

**Multi-Agency Radio Communications System (MARCS)**  
**Steering Committee • Meeting Minutes**  
January 14, 2016 • 2:00 p.m.

<b>Committee Members In Attendance:</b>	<b>Stu Davis</b> , State CIO/Assistant Director DAS as Chair <b>Christine Morrison</b> , President Ohio Controlling Board representing OBM <b>Joe Montgomery</b> , Assistant Director ODPS <b>Eric Harrell</b> , Assistant Director, ODNR	<b>Kevin Stockdale</b> , Deputy Director ODRC <b>Sonja Simpson</b> , Deputy Director Operations ODOT <b>William Vedra Jr.</b> , Director of Public Safety for Grove City
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**Welcome**

**Chairman Stu Davis** called the MARCS Steering Committee Meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

**1. Introduction**

Steering Committee Members (hereinafter “The Committee”) in attendance were introduced. All other individuals in attendance were introduced.

Chairman Davis addressed the selection of the new MARCS Administrator. Explanation of the evaluation process, members participating, unanimous selection of the new MARCS Administrator Rick Schmahl. Chair provided a quick overview of Rick Schmahl’s experience and qualifications, his connection to local government and then introduced him to attendees. Mr. Schmahl then talked about his background with law enforcement, radio technology, and MARCS. He discussed his first 45 days and the needed changes to come to move MARCS from a project to a program, ensure sustainability and process improvement. The need to go through the Help Desk to assist with categorizing incidents, problems and concerns with service delivery. Now it is a phone call to individuals, and it is important that these go through the Help Desk and logged and resolutions communicated.

**2. Review of 7/27/2015 Meeting Minutes:**

The minutes of the July 27, 2015 meeting were introduced by R. Schmahl and Chairman Davis. Minutes were reviewed by all.

<b>MOTION</b>	Sonja Simpson made a motion to accept the July 27, 2015 minutes. Seconded by William Vedra Jr. Stu Davis called for a vote, and the motion passed.
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A report of the Local Government Subcommittee was given by William Vedra Jr. Mr. Vedra stated the Subcommittee is looking for continued growth as they move forward. The Subcommittee is starting to formalize the process, rules, and procedures for the Subcommittee and the makeup and governance of same. Some issues were brought forth and discussed from the attendees.

One of those was the OARnet outage that occurred in December impacting several MARCS sites. Chairman Davis addressed the issue and reported on the findings from the After Action Report (AAR). Several items have been added to procedures going forward which will also include a new bridge line to be established during any update or upgrade. This will be available for all interested parties to use to allow communications before, during, and after the event.

### **3. Operating Budget Review:**

Presented and reviewed by Steve Boudinot

- Mr. Boudinot presented a recap of the FY14, FY15, and FY16 Operating Budget.
- Mr. Boudinot reported on a proposed increase in the MARCS Operating Budget for FY16 and FY17. A Controlling Board request has been submitted and will be heard on January 25, 2016. If approved, the MARCS Operating Budget will be increased from \$14.9 million to \$17.3 million. Most of this is to cover increased backhaul costs for the new MARCS IP update. Will also allow MARCS to complete preventative maintenance on the towers, HVAC, UPS units, and generators.
- Mr. Boudinot also reported on the revenue generated. FY15 was near \$17 million and FY16 is projected to be about \$19 million.
- Mr. Boudinot gave an update on the requested Capital Budget for FY17 through FY20. MARCS has submitted a request to DAS. Chairman Davis cautioned everyone that this is a work in progress and will not be finalized until passed by the Legislature and approved by the Governor. Still some work to be done.

### **4. MARCSIP Roll-out Update:**

Presented and reviewed by Stuart Johnston (PowerPoint Presentation)

- Presented an updated map with not only the MARCS IP upgrade, but also showing the many partnerships established.
- Stuart Johnston reported the update was completed ahead of schedule and on budget.
- Originally set for July 2016, completion will be 1 year ahead of schedule on July 2015.
- Tower count has increased from 203 in original buildout to 294 today, with a projected total of 343 when complete.

