

**Public Safety Collaborative  
Minutes  
October 20, 2005**

1. Meeting was called to order at about 9:00 a.m. by Joye McElwee
2. Attendance listing is available at the end of these minutes.
3. Introductions were made among those present.
4. Summary of the meeting:
  - a. **Minutes** of the July 21, 2005 meeting minutes were accepted with a change to the dates on the minutes for both July minutes and the date for this meeting.
  - b. **Agenda:** No changes proposed.

c. **Old Business:**

- 1) Community Safety Initiative: Commissioner Coonrod indicated the outlook was pretty good. Lots of presentations were being made, with a many still yet to accomplish. The Chamber of Commerce has endorsed CSI and is funding the campaign. Thousands of brochures are going out by direct mail.

A voter turnout of about 15-20 percent is expected because no major elections are on the ballot. We have to get the “yes” votes out.

We have seen little opposition. In fact, we believe it has been well received. Commissioner Bentley distributed brochures. She also explained that The News-Leader was doing a 3-day series on CSI.

- 2) Communications:
  - a) Don Kocian, JR Webb, and Becky Jungmann explained that the 800 TRS radios had been installed in all the adjoining counties to Greene except Webster. Apparently they want to wait until their new 911 Center is built before installing their radio. Becky said Christian County’s unit was installed but is located in an area that is not

immediately accessible. Weekly tests with surrounding county 911 Centers are planned.

Joye indicated he would be testing both 800 TRS and HF radio systems with Polk County on November 2, with bi-weekly thereafter on the HF radio system.

- b) Steve Runnels, National Weather Service, asked what the 800 radios in adjoining jurisdictions would be used for. JR outlined how they are to be used by these counties in seeking Greene County assistance, and for Greene County to use in passing critical information to these counties. Christian, Polk, Lawrence, Webster, Dallas, and Dade counties have been provided these 800 radios.

Joye explained that these radios also have the Weather Net Talk Group in them so that these counties could pass important weather information to the National Weather Service via Greene County OEM.

A copy of the 800 Talk Groups available in the adjoining county radios is attached for your information.

- c) Don explained how City Utilities had bid on a spare controller for the 800 system that WACO Texas was selling. He says they acquired that equipment for \$4,750. This is an amazing acquisition seeing as how that equipment is valued at over \$100,000.
- d) Don went on to explain that he and JR attended a recent workshop regarding the re-banding of the 800 MHz channels that is being accomplished to eliminate interference between NEXTEL and those organizations operating on 800 MHz frequencies. For us that re-banding will occur about this time next year. CU will start the negotiations for that process in about 4-5 months. The re-banding will impact all 2,850 radios in the system.
- e) Don says the Agreement among the City, CU, and Greene County on the 800 TRS is being changed to accommodate placement of a 53MHz amateur radio system on the Republic 800 Tower, a siren control system on the Springfield South 800 Tower, adjustments in the CU SCATA system, and opens the door to placement of automatic vehicle locator system equipment at the 800 TRS sites. This process seems to be going smoothly.

- 3) StormReady Status for Springfield and Greene County: Steve Runnels explained how this program is an effort by the National Weather Service to work closely with local jurisdictions in making communities prepared for severe weather.
  - a) Greene County OEM has submitted the paperwork.
  - b) November 14, 2005 we will inspect the program for the city and county. The NWS and State Emergency Management Agency will look at the warning control point, emergency management equipment, and verify weather alert radios are in place within key facilities.
  - c) Polk County is in the same process and offers the potential for a combined ceremony in recognition of StormReady status for these jurisdictions.
  
