

Community Update with Mayor Nickels

8-16-2009

“Cities Agree on Joint Dispatch Agreement”



I would like to follow up on the discussions that have taken place in the three weeks since the County Board's tabling of the resolution to proceed to bid on a new, county-wide radio system. Discussions were held between; county staff, board representatives, and representatives of the cities of Manitowoc, Two Rivers, and Kiel.

First of all, we appreciate the County Board tabling the action at their July 21 board meeting. That action allowed the opportunity for appropriate dialogue between the County and local emergency service leaders on issues related to both the radio system technical specifications and the new joint dispatch agreements.

The cities withdraw our objections to the County proceeding with putting the new radio system out to bid based on our dialogue, and upon the documents that we have reviewed, which include the radio system request for proposal and the proposed changes to the Joint Dispatch Agreements.

We do this based on the understanding that the proposed new Joint Dispatch Agreements, in the form reviewed with County representatives at a meeting on Monday, August 10, are the documents that will be presented for County Board action in the near future.

We also withdraw our objections to the radio system bid with the understanding that all proposals received from prospective vendors for the new radio system will be reviewed by the Joint Dispatch Board.

Further, that the Joint Dispatch Board's recommendation on selection of the system vendor will be sought before any contract for the purchase of that system is presented for County Board action.

We ask that the County Board, in taking any action on the proposed radio system at its meeting of August 18, indicate its agreement with our understandings as addressed by the three cities.

The decision to move forward on the joint dispatch center discussion lies with the County Board, and according to chairman Jim Brey, they wish to take action at their next meeting which is scheduled for Tuesday August 18th.

This past week we once again held Showtime in the parking lot of City Hall. A special thank you to Tom Drill and all his hard work this past Thursday and Friday to make Showtime a huge success once again.

Also, a very special congratulations to Sister Cecilia, who is retiring after 48 years of teaching music.