

**DOWNRIVER MUTUAL AID
REGULAR MEETING – September 5, 2024**

Item #4 (P. 1 of 4)

<u>Present:</u>	Allen Park	Mayor Gail McLeod
	Brownstown Twp.	Supervisor Edward Smith
	Dearborn	
	Ecorse	
	Flat Rock	Mayor Steven Beller
	Gibraltar	Mayor Garrett Shumate
	Grosse Ile Twp.	Supervisor Jim Budny
	Huron Twp.	Supervisor David A. Glaab
	Lincoln Park	
	Melvindale	
	River Rouge	Alternate Karl Laub, Community Development Director
	Riverview	Mayor Andy Swift
	Rockwood	Mayor Troy Cox
	Southgate	Mayor Joseph Kuspa
	Taylor	Mayor Tim Woolley
	Trenton	
	Woodhaven	Councilwoman Jan Sikes
	Wyandotte	Mayor Rob DeSana

Others Present: Chief Jeff Watson, Police Chair and Ken Laird, Chief of Operations (Fire Logistics)

The meeting was opened by the Board Chair, Supervisor David Glaab, at 6:02 p.m., followed by roll call and introductions.

Agenda: Motion by Mayor Kuspa, supported by Supervisor Budny, to approve the agenda as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes: Motion by Mayor Andy Swift, supported by Mayor McLeod, to approve the minutes of 5/9/24 as written. The motion passed unanimously.

Executive-Finance Committee Report:

Executive-Finance Committee Minutes: Motion by Supervisor Budny, supported by Supervisor Smith, to approve the Executive-Finance Committee minutes of 6/2/2024 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

FY 2022-2023 Audit:

Kristin Hunt, Senior Partner and Jake Talerek, Senior Manager of Plante Moran, presented the audit. An audit graph was distributed for Board reference. They gave details about the audit and explained the audit delay due to more extensive research required.

Jake Talerek reviewed the DMA audit highlights. This audit resulted in an “unmodified opinion;” the highest possible audit opinion. All funds ended the year with a positive fund balance, except for Highway Safety had a deficit of (\$515.00), which was due to a GASB 33 timing difference. A federal program audit was not required. There was a financial statement finding related to journal entries that were required during the audit, related to timing of 911 program funds received.

Motion by Mayor Kuspa, supported by Mayor Woolley, to accept the DMA audit as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

DMA 800 MHz Radio Tower Infrastructure – Request to join the State of Michigan Radio Network:

Chief Jeff Watson and Bob Heck reported. DMA respectfully requests a resolution from the Board to authorize the DMA to enter into a purchase agreement with Motorola and the Michigan Public safety

Communications System (MPSCS) to replace the existing DMA public safety radio network that is no longer supported by Motorola. And also, to extend the current monitoring and maintenance agreement with Motorola until cut over to the new system

BACKGROUND: The DMA was notified in 2023 that the existing radio infrastructure cannot be supported effective May of 2025. With that in mind, the DMA posted an RFP for replacement of the existing 800 MHz infrastructure in January of 2024

The DMA received 5 bids for this project: 1) Tait; 2) Harris; 3) Kenwood; 4) Motorola stand-alone; and 5) Motorola MPSCS. MPSCS and Motorola requested to provide a second proposal to join the State Radio network. All vendors were then offered to revise their bids as well at that time.

In June MPSCS presented another design that utilized two existing MPSCS tower assets and involved the Wayne County Simulcast system which is co-located at the Ecorse Tower site owned by the DMA. The new bid was in the amount of \$5,153,635.70. Motorola also offered a “lease to own” option that provided a better interest rate than Flagstar has offered.

MPSCS advantages:

- No monitoring or maintenance fees after cutover (saves up to 400 k per year)
- Interoperability with neighboring MPSCS users
- DMA is only required to maintain two tower sites rather than four
- MPSCS refreshes the equipment at no cost to the communities
- The DMA will not have to rebid this again in 10 years

Estimated cost per year is \$515,000.00, which funds are available through the 911 surcharge. Detailed discussion followed including better interoperability; ability to communicate across county lines; and better financing options. Kevin Krause of Romulus said that although Romulus is not part of the DMA, they were years ago, and Romulus has been using the MPSCS system for years and they are still able to communicate when things go down.

Chief Watson commended Bob Heck and Ken Mackey for all their work behind the scenes in this effort. He said public safety is essential and a top priority, and the ability to communicate across county lines is necessary.

Motion by Mayor Kuspa, supported by Supervisor Budny, to approve replacing the 911 System with the Motorola MPSCS system for \$5,153,635.70 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT DETAILS:

- Continue to monitor and respond to infrastructure related outages
- 24/7 monitoring of all tower shelters and radio consoles.
- Update patches as required.
- 30 months or until cut over to MPSCS
- Cost reduced from \$400k to 338k

Motion by Mayor Kuspa, supported by Supervisor Budny, to approve extending the current monitoring and maintenance agreement with Motorola until cutover to the new system, for \$338,000/year, with a 3% increase each year. The motion passed unanimously.

Downriver Mutual Aid Reports:**Police Team Report:** Chief Jeff Watson reported.