- 4) Automatic Vehicle Locator (AVL) System: AVL may be a project that the PSC can work toward for the benefit of everyone in the local response community:
  - a) Joye explained City Utilities has provided him a rough cost for implementation of AVL for them. Don says CU is currently looking at the scope of doing an AVL system for its organization, but funding is about 3 years away.
  - b) JR Webb says Police and Fire have GPS in their vehicles and they are capable of interfacing with CAD. The Sheriff's Department vehicles have GPS, but their new server does not have an interface to CAD. That cost would be about \$5,800.
  - c) Joye explained that the State is supposed to allocate \$10M to communications out of the 2005 Homeland Security grant process. So far that process has yet to materialize. We have 3 projects that could vie for those funds. One of those is for an AVL system. The other projects are upgrading Public Works to full 800 TRS operations and the interface between Joplin's 800 TRS and ours. Don says 800 radios (x2500s) have dropped to \$1100 so the cost for Public Works should be significantly less. That's about 50% of what we originally paid. This radio did not offer 48 channels initially, but they now do. Joye emphasized that we will need to prioritize these 3 projects if the

Communications grant funds become available. He has asked for about \$500K, but that amount may need to be increased.

- d) Leland McMasters, Rogersville Police Chief, says that he has no 800 TRS capability for his six full-time officers or five reserve officers. They have to work back through the Webster County Sheriff's Department on VHF. He wants to know if Rogersville PD can participate in the communications grant so they can convert to 800 radios. He explained that Sheriff Jack Merritt has indicated he might adopt the Rogersville Police so they can be on 800.

Becky Jungmann stated the 911 center is maxed out on dispatch capabilities.

Joye explained that Rogersville would need to be compliant with all Homeland Security requirements in order for them to apply as a jurisdiction for the communications grant. This led into a discussion on National Incident Management System (NIMS) compliance, etc.

Nancy Edson, Rogersville City Administrator, explained that Bill Sexton, Webster County Emergency Management, had sent them a note saying they needed to comply with NIMS, but without explaining what it is or what they needed to accomplish in order to comply. Joye met with her after the meeting. Joye will place Rogersville on his notification lists. This will offer Rogersville the potential of receiving from both Webster County and Greene County.

- 5) Grant Status update: Joye explained that he had applied for \$300,000 more for the two WMD Teams located within Greene County. We have verbal approval of the grant, but nothing in writing as yet.

We will not know about the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) \$80K grant for over the roadway sensors until mid-January 2006. That's the grant to place 20 sensors near flood prone roadway areas so that the status of flooding at these points can be monitored in near real-time. The sensor would send water level information to a computer server and the information then displayed on the Internet or transmitted to pager systems. Joye passed around a Gantt Chart that showed the timeline for the project and a map of

proposed sensor flood points.

The sensor project is a partnership among a number of organizations including Public Works, Greene County Highway, Greene County Information Systems, Greene County Resource Management, MoDOT, National Weather Service, KY-3 and Springfield-Greene County OEM.

5. Next meeting is January 19, 2006.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joye G. McElwee

Attendees

Dave Coonrod	Greene County Commission
Don Kocian	City Utilities
Rob Slentz	Republic EMA
Lynn Hollandworth	Republic Fire Department
Roseann Bentley	Greene County Commission
Carl Buckner	Fair Grove EMA
Bill Deal	City Utilities
Becky Jungmann	911 Center
JR Webb	911 Center
Rich Berry	Missouri State University
Leland McMasters	Police Chief, City of Rogersville
Steve Meyer	Public Works
Nancy Edson	City Administrator, City of Rogersville
Joye McElwee	Springfield-Greene County OEM

Attachment 1  
Attendance Listing

Roger Brogue	City Utilities
Shelia Wright	Springfield City Council
Dave Coonrod	Greene County Presiding Commissioner
Roseann Bentley	Greene County Commissioner
Becky Jungmann	911 Center Director
J. R. Webb	911 Center Assistant Director
Rick Williams	Emergency Management Director, City of Republic
Lynn Hollandworth	Republic Fire Department
Joye McElwee	Springfield-Greene County OEM
David Hoover	Ozarks Health Ventures
Bob Patterson	St. John's EMS
Margaret Dawson	City Utilities
Rob Slentz	Republic Emergency Management
Myrl Bowler	Mayor of Strafford
Richard Berry	Missouri State University
Randy Mantle	Logan-Rogersville Fire Protection District
Jeff Reinold	Greene County Budget Officer