### **Agile Update**

Presented and reviewed by Steve Merriman (PowerPoint Presentation)

- Steve Merriman gave a detailed updated report on the connectivity of MARCS IP with Agile.
- Discussion on connectivity with dispatch consoles. Tom Bretthauer spoke on the need for dual path connectivity for dispatch consoles. Comments from attendees and others.

### **MPP31 Update**

Presented by Rick Schmahl

- Rick Schmahl discussed the need for the addition of radios being approved to work on MARCS IP. Chairman Davis requested a hard copy of any additional radios to be added. Any communication will be in written form and will be presented to the Steering Committee as it is being discussed. Will approve any additional radios at the next Steering Committee meeting.

### **5. MARCS In Schools Update:**

Presented and reviewed by Rick Schmahl and Sean Kostelnik from Motorola.  
(PowerPoint Presentation)

- Radio totals were given on the attached PowerPoint slide. Students being covered by MARCS In Schools is approaching one million.
- Comments from attendees.

### **6. Additional Customers/Tiering Update:**

Presented and reviewed by Rick Schmahl.

- - Rick Schmahl gave an update on partnerships still being developed or in the working stage.
  - Summit, Pickaway, Miami, Wayne, Darke, Stark, Knox, and Trumbull. Comments from the Wayne County Commissioners, Mr. Jim Carmichael and Scott S. Wiggam.

### **7. Brief NPSBN Update:**

Presented and reviewed by Rick Schmahl.

- FirstNet has released the RFP for implementation of the FirstNet system.
- FirstNet will be scheduling a second round of consultations with each of the states.
- FirstNet is trying to schedule meetings with the Governor and the Governor's staff in each state.

- FirstNet.gov website has been revamped and updated. Ohio has also established a website from the SIEC Subcommittee. ([www.OhioFirst.Net](http://www.OhioFirst.Net) )
- LTE Demonstration project is well under way in Greene County. Lots of interest from other counties around the state. Chief Nathan Heister gave a report on the five demonstration scenarios they are working on. Chief Heister thanked all the participants in this demonstration project including ODOT, ODNR, OSHP, and many others.

#### **8. FirstEnergy Update:**

Presented and reviewed by Jeff Schomer (PowerPoint Presentation)

- Mr. Schomer spoke on the progress of the proposed partnership. Still work to be done, but moving along.

#### **9. Rebanding Update:**

Presented and reviewed by Dick Miller

- Dick Miller reported the final invoice for MARCS staff hours has been submitted to Sprint/Nextel. Still one pending change order for additional time for the consultants. All state agencies have been paid and all have received their checks.
- Hopeful to report at next Steering Committee that rebanding for Ohio MARCS is "COMPLETE". Will keep everyone advised.

#### **10. MARCS Projects:**

Presented by Tom Bretthauer

- Tom Bretthauer reported on the CAD upgrade. Discussed ODNR, EPA, and OSHP migration and reported on how the implementation was going. Also reported on the addition of Clermont County to the MARCS CAD project and how that was progressing.
- Hopeful to report at next Steering Committee the "WAVE" policy and pricing to be approved by the Steering Committee.
- Hopeful to report at next Steering Committee the "Digital Pager" policy and pricing to be approved by the Steering Committee.

#### **11. Questions and Discussion:**

- Chairman Davis and Director Schmahl poled the attendees for any comments or discussions.

## 12. Establishment of next meeting date:

- Discussion on holding MARCS Steering Committee meetings at a different venue. ODOT and DPS offered meeting space if available. Further discussions will be held prior to the next Steering Committee meeting. All agreed the next Steering Committee should be within the next three to four months.

<b>Adjournment</b>	Kevin Stockdale made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by William Vedra Jr.. None opposed. Motion passed, the committee adjourned.
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