

Radio System

Update May 2008

Office of Emergency Services Director P..Lent

The bid is out to have the towers erected and should be back around May 20. The final design of the shelters is in and has been approved. They are in production as well as the towers. Delivery of the towers could be the week of May 19, but if they have to be stored until the site is ready, delivery may be put on hold until that time. Paul says there should be steel in the air by July.

The antennas are on the new tower at Spruce and when the new microwave system comes in, the old microwave will be moved and radios brought down. Paul checked on the site with the vendor and says it looks good.

Paul got the verbal approval to start final engineering and head towards construction at Mt. McGregor. Upon filing required paperwork with the FCC for the 800 system, Paul got a letter back regarding adjacent coverage off of Spruce Mountain. If we use Spruce Mountain at 25 Watts, we're showing coverage down into Rensselaer County. Our towers are covering too much of the western part of Washington County and southern part of Warren County.

The Blue Wing consultant will be in the first week of May to finalize the RFI and get it out the following week. Another vendor, Tait, out of Europe, will be in this week and may soon be put on State contract for 800 radios (through another vendor, Alcatel). They will be leaving some radios with us to try out. Some questions asked on the RFI are whether there are any more discounts available and are there any leasing programs. The Board has given their full support and decided to pay cash for the system (keeping within the budget) instead of bonding. They feel they have the option for leasing which would reduce the cash outflow.

Paul has a rough pricing estimate from Motorola for the pagers. If the County was to bid for 2,000 pagers, it would cost approximately \$344 each with maintenance. The model has the necessary features such as delayed playback and 6 different tone sequences. To do a bulk purchase at this price would limit choices, but make replacement and maintenance easier.