

Vermont Regional Dispatch Workgroup Meeting Transcript
August 17, 2022

0:0:0.0 --> 0:0:0.970

Paul White
OK. Thank you.

0:0:27.330 --> 0:0:27.580

advocate (Guest)
It's.

0:0:26.550 --> 0:0:29.20

Paul White
Policy, who we have here.

0:0:29.850 --> 0:0:35.580

Paul White
Couple numbers I don't recognize. I did hear from Chief Merkel that he's not gonna be able to join us today.

0:0:39.330 --> 0:0:42.160

Paul White
We don't have either Brian, Pete or Mark Anderson yet.

0:0:44.750 --> 0:0:45.510

Paul White
Uh.

0:0:47.440 --> 0:0:49.580

Paul White
Couple of phone numbers I don't recognize.

0:0:53.750 --> 0:0:55.0

398e6434-0bd2-4f35-bd40-2237dfc4ca8b
The 207.

0:0:53.590 --> 0:0:55.880

7c4dc082-7832-49c1-8cfd-aa91afeba413
The 498 ball is me.

0:0:56.800 --> 0:0:57.90

Paul White
OK.

0:1:0.720 --> 0:1:0.930

Paul White
So.

0:1:0.710 --> 0:1:4.510
398e6434-0bd2-4f35-bd40-2237dfc4ca8b
207 is Jack Helm HLM.

0:1:4.630 --> 0:1:5.840
Paul White
OK. Thank you, Jack. Good morning.

0:1:7.110 --> 0:1:12.860
398e6434-0bd2-4f35-bd40-2237dfc4ca8b
And I'll be on for a while. I'll have to drop you and then repick up. I'm in a vehicle right now.

0:1:13.80 --> 0:1:13.870
Paul White
Yep, OK.

0:1:24.970 --> 0:1:29.0
Paul White
So it looks like we're missing uh Mark, Brian and Drew.

0:1:31.280 --> 0:1:36.720
Paul White
But in the interest of respecting everybody's time while in George, of course. But he told me he wouldn't be here.

0:1:41.160 --> 0:1:43.250
Paul White
Yes, I will go ahead and call the meeting to order.

0:1:45.200 --> 0:1:45.930
Paul White
And.

0:1:48.460 --> 0:1:50.410
Paul White
Just a reminder, the meeting is being recorded.

0:1:51.310 --> 0:1:55.210
Paul White
And the recording will be posted on our resources Web page.

0:1:55.870 --> 0:1:57.820
Paul White
Which is off the DPS web page.

0:2:0.450 --> 0:2:3.120
Paul White
Uh, everybody OK with the agenda?

0:2:5.930 --> 0:2:6.360

398e6434-0bd2-4f35-bd40-2237dfc4ca8b

Yes.

0:2:6.270 --> 0:2:6.690

Burnham, Lance

Good.

0:2:5.710 --> 0:2:8.840

Paul White

Anything anybody wants, anybody, anything anybody wants to add to the agenda.

0:2:13.370 --> 0:2:15.100

Paul White

No, I'll consider that approved.

0:2:16.600 --> 0:2:23.270

Paul White

Has everybody had a chance to? We've kicked down the road for the last few meetings, the approval of the Minutes from the first three meetings.

0:2:24.900 --> 0:2:28.630

Paul White

Anybody that had any corrections they wanted to make if they had a chance to get him to Mandy and.

0:2:29.280 --> 0:2:33.400

Paul White

We OK with approving the Minutes from July 27, August 3 and August 10.

0:2:42.300 --> 0:2:42.670

Paul White

Yeah.

0:2:38.520 --> 0:2:46.60

Burnham, Lance

I have no issues. I do remember Mark saying that he had some corrections in the on that, but I don't know what they were.

0:2:46.450 --> 0:2:52.780

Paul White

Yeah, that was like that. That was at least a week ago, if not two. So I think he's had the opportunity to send Mandy any corrections he wanted to.

0:2:56.950 --> 0:3:3.970

Paul White

Could we just go through the formality of having a motion to approve the minutes of those three dates?

Yeah, I'll. I'll move that we approve.

0:3:4.640 --> 0:3:5.510

Brian Peete

I'll do a second.

0:3:6.730 --> 0:3:8.400

Paul White

Thank you. Any discussion about minutes?

0:3:10.260 --> 0:3:11.970

Paul White

All those in favor of approval say aye.

