

Custer County  
Special Meeting Proceedings  
December 13, 2022

The TUSA Special Meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM in the Custer County Commissioners Room. Attending the meeting were Commissioner Chairman Wayne Butts, Commissioner Steve Smith, Commissioner Randy Corgatelli, TUSA representatives Norm Folgers, Jeff McNally, Dean Hart/CEO, Emergency Manager Levi Maydole and Deputy Clerk Tina Hawkins

Norm Folgers introduced Dean Hart, Chief Executive Officer of TUSA, and the commissioners welcomed him. Norm then gave their presentation with Jeff.

Jeff reported the Needs Assessment has gone well, with interviews and inspection of sites. They were able to get to every location except Potaman Peak with Levi's help. The USFS is supposed to send them photos of the Potaman site and equipment. Response to the questionnaires was helpful. They have identified needs in 1) Coverage, 2) Interoperability, 3) Reliability & Performance, 4) Audio Quality, 5) Training. The system problems stem from old equipment and rough terrain.

Jeff presented two "Conceptual Radio Solutions" to the Board.

#1 Upgrade the system with P25 conventional system.

#2 Upgrade/refresh current equipment for additional coverage

The system will separate from the USFS, only the towers/shelters/generators will be joint use.

**Solution #1 will entail** – Upgrade the dispatch consoles. – New microwave equipment – New monopole tower – New P25 repeaters (4) at each site; for County, Fire, Sheriff, & Emergency Mgmt. – Upgrade Solar power/replace batteries – Replace radios with P25 equipment – Vehicle repeaters – Configure 3 portable repeater kits, for use by the Search & Rescue.

PROS: More capacity of channels – Replace old outdated equipment – More robust and reliable – Minimize dependence on Potaman Peak

CONS: No significant increase in coverage – Coordinating with the USFS – The need to replace all radios with P25 equipment.

**Solution #2 will entail** - everything from solution #1 – Use of 12 USFS tower sites – Build 4 new tower sites.

PROS: 88% coverage on Custer Co. roadways

CONS: Extensive coordination with USFS – Replace ALL radios – Building 4 towers.

Jeff explained that once the Vendors do their engineering work they will pinpoint the tower sites. If it is any consolation all the surrounding counties are in the same situation as Custer County.

PHASE II – Request for Proposals from Vendors will provide more detailed information.

Budget summaries were then given:


Solution #1 – Refresh original system -	\$4,563.883.00 Buildout Cost
Solution #2 – Upgrade coverage -	\$9,537.811.00 Buildout cost
Solution #3 – Cherry pick what you want	\$ somewhere between the above

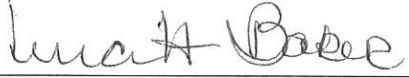
Commissioner Butts inquired about possible funding streams to utilize. Norm suggested the ARPA \$, and Dean suggested using FIRE \$, Jeff suggested applying for Emergency Management \$. Both Dean and Norm will check with the vendors about any other possible funding streams. Dean explained the time repayment options and interest rates for this type of project. The next phase is to get realistic and actual costs from possible vendors. Levi Maydole requested they send the invoice for this meeting/visit as soon as possible.

The Request for Proposal Phase will be completed next and will cost between 35 & 40 K. Once that phase is complete they will be moving into Phase III – Implementation.

Everyone was thanked for attending and the meeting was adjourned at 10:40 AM.



  
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Wayne F. Butts, Chairman  
Custer County Commissioner

Attest:   
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Lura H. Baker, Clerk