



Meeting was held January 9th, 2008
At Kozy Korner in Township of Pine Lake.

Peggy Sleik and William White from TAIT Radio Communications were at the meeting to discuss the towers upgrades and to answer any questions regarding TAIT radios that will be available to the county units for purchase.

If anyone has any question they can contact them at their office at 281-829-3300 or E-mail, for Peggy at peggy.sleik@taitmobile.com or for William at bill.white@taitmobile.com.

Approval of Minutes: From November 14, 2007. A motion was made and 2nd to accept the minutes. Motion was carried.

Report from Treasurer: Checking account has \$270.26 and the saving account has \$1,221.20. Still waiting on a few departments to still pay their dues. A motion was made and 2nd to accept the treasure's report as read. Motion was carried.

Committees:

Communications: There is a need to set up a meeting at this time. Dan Hess will schedule a meeting soon. All the towers are now up and equipment is being delivered for the new tower sites. All equipment should arrive within the next few months. Still having some issues with Alltel tower in Lake Tomahawk but negotiations are progressing.

Discussion was held on dispatching frequencies. Do departments want to be paged on EMR 1 and acknowledge dispatch on EMR 2, or page on EMR 1 and acknowledge on EMR 1, then once your department gets on scene, switches to fire ground channels? Discussion continued, as to some departments using EMR for radio traffic during the fire ground operations and not switching off of EMR 1. Question was asked if dispatch will be able to page over the departments on the new system if they do not switch to fire ground channels. This issue has been brought up a number of times that departments need to get off of EMR to another channel to open up EMR for emergency traffic. We will continue at next meeting.

Ken K. suggested that fire departments develop a back up plan for being notified for calls(such as the old 10 call phone list) before we do the switch over to the new equipment just in case there are problems getting the system tuned in. He will be developing a switch over plan as we get closer to the new system being activated for the departments that need to reprogram the correct frequencies into their radios.

Departments have requested to have 2 pages for an incident and it was noted that this is not being done on a regular basis. Dan H. is going to check into this matter and find out why this has not been happening, but did state that for situations such as a multiple vehicle accident that they receive several calls for that one accident and that there may be a short delay.

There was a discussion on what brand of pagers, departments were using. Doug R. from Lake Tomahawk stated they have purchased several Apollo pagers to try out, as they are not happy with the service they are receiving from Motorola. They are comparable in price and noted that you can use regular rechargeable batteries. If you would like input on their performance you can contact Doug R.

Sheriff Department: Still trying to get the dive team representatives to come to the meeting, they have been busy getting the team together. It was stated that Jim Woods and Bill Nichols have attended a few fire department meeting to discuss the team progress.

DNR: There will be fire zone training on the 10th of January at the Pelican Fire Department and Zone Boss training the 14th and 15th of January at Treehaven located on County A. All fire departments should have received a notice of this training from the DNR.

LEPC: We will be having a meeting at the end of January.

College: No Report

WPS: Mike Cleven explained some of the ways WPS can detect a power outage. They now have the capability to send a signal to the electric meters in a specific area to see if they are operating and they then receive a print out of all non operational units. They will then dispatch a truck out to the area right away. During storms they also have managers that will respond equipped with tools to verify if the power is out or lines de-energized. This should shorten the time a department needs to wait for lines down.

There was a question regarding CO calls. If the fire department requests WPS to come to check out a CO call, will WPS charge? Mike stated that if it is a request from a fire department there is no charge. However if the home owner or the renter should call WPS they will be charge for the call.

Michael was asked if WPS monitors the fire frequencies and he said that a few of the offices do have scanners in their office and when they hear a call that is power related they will contact WPS dispatch to get a truck to the location.

Michael did remind departments not to give out the emergency number to WPS dispatch, as this is for official use only by law enforcement and fire departments.

EMS: None

Emergency Management: There will be a storm spotter class coming up in April. Once the time and location have been determined, Ken K. will send out a notice. The OJA grants were submitted to the state and reimbursements will be sent out-not sure how long the state will take.

MABAS: Wayne K. attended a state committee meeting. The MABAS system has been finalized at the state level and a resolution/ ordinance needs to be adopted by each Town Board that wishes to participate in the program. A informational packet was handed out to the departments to take back to their town board to be adopted and returned. Wayne K. discussed the time frame that has been established to institute the system and would like to get the adopted paperwork back by May 1st. It was noted that the MABAS system is voluntary and you can participate at any level that you want. Wayne K. stated he had an

informational meeting with Woodruff, Minocqua and Hazlehurst and explained the concept of the system and clarified some of the rumors. He also stated Vilas County is also asking for information on the program. If you have any questions about the packet please contact Wayne K. or Ken K.

Old Business: The fire safety house issue was discussed, Terry W. had talked to Monty Timm (President of OCFFA) and the issue is that the fire safety house and tow vehicle have been coming back with damage, or low on fuels and the cost to fix it was being incurred by the Oneida County Firefighters Association. They are willing to pay for the routine maintenance of the vehicles. The check sheets were not being filled out and returned back so that the repairs could be noted and repaired prior to the next department using it. Terry and Monty will be developing a memorandum of understand for all the fire departments to sign so that if a department uses the FSH and does not fill out a check sheet and the next department who goes to use it, notes the damage on the returned check sheet, than the prior department will be responsible for the repair bill. Rhinelander Fire Dept. will still handle the scheduling of the FSH. More discussion will follow at the next OCFFA meeting on January 22 at the Pelican Fire Dept.

New Business: It is that time for elections for President and Vice President/ Treasure. If anyone will like to run for these positions, contact Ken K. or Dawn at Emergency Management. The Secretary position is an appointed position.

If you are not receiving the minutes via e-mail, let Tom know. Tom is aware of some of the issues and he is working on it to have this matter cleared up.

Everyone is reminded that if you change any addresses or e-mails to please contact Tom at tom_white@charter.net of any changes.

The next regular scheduled meeting will be held March 12th. We need a location for the meeting. If you have a restaurant that would enjoy hosting about 20 people please advise Tom via email or call Brian Gehrig at 362-5684. We will be holding a work meeting to develop card for MABAS system at the following

**NEXT MEETING IS
FEBUARY 13, 2008 AT THE LAW ENFOCEMENT CENTER
AT 6:30PM**

Motion was made and 2nd to adjourn meeting. Motion was made and carried to adjourn.

Tom White
Secretary