

## Community Update with Mayor Nickels

8-09-2009

### “Joint Dispatch Agreement”



This past Monday the Joint Dispatch Board and members of the Manitowoc County Board met with Two Rivers City Manager Greg Buckley, myself, and several emergency officials to deal with concerns about the Joint Dispatch project.

Three weeks ago at the County Board meeting the Cities of Kiel, Two Rivers, and Manitowoc asked that the project take a "time out" because we felt it was moving too fast and because we felt that we were being left out of the discussions, especially for such a large project.

The County Board then voted 16-9 to table the vote on the project until their August 18<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

The two main topics discussed during last Monday's meeting was the wording of the Joint Dispatch Agreement, and, radio frequencies. Radio frequencies have been a big concern lately. The county plans to use a 700 megahertz system for the county's emergency communication. Over the past several years the cities of Manitowoc, Two Rivers and Kiel spent a combined \$300,000 on a different type of frequency, the VHF radios.

We will be meeting once again today to address any changes that need to be made with the Joint Dispatch agreement, and also to answer some questions that were asked during last weeks meeting.

The Federal government has mandated that all communications be narrow banded by the year 2013, and this is the reason for many of the changes taking place for the county, and the cities alike.

We hope to come to some sort of resolution at today's meeting, so the county can have the opportunity to vote on the project based on their own merits.

This upcoming Thursday and Friday we will once again be celebrating Showtime in the parking lot at City Hall. The festivities begin at 5:30 both nights. On Thursday night the

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Manitowoc Marine Band will perform its last concert of the season. A special “Congratulations” to Jean Marie Stahl for achieving 50 years in the band. Jean Marie has been an asset to the Marine Band and our community, and we all should thank her for her time and talents over the last 50 years. Come on down Thursday night to celebrate with her and her wonderful family.



Friday Night the Garth Neustadter Trio will perform. Both nights end with a variety show on the barge beginning at 7:00. Stop down for some great food and fun this Thursday and Friday in the parking lot at City Hall.