0:3:13.270 --> 0:3:13.570

Burnham, Lance

Aye.

0:3:12.640 --> 0:3:13.810

Brian Peete

Aye.

0:3:13.740 --> 0:3:14.150

398e6434-0bd2-4f35-bd40-2237dfc4ca8b

Bye.

0:3:14.770 --> 0:3:15.780

Paul White

Anybody opposed?

0:3:16.510 --> 0:3:22.890

Paul White

Does have it? We can take those off our agenda for next week. So we have a special guest.

0:3:23.880 --> 0:3:24.500

Paul White

This morning.

0:3:25.740 --> 0:3:30.330

Paul White

Very Lavalley is with us from somewhere. I won't. I didn't ask where, but.

0:3:33.140 --> 0:3:33.770

LaValley, Terry

Waterbury.

0:3:35.470 --> 0:3:36.440

LaValley, Terry

I am in Waterbury.

0:3:32.950 --> 0:3:37.100

Paul White

I know it's not water. OK. I was gonna say probably OK.

0:3:38.800 --> 0:3:50.210

Paul White

So thank you for joining us, Terry. I had sent Terry the a copy of the legislation that created this fine working group and sort of highlighted the areas that were tasked with reporting on.

0:3:50.920 --> 0:3:58.380

Paul White

And sort of asked him to. With that in mind, knowing what our charge is, if he could come talk to us just to talk about.

0:3:59.820 --> 0:4:11.960

Paul White

Whatever he thinks we should know, I think the big for me, for me personally anyway, the biggest problem is that I don't know yet what I don't know, so I know it's a very broad introduction, Terry, but do you have any anywhere you'd like to start with?

0:4:22.190 --> 0:4:22.420

Paul White

Right.

0:4:13.420 --> 0:4:23.530

LaValley, Terry

Well, I had a conversation with Lance and I I think the one of the areas we really wanted to touch on was the capabilities of the states communication systems. Last did I captured that correctly.

0:4:24.490 --> 0:4:31.680

Burnham, Lance

Yeah, specifically where what are our our weak points, what are strong points, our specifically our weak points VMS with.

0:4:32.190 --> 0:4:47.780

LaValley, Terry

OK, so for law enforcement in the states, communication systems specifically that was designed for Vermont State Police, it is a a mobile only system and it's a designated to work within the different troop areas that's been established by the state police.

0:4:48.470 --> 0:5:5.840

LaValley, Terry

It's a it's a single channel system per troop area, and those systems are utilized for dispatching, law enforcement and the other partners that share the channel with us. It's the coverage of that system across the state is probably around 75%.

0:5:6.470 --> 0:5:31.520

LaValley, Terry

There's some known areas across the state where we have traditionally had problems communicating. We look to enhance those areas as a funding becomes available, but for the most part it's a fairly effective communications tool for the Vermont State Police. Lance being on the road and Paul you also, you have first hand experience obviously with the the capabilities of the system.

0:5:33.40 --> 0:5:33.630

Paul White

Are those?

0:5:32.900 --> 0:5:35.60

LaValley, Terry

In addition, in go ahead, I'm sorry.

0:5:34.290 --> 0:5:44.400

Paul White

I'm sorry, are those the the, the 25%? You said it is roughly 75% that 25% is that mapped? I mean do we have can we visualize that or?

0:5:45.420 --> 0:6:2.630

LaValley, Terry

We we don't have a the latest propagation on it a study, but we do know the areas and there's approximately 10 or 11 areas in the state that historically we've had problems with and I can verbally tell you where those areas are if that would be helpful. I don't have a map to share with you this morning but.

0:6:5.300 --> 0:6:5.480

LaValley, Terry

Yeah.

0:6:2.470 --> 0:6:6.390

Paul White

Yeah, I don't. I don't think we need that this morning. But in the future, that might be helpful, yeah.

0:6:6.600 --> 0:6:20.360

LaValley, Terry

Yeah, absolutely. We can generate the some coverage maps and share with the the committee, the Group on where those coverage areas are. So and and their historic areas like rocks very for example. So and that's go ahead.

0:6:18.370 --> 0:6:22.480

Paul White

So do do we know if? I'm sorry. I'm sorry to interrupt you, but if we.

0:6:22.350 --> 0:6:22.620

LaValley, Terry

No.

0:6:23.860 --> 0:6:37.30

Paul White

So you you talking about the state police network? If we were to add in all of the other entities that do dispatching, do we have, do we have like a master combined idea of areas that aren't reached by anybody?