- DMA Police Chiefs extend their sincere condolences to the City of Melvindale who lost a true hero on July 21st when Corporal Mohamed Said was shot and killed in the line of Duty. Thanks to Wayne County, Michigan State Police, Dearborn P.D., all of our Federal Partners and the many DMA communities who sent help that day and the following days.
- The DMA Police Chiefs meeting was held on 09/03/24 at Wyandotte PD.
- With the retirement of Chief Brian Zalewski, Southgate Director Joe Marsh has been appointed to be the DMA Police Chiefs Vice Chairman.
- They had a presentation from Lakeshore Legal Aid on Model Policy for Investigating Parental Kidnapping cases. Thanks to Tony Guerriero and Prosecutor Worthy for setting this up.
- Dispatch consolidation is going well with Trenton and Brownstown. They have been meeting every few weeks to monitor the progress and make adjustments as needed. Gibraltar and Rockwood have consolidated with Dispatch Services being provided by Gibraltar Police. They are working on a plan to be in a position to partner with other South Downriver Communities.
- **Training:**
 - A Police and Fire Rescue Task Force Training took place in late June at Brownstown Middle school and was well attended by several Downriver Departments.
 - Rockwood Chief Krause (their Training Director) is working with their Federal Partners to schedule several more active shooter trainings over the next several months among other trainings to better prepare for critical incidents.
- **SWAT/CNT Team Activity:**
 - Callouts for July and August 2024: Assisted MNET in 6 high risk search warrants for narcotics cases with Downriver nexus; Assisted Dearborn PD on a multiple location search warrant for narcotics; 2 search warrants for River Rouge P.D.; Assisted on the Melvindale Officer Shooting; Responded to Brownstown for a barricaded shooting suspect; P.R. Event at Brownstown at Safety Town; P.R. Event in Riverview for National Night Out; and P.R. Event in Wyandotte for a Back Pack Giveaway.
- **The DMA Crash team** responded to the following incidents throughout the DMA area:
 - Callouts for June, July and August: 11 call outs: 3 For Taylor P.D.; 2 for Brownstown P.D.; 2 for Wyandotte P.D.; 1 for Grosse Ile P.D.; 1 for Southgate P.D.; 1 for Riverview P.D.; and 1 for Ecorse P.D.
- **DMA Major Crimes Task Force** (No activations)
- **The DMA 911/Radio System refresh RFP:**
 - The RFP process is finished; The Radio Committee met and unanimously voted to recommend the Motorola MPSCS option; Reviewed supporting documents; The radio Committee is respectfully requesting a resolution to authorize DMA to enter into a purchase agreement with Motorola and MPSCS.

Motion by Mayor McLeod, supported by Mayor Rzeppa, to accept the Police Chief's report and the police chief minutes of 5/1/2024. The motion passed unanimously.

Fire Chief Report: Ken Laird, Chief of Operations (Fire Logistics) reported.

- Drone project is still progressing. As part of completing flying time and becoming familiar with the drone operations, the Logistics team assisted Friends of the Ecorse Creek with aerial photos of the creek to assist them with its clean out. The team has also completed their SOP's, operational policy and pilot operational checklist. All of the documents have been submitted to legal counsel for approval. Once approved, or if any required changes, the team is good for full operation and call out responses.

- DMA Fire Chair participated in tree drills at the Wayne County EOC for the FERMI exercise.

Team Updates:

- DERT TEAM (Haz-Mat Team) (17): Participated in the 3-year FERMI Drill at WCCC; On-going training.
- FITF TEAM (Fire Investigation Team) (28): Call-out to Southgate Restaurant Fire Investigation; On-going training.
- DIVE TEAM (Dive Team) (13): Call out to Grosse Ile for Evidence retrieval from water; Call out and cancellation to Grosse Ile for missing kayaker; Continuing monthly Training.
- LOGISTICS TEAM (13): Participated in the 3-year FERMI Drill @ WCCC; Assisted Fire Investigation with their Southgate Restaurant investigation; Continued training on the DRONE.
- HEMS (Medical Control Authority Western & Downriver): No updates

Discussion followed about drones. Jim Perry referenced an MSU event at the Monroe County Fair on equipment available, and how drones are being used by the MSU extension office for corralling animals in urgent circumstances/events.

Motion by Mayor McLeod, supported by Mayor Swift, to accept the Fire Chief's report and fire chief minutes of 5/15/2024. The motion passed unanimously.

Presentation about Drones:

Kevin Krause, Director of Community Safety and Development, with Romulus, presented a Power Point presentation about Drones (Unmanned Aircraft Systems – UAS). UAS can be used for a variety of purposes, including military, commercial, leisure and hobby.

Romulus supports safe, respectful, and legal use of drones in their community as a source of recreation and economic development. To enable residents and businesses to FlySafe, Romulus provides live data on areas of potential risk, advisories for local events or emergencies, and other flight planning features in their AirHub Portal application – a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) – approved, Low Altitude Authorization and Notification Capability (LAANC) UAS Service Supplier (USS). Pilots can access sophisticated pre-flight assessments, local weather reports, and automated near real-time LAANC approvals to fly in locally controlled airspace (under 400'). Drone pilots require FAA LAANC authorization before operating in controlled airspace.

Kevin further shared that Romulus submitted a Regional Collaboration grant to U.S. Department of Transportation – Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation grant on behalf of 12 Conference of Western Wayne communities and six private partners for \$2 million dollars, with legislative support from Senator Peters and Stabenow, and Representatives Dingell, Tlaib and Thanedar. Kevin said there is a new regional collaboration opportunity through the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) for Advanced Aerial Mobility Activation Fund to continue to implement and scale the framework that Romulus has put in place to all interested municipalities in the DCC. It would provide 10 Part 107 training positions, Implement Airspace Hub, Evaluate Antenna array, and scale and implement.

They work with Aerotropolis and Detroit Metro Airport on how drone usage impacts our region, and tracking live data usage. Tim Keyes emphasized the importance of having continuity in the Downriver area.

The next regular board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 10th at 6pm. (moved from 10/3/24)

Motion by Supervisor Budny, supported by Mayor Cox, to adjourn at 7:14 pm. The motion passed unanimously.