Present

Travis Cipperley, Communications Center Operations Supervisor
Stacy Geesaman, Electronic Engineering
Wendi Hess, Communications Center Manager, Woodbury County

Tech Committee Absent

Mark Aesoph, Fire Marshal, Sioux City Fire Rescue
Braden Albrecht, Calhoun Communications
Doug Bock, Network Manager, WCICC-IT
Tony Carpenter, Calhoun Communications
Steve Heide, South Sioux City Police Department
Greg Koinzan, Police Officer, South Sioux City Police Department
Eric Larson, Electronic Engineering
Terry McElroy, Electronic Engineering
Scott Main, Electronic Engineering
John Malloy, Information Services Director, WCICC-IT
Scott Mitchell, Woodbury County Emergency and Disaster Services
Mike Montino, Emergency Management Coordinator, Woodbury County
Bob Welte, Woodbury County Disaster Services
Eric Wieling, Calhoun Communications

Item 1 Meeting Called to Order

The April 10, 2024, STARComm Executive Board meeting was called to order by Chairperson Tom Everett at 1000 hours.

Item 2 Approve Minutes of January 10, 2024 Meeting

Ed Mahon made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 10, 2024, meeting, seconded by Rex Mueller. All voting aye, motion carried.

Item 3 FY24 Quarterly Budget Report: Q3 January, February, March 2024

Wendi reviewed the 3rd Quarter Revenue and Expenditure report covering January, February, March 2024. Nothing remarkable to discuss.

Item 4 AT&T Lease - West Tower

Per direction of STARComm Board, Travis rejected an AT&T lease amendment request to reduce monthly West Tower rent by \$625 per month.

Since, Travis received another proposal reducing monthly lease rent from \$3,275 to \$3,150 which amounts to \$125 per month, or \$1,500 annually, as well as a proposed 5% increase every 5 years rather than 10%. Travis does not recommend the 5% reduction; 10% is standard.

AT&T is the largest contributor of lease rent, due to height on tower. Currently no other wireless leases exist to compare. T-Mobile utilizes the North Tower, but at lower level and therefore less rent.

AT&T leases space on the Homer Tower as well.

Travis had been contacted by Western Iowa Wireless requesting specs for the AT&T Tower. Travis provided the specifications and received a sample lease but no proposal. Travis will contact a representative.

Motion Item 4 AT&T Lease West Tower

Rex Mueller made a motion to accept a West Tower lease amendment proposal from AT&T amounting to a reduction of \$125 per month but maintaining the 10% increase every 5 years; seconded by Tom Everett. All voting aye, motion carried.

Travis will report AT&T's response during the July 10 meeting.

Item 5 Senet Lease Termination

A lease termination notice was received from Senet, who remotely monitors propane tanks. This amounts to \$291 per month or \$3,492 annually.

Rural Cell Coverage

During a 911 Board meeting, Woodbury County Board of Supervisors Mark Nelson asked Wendi about connections to wireless companies. Mark feels cell phone coverage has drastically decreased in rural areas. Service changed from 3G to 4G and now 5G, and after the Hwy 20 expanded to four-lane, the extra traffic, and trucks drawing GPS and data as they travel through has adversely affected rural service. Correctionville, Bronson, and Pierson have poor to nearly non-existent service. Wi-fi calling is an option if access to the internet is available. There are homes in the county without access to landline phone service, cell service, or internet. Starlink satellite is an option for Woodbury County residents.

Jackson, Nebraska is currently laying fiber to houses. Western Iowa Telephone is installing fiber and will reach Pierson during the summer. Heading toward Correctionville.

Siouxland Alerting

A Siouxland Alerting individual utilizes Facebook to post 911 public safety incidences. Travis is not certain how this individual is receiving encrypted information as he did not purchase a radio permitting media access. The individual has since become familiar with hipaa regulations. Each agency should review their personal MOU between the media and STARComm. Travis had the State brick radios to determine who is using them; the radio id's are still in the system and can be reactivated if necessary.

Item 6 Open Items

Union County Sheriff

Jason Westcott, Emergency Management Director, Union County, introduced Union County Sheriff Jim Prouty; both will be STARComm Board representatives.

Union County Tower Project

Stacy Geeseman, Electronic Engineering, was consulted about relocating a Union County tower site. A Motorola technician will likely assist with the location of dispatch consoles, but cannot perform updates without a link, and upgrades cannot be received due to outdated equipment. Jason and Jim are researching available fiber and other connectivity methods and resources. The Motorola

agreement with STARComm includes updates to dispatch. Wendi will review the Motorola maintenance agreement. Travis will reach out to his Motorola contact.

Item 7 Motion to Adjourn

Ed Mahon made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Rex Mueller; all voting aye, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 1031 hours.