0:6:39.380 --> 0:6:39.660

Paul White

OK.

0:6:43.670 --> 0:6:44.20

Paul White

What's that?

0:6:37.920 --> 0:6:58.770

LaValley, Terry

I don't have that, so each of the individual organizations or communities have developed their own radio systems and they have their own capabilities. And I don't have a composite look at what's available statewide. We're only involved in a certain segments of that that would take some work to pull together. And I, you know, I would think communities.

0:7:4.100 --> 0:7:4.240

Paul White

Right.

0:7:15.170 --> 0:7:15.720

Paul White

OK.

0:6:59.620 --> 0:7:16.840

LaValley, Terry

Typically these systems grow up building means of necessity. They needed a communication system for our department. They put up one radio and then they've either worked along with the one radio system and their community, or they've added to it so more progressive community. So I don't have a a complete snapshot of that.

0:7:17.410 --> 0:7:17.840

Paul White

OK.

0:7:19.140 --> 0:7:45.630

LaValley, Terry

In addition to that, we don't have a snapshot of what the total loading capacity is. So when we look at radio systems, we look at the number of concurrent users on the system. We statistically look at the possibility of a conflict, multiple people trying to communicate. So when you start looking at a larger group, but that all has to be looked at again to see if the radio channels can accommodate it. So that's part of a, you know, another part of the study package that we'd be looking at.

0:7:48.40 --> 0:8:10.440

LaValley, Terry

And then beyond the state police radio system, we also maintain, you know, transportation radio systems for the AOT trucks. We have a system for the Fish and Wildlife folks, so that these are all independent of the state police radio system. So there's a lot of communication assets in the state. It just depends on how they, how they're looked at and how they could be utilized to maximize the efficiency.

0:8:11.610 --> 0:8:18.770

LaValley, Terry

And each of those individual systems have their own unique areas where there may be communications problems and some of them may overlap.

0:8:29.740 --> 0:8:30.70

LaValley, Terry

Right.

0:8:21.480 --> 0:8:38.210

Paul White

OK. So we don't. If I were to ask, I think you've you've kind of already answered this, but if you know when we're talking about building out regional centers in addition to the existing state police centers, we don't know where we would need to put up new towers or new transmitters in order to cover all the dead spots.

0:8:38.560 --> 0:8:39.220

LaValley, Terry

That's correct.

0:8:41.970 --> 0:8:48.430

LaValley, Terry

And we also do not know the number of channels that we may possibly need to take care of the anticipated call volume on the system.

0:8:52.400 --> 0:8:52.770

Paul White

OK.

0:8:55.360 --> 0:8:59.110

LaValley, Terry

And I think, you know in the future, if you have a framework or where maybe the centers are.

0:9:0.40 --> 0:9:8.290

LaValley, Terry

Where they would be possibly located we could look at those geographical regions you know assist with that looking at that to determine you know what possibly be needed in those areas.

0:9:10.270 --> 0:9:10.880

Paul White

UM.

0:9:11.780 --> 0:9:22.920

Paul White

How about, you know, resiliency, the ability to work in a Irene or a wildfire or, you know, do we have backup capability if you know if?

0:9:24.260 --> 0:9:27.910

Paul White

Whatever Pearson Mountain and all of a sudden is in the middle of a wildfire.

0:9:29.400 --> 0:9:59.490

LaValley, Terry

We we have some resiliency as far as sites that overlap each other. But as far as a hardening at the site, so an individual site in a geographical area, we have about a week and a half of propane or gasoline on the site for generators. We do have some backup radio transmitters up there. We have backup backhaul to the sites. So when Irene came through, you know, we saw some of the sailor systems go down, we did not have any failures during the Irene event in our network, so we,

0:9:59.550 --> 0:10:5.820

LaValley, Terry

So we tend to build resiliency and routing multiple routing capabilities into that network, so.

0:10:16.110 --> 0:10:16.500

Paul White

Right.

0:10:6.880 --> 0:10:21.740

LaValley, Terry

That's the resiliency we have. And again, sometimes there's overlapping systems. So you talked about Pearson Hill, you know that covers a certain area. I think you said Pearson Burke Mountain covers that area. We also have a third site over in that area that provides partial coverage. If that was to go down.

0:10:22.240 --> 0:10:25.910

Paul White

OK, Mark Anderson has his hand up. Good morning, mark.

0:10:28.340 --> 0:10:32.900

Anderson, Mark

Good morning and sorry I'm late. I was in a no coverage area, Terry. Good to see you and.

0:10:33.490 --> 0:10:33.800

LaValley, Terry

Mark.

0:10:33.810 --> 0:10:37.380

Anderson, Mark

I I hope you're well. Congratulations on your retirement.

0:10:38.190 --> 0:10:38.770

LaValley, Terry

Thank you.

0:10:38.790 --> 0:10:50.410

Anderson, Mark

Have a few things, but I think I'm going to start with the simplest one since you've been in DPS radio shop for so long and even after your retirement.

0:10:52.550 --> 0:10:56.620

Anderson, Mark

If the Commissioner walked up to you and said gut feeling, we need to deliver.

0:10:57.400 --> 0:10:58.650

Anderson, Mark

Police, fire and EMS.

0:10:59.30 --> 0:11:4.760

Anderson, Mark

Our communication statewide, what's your gut feeling? Can we do it, or do we need to invest a lot?

0:11:6.150 --> 0:11:11.840

LaValley, Terry

Well, I think you know it would require a a investment. I don't know what that number is.

0:11:13.780 --> 0:11:15.570

LaValley, Terry

You know, I think it would require a.

0:11:16.220 --> 0:11:33.430

LaValley, Terry

You know a a a study of some type to determine, you know, what's available, what needs to be adjusted and enhanced, etcetera. So you know we can do it again, it's money in the in this time and again it's like I said a little bit earlier to Paul or to the committee. Excuse me.

0:11:34.120 --> 0:11:41.290

LaValley, Terry

That, you know, we could look at the individual regions to see what would be needed in those areas and come up with a strategy to do reinforcements.

0:11:42.690 --> 0:11:48.880

LaValley, Terry

Is is pretty typical to what's done in the past when regional dispatch centers or community since dispatch centers.

0:11:51.560 --> 0:11:52.860

LaValley, Terry

Anything's possible, mark.

0:11:53.910 --> 0:11:54.90

Paul White
Cool.

0:11:59.540 --> 0:12:0.350

Paul White
Was that it, mark?

0:12:3.870 --> 0:12:4.620

Anderson, Mark
Yeah, for now.

0:12:3.520 --> 0:12:6.160

Paul White
Or or is it OK OK.

0:12:4.700 --> 0:12:8.160

Anderson, Mark
Umm, no, I'm. I think Brian wanted to go.

0:12:9.210 --> 0:12:10.410

Paul White
Yeah. OK, Brian, go ahead.

0:12:11.130 --> 0:12:16.290

Brian Peete
Hey, sorry. I'm just uh, as I'm taking minutes, I see a few numbers on here that I do not.

0:12:16.940 --> 0:12:23.90

Brian Peete
Uh recognize. I just want to know if those folks could identify themselves so I can document that that on the Minutes.

0:12:26.810 --> 0:12:33.180

Paul White
Yeah. The one that starts with 1/2 and ends with 10 with that is Rob Helm from town of Benson.

0:12:34.50 --> 0:12:35.630

Brian Peete
I'm sorry, rob.

0:12:36.170 --> 0:12:36.660

Paul White
Helm.

0:12:37.590 --> 0:12:37.850

Paul White
No.

0:12:35.590 --> 0:12:39.20
398e6434-0bd2-4f35-bd40-2237dfc4ca8b
No, no. The first name is Jack.

0:12:41.30 --> 0:12:42.790
398e6434-0bd2-4f35-bd40-2237dfc4ca8b
Yeah. Bop, bop mother.

0:12:39.400 --> 0:12:45.450
Paul White
I'm sorry Jack Helm was thinking different. Helm. Sorry. Thinking of it. Think thinking of a different helm from Rutland County. Jack helm. I'm sorry.

0:12:46.830 --> 0:12:47.280
Brian Peete
Alright.

0:12:47.490 --> 0:12:49.200
398e6434-0bd2-4f35-bd40-2237dfc4ca8b
That's a 207 number.

0:12:50.630 --> 0:12:54.40
Paul White
Yeah, it shows up on my screen with just the 1st 2 digits in the last two digits.

0:12:55.860 --> 0:12:58.370
Paul White
And there was another one.

0:13:0.110 --> 0:13:2.620
7c4dc082-7832-49c1-8cfd-aa91afeba413
The 498 Paul is Karen Carr.

0:13:7.30 --> 0:13:8.970
Paul White
Yeah, there's one that ends with eight two.

0:13:11.630 --> 0:13:12.60
Brian Peete
24.

0:13:14.720 --> 0:13:16.610
Paul White
That maybe just a member of the public, Ryan.

0:13:20.200 --> 0:13:21.520
Brian Peete
OK. Thank you.

0:13:25.240 --> 0:13:47.330

Paul White

OK. Umm, so tear I guess Mark kind of asked what I was gonna ask just in a different way. I was gonna say if if money was no object and we wanted to accomplish what is spelled out in our charge, what are some of the key things that we need to consider when building out this new network of regional dispatch centers what you know what would be our our biggest.

0:13:48.450 --> 0:13:50.80

Paul White

Building blocks that we need to tackle.

0:13:51.600 --> 0:14:11.110

LaValley, Terry

But you know, I think this call regional communications capabilities across the state is is a challenge and it would take a lot of money to repair and it would need to be designed or to be enhanced and it needs to be designed to meet the needs of business needs of a you know the dispatch configuration.

0:14:13.40 --> 0:14:22.90

LaValley, Terry

And and that would take money and time to do. It's not anything we could do overnight, but it could be a plan put in place to, you know, construct a system of that nature.

0:14:23.790 --> 0:14:33.260

LaValley, Terry

And I and I think that's, you know I think that's big communications is really big and obviously the the piece you're working on which is a dispatch is equally as as challenging so.

0:14:34.420 --> 0:14:38.190

LaValley, Terry

That, but they go hand in hand, you know, dispatch and communications go in hand in hand.

0:14:45.990 --> 0:14:48.670

Paul White

Mark's. Did you have something else or you still have your hand up?

0:14:51.560 --> 0:14:56.0

Anderson, Mark

But ohhh yes. Both but.

0:14:56.490 --> 0:14:56.770

Anderson, Mark

Uh.

0:14:58.480 --> 0:14:59.990

Anderson, Mark

I forgot to take it down.

0:15:0.590 --> 0:15:1.180

Anderson, Mark
The.

0:15:2.90 --> 0:15:3.740

Anderson, Mark
Uh so, Terry.

0:15:3.820 --> 0:15:20.890

Anderson, Mark

Yes, I'm a regional dispatch center that is interested in participating in this. What do I need to be planning on purposing in two weeks when I submitted a grant application?

0:15:24.40 --> 0:15:27.930

LaValley, Terry

I only got a small piece of that if that's market.

0:15:26.890 --> 0:15:34.420

Paul White

Yeah, Mark here. Yeah, I think you're really, really broken. I think you're in a bad spot, but I think his question was, you know, as a.

0:15:35.60 --> 0:15:43.230

Paul White

As a regional dispatch center who is thinking of applying for the grant funding that's currently been announced, what does he need to?

0:15:43.910 --> 0:15:46.620

Paul White

I think the question is what does he need to have in his proposal to?

0:15:47.270 --> 0:15:48.300

Paul White

To apply for that.

0:15:48.840 --> 0:15:56.730

LaValley, Terry

Yeah, the the guidance for the funding I think has been published and you know that would have to be looked at and addressed.

0:15:57.480 --> 0:16:10.70

LaValley, Terry

But I I I do believe that regional dispatch centers are looking for facilities that will work with their surrounding communities. I think that's a general rule, but I would refer to the guidance with the funding.

0:16:12.840 --> 0:16:16.190

Anderson, Mark

Tara, I'm not sure if my coverage was any better now. Can you hear me?

0:16:16.470 --> 0:16:16.920

Paul White

Yes.

0:16:16.480 --> 0:16:17.350

LaValley, Terry

I can hear you now.

0:16:19.90 --> 0:16:23.30

Anderson, Mark

So more specifically from a technical perspective, what?

0:16:23.920 --> 0:16:32.280

Anderson, Mark

Box do I need to plug into your system to be able to talk on the state system? What? What kind of equipment should I be planning on?

0:16:33.10 --> 0:16:33.460

Anderson, Mark

In that.

0:16:34.530 --> 0:16:37.160

LaValley, Terry

So currently states using an Abtech product.

0:16:37.940 --> 0:16:45.800

LaValley, Terry

And that's product is a a centralized or a kind of a cloud based premise based solution and we support Abtech interfaces.

0:16:48.670 --> 0:16:50.990

LaValley, Terry

And they are a Motorola owned company now so.

0:16:53.520 --> 0:16:55.320

LaValley, Terry

You may see them as either Abtech or Motorola.

0:16:58.50 --> 0:16:58.750

Anderson, Mark

Got it. Thank you.

0:16:59.430 --> 0:16:59.700

LaValley, Terry

Welcome.

0:17:3.640 --> 0:17:3.980

Paul White

OK.

0:17:6.270 --> 0:17:16.160

Paul White

So as we've tried to get our arms and heads around this working group that we all volunteered for and maybe didn't know exactly what we were volunteering hearing for.

0:17:17.740 --> 0:17:33.550

Paul White

It's come to light, or we've been reminded of other entities out there and they're trying to figure out why why the legislature saw fit to convene this working group when there's already there's something called the Emergency Communications Advisory Council.

0:17:34.390 --> 0:17:43.550

Paul White

Can you tell us what that is and what the role of that entity is? Is it actually in existence? Does does there overlap between that body and this body and?

0:17:44.930 --> 0:17:45.540

Paul White

What is it?

0:18:2.470 --> 0:18:2.860

Paul White

Drugs.

0:17:46.130 --> 0:18:15.760

LaValley, Terry

So there is an executive order to create the group and it happened just prior to the COVID, so that the group has not been convened. The Members have not been named in that replaced the Broadband Working group basically for the first net solution in Vermont which was tasked with advising the governor on where they should go with first net and that group advised the governor to participate in the first NAP program on behalf of the state and the Governor.

0:18:15.880 --> 0:18:32.90

LaValley, Terry

Accepted that and then the group was to replace that group to provide overall guidance on interoperability, communications and communications that really just trying to bring a lot of folks together with a lot of expertise in that area to determine what the road map for Vermont should be into the future.

0:18:32.910 --> 0:18:34.500

LaValley, Terry

So has not met yet.

0:18:34.940 --> 0:18:35.310

Paul White

OK.

0:18:36.710 --> 0:18:41.490

Paul White

When I was still working, there was a thing called the VCOM board. Does that still exist? And what's their role?

0:18:45.390 --> 0:18:45.740

Paul White

OK.

0:18:42.100 --> 0:19:5.910

LaValley, Terry

Yeah, the vcom board with sunset at uh several years ago, the role of the VCOM was specifically for the the VCOM radio system in Vermont, which was the interoperability radio system that does exist today and is it is in use across the state and we just as a part of the radio technology team, we manage that program and ensure that that capability does exist.

0:19:8.740 --> 0:19:14.130

Paul White

And then the last one on my list was there is a statewide communication interoperability plan.

0:19:15.700 --> 0:19:47.200

LaValley, Terry

Yeah. So that serves a Swick for the stay on the swic. So that's see wireless interoperability advisor for Vermont. So kind of a Homeland Security requirement and my job is to as a swic is to ensure that applications that come to Homeland Security meets the interoperability plan in for Vermont, it is the vcom system. And we tried to ensure that everybody has those frequencies and are aware of that capability. So that is the interoperability platform that's been designated for Vermont.

0:19:48.0 --> 0:19:54.520

LaValley, Terry

Yeah. And that plan is uploaded, it's on our website and it's uploaded to the the Homeland Security federal group.

0:19:57.100 --> 0:20:2.380

LaValley, Terry

And it's periodically updated to reflect the current interoperability of status of Vermont.

0:20:3.220 --> 0:20:3.470

Paul White

Good.

0:20:5.610 --> 0:20:13.730

Paul White

So it it some point we, you know I don't have good notes but at some point we have heard the comment that.

0:20:15.70 --> 0:20:35.60

Paul White

It may have been prior, Commissioner, but that the resources of the Department of Public Safety could be available to new regional dispatch centers that get stood up in order to help DPS shed some of their current dispatching load. But from what I heard you say earlier, it sounds like we don't know whether or not the existing network.

0:20:35.910 --> 0:20:37.780

Paul White

Has the capacity to handle.

0:20:38.540 --> 0:20:42.150

Paul White

Added centers popping up and using DPS's network.

0:20:42.880 --> 0:21:13.110

LaValley, Terry

I mean, yeah, that's a possibility. I mean, in some areas that may work well for the dispatch center and other areas, it may not be the right solution. You know, again, it really depends on what their framework of Vermont held at the dispatch consolidated dispatch or the dispatch solution looks like. And then we would try to bring to the table the Department of Public Safety, any communications resource that would assist that organization standing up a center so that it may work well for someone and for other people who may not.

0:21:13.250 --> 0:21:28.300

LaValley, Terry

Small offices or small areas with, you know, light public safety requirements and lighter users may work well, but in areas that are populated where like a Rutland, it may not be the right solution for that. So each area is looked at individually.

0:21:30.950 --> 0:21:31.360

Paul White

OK.

0:21:32.660 --> 0:21:35.300

Paul White

There are other other folks with questions for Terry.

0:21:50.500 --> 0:21:51.510

Anderson, Mark

They're very.

0:21:50.950 --> 0:21:52.130

Paul White

Ah yeah, Mark, go ahead.

0:21:53.620 --> 0:21:54.550

Anderson, Mark

What is the?

0:21:55.300 --> 0:22:1.540

Anderson, Mark

What? What's the availability of the radio network to agencies that don't have P25 compliant radios?

0:22:4.30 --> 0:22:12.230

LaValley, Terry

So you're probably referencing the letter that went out that we're currently switching over to P25 digital radio systems we.

0:22:13.200 --> 0:22:21.120

LaValley, Terry

We sent a notice out a few years ago in the effort to ensure that all agencies get P25 radio equipment with the grants that were available.

0:22:21.930 --> 0:22:38.510

LaValley, Terry

The the department maintains the constellation, or we'll be maintaining the constellation of P25 transmitters and receivers around the state. But as far as subscriber units, mobiles and portables, it's the responsibility of the agencies that wanna access IT network to have that.

0:22:42.500 --> 0:22:55.360

Anderson, Mark

So if we were to consider fire and EMS agencies that are in any given region where there's not significant VSP dispatching currently, it's likely that their radios will not be compatible.

0:22:56.530 --> 0:23:2.900

LaValley, Terry

Alright. Well the P 25 is only going to occur in the UHF systems, which is the primary law enforcement across Vermont.

0:23:3.650 --> 0:23:12.560

LaValley, Terry

Fire and EMS typically and and market application or you could tell me or typically in the VHF range and we do, we're not planning on changing VHF or P25.

0:23:23.550 --> 0:23:31.530

LaValley, Terry

And market, you can still hear me additionally the Channel 2, which was always considered the interoperability when you get close to the office or car to car.

0:23:32.200 --> 0:23:37.840

LaValley, Terry

That's not gonna go to P25 completely either, so we're gonna. We're gonna continue to transition to primary channels.

0:23:42.0 --> 0:23:42.270

Anderson, Mark

Great.

0:23:50.150 --> 0:23:50.620

Paul White
Umm.

0:23:54.780 --> 0:23:58.570

Paul White
As we look at trying to fulfill the charge of this working group.

0:24:3.230 --> 0:24:8.910

Paul White
Would you have? What would you suggest would be our logical steps to take? I mean there's we need to.

0:24:9.620 --> 0:24:26.210

Paul White
At like, as I said at the beginning, I I don't know what I don't know. So to try to write this report for the legislature that we're tasked with writing, and to accomplish these 4 bullets in the charge, if you were in my shoes, what would? Where would you? Where would you start?

0:24:27.320 --> 0:24:28.690

LaValley, Terry
Well, that's a tough question.

0:24:36.820 --> 0:24:37.50

Paul White
Yeah.

0:24:33.240 --> 0:24:38.50

LaValley, Terry
I I think you're from what I heard, you're doing a great job. But I mean, I I think really the.

0:24:38.690 --> 0:24:48.620

LaValley, Terry
You know the landscape of dispatching in Vermont. What is it gonna look like? What's the most effective way of doing that? What's the model look like? I think once that's decided.

0:24:49.420 --> 0:25:5.480

LaValley, Terry
Than the technology that would drive the technology, they they go hand in hand. But the the first thing that has to be done is you know, what's the landscape going to look like and then we can address the technology issues as part of that. But that has to be the first part of it in my opinion.

0:25:12.510 --> 0:25:12.750

Paul White
Yeah.

0:25:10.620 --> 0:25:13.430

LaValley, Terry
And you are doing a great job, Paul. The group doing a great, wonderful job.

0:25:14.300 --> 0:25:15.290

LaValley, Terry

Thanks for the question.

0:25:16.430 --> 0:25:16.880

advocate (Guest)

Yeah.

0:25:18.120 --> 0:25:20.500

advocate (Guest)

Mr. Chair, can you take a question from the public?

0:25:21.430 --> 0:25:24.290

Paul White

Uh, sure. I'll take a question from the public, since nobody has their hand up.

0:25:23.560 --> 0:25:25.830

advocate (Guest)

But it's it's it's for Terry.

0:25:27.110 --> 0:25:27.680

advocate (Guest)

I.

0:25:28.910 --> 0:25:37.580

advocate (Guest)

Could you describe what chasm is and whether you think that's a an inventory tool that would help us make progress on?

0:25:38.270 --> 0:25:39.20

advocate (Guest)

Assessing.

0:25:40.940 --> 0:25:47.110

advocate (Guest)

The regional radio systems, whether they need replacement or upgrade and infill.

0:25:48.970 --> 0:25:53.550

advocate (Guest)

And I just have a comment related to that is that you're suggesting?

0:25:54.180 --> 0:26:11.550

advocate (Guest)

Decide the architecture 1st and who's gonna do what, but many, I believe many of the potential dispatch sites need to see the economics before they will commit \$100,000 in design and consulting to figure out that there.

0:26:12.290 --> 0:26:21.930

advocate (Guest)

I'm not gonna be able to use infrastructure that's there and then I have a different question about failover and these regional systems failing over to the state.

0:26:23.410 --> 0:26:27.630

advocate (Guest)

Microwave and fiber in the event of a mass eyesore windstorm.

0:26:31.810 --> 0:26:42.670

LaValley, Terry

OK, so the the first question on the CASM tool that was developed by the federal government several years ago to capture the inventory and of all the states to see where.

0:26:43.870 --> 0:26:48.600

LaValley, Terry

You know, there may be potentially for need if there was a an emergency in the area or an event in the area.

0:26:49.330 --> 0:27:3.250

LaValley, Terry

In Vermont participated in that chasm collection tool, I would say probably 10 years ago in Chasm became very difficult for States and communities to use. So it really kind of got.

0:27:4.40 --> 0:27:19.430

LaValley, Terry

Abandoned almost for a while, and then there was some changes made to the program that made it more user friendly in some states in areas I know up State New York is using, it has elected to use that again. So I would say that that tool from my perspective is not.

0:27:20.140 --> 0:27:32.220

LaValley, Terry

Very effective for Vermont at this point in time and has has not been kept up, so it's a it's a tool. It's one of many that's out there, but it just hasn't been used extensively here in Vermont, and it hasn't been maintained.

0:27:34.510 --> 0:27:36.500

LaValley, Terry

You asked several questions there.

0:27:37.190 --> 0:27:39.670

LaValley, Terry

What was the second one you wanted an opinion on?

0:27:42.280 --> 0:27:42.920

LaValley, Terry

Failover.

0:27:43.750 --> 0:27:44.280

Paul White

Failover.

0:27:45.510 --> 0:28:17.280

LaValley, Terry

So the state does operate a statewide microwave system as a fiber optic microwave radio system that serves most of the states communication locations in the state has relied in that system for many years. It's been upgraded. It's very current. It's very robust and we we look forward to the opportunity to helping folks get connected and utilizing that resource. So that is available for failover. And when I say that, it depends on what the failover is it say.

0:28:17.740 --> 0:28:36.200

LaValley, Terry

Limited bandwidth. It's a technical terms. It's a. It's a fairly big pipe, but like data going to your computers, the the bigger we make it, the more people want. So it's designed for public safety, reliability and backup and we do partner with a lot of public safety agencies to use that asset.

0:28:38.200 --> 0:28:39.290

LaValley, Terry

And then the third.

0:28:39.180 --> 0:28:57.940

advocate (Guest)

Did the middle question was related to how do we go about inventorying if we're not gonna use chasm, how do we go about inventorying the need for replacement upgrade and infill of these regional systems and should that be done at the state level or at the regional level?

0:28:59.740 --> 0:29:19.670

LaValley, Terry

I think that's a kind of a determination on the how the outcome of this group it's you know I I believe that's I I said a few seconds ago a few minutes ago is that once the architecture is designed for dispatch then typically the technology folks come in and say well how do you accomplish this and and what are the resources there and I think you started doing that inventorying at that time.

0:29:22.690 --> 0:29:26.790

LaValley, Terry

But there's a lot of different ways of getting the job done, so it's just in my opinion.

0:29:32.240 --> 0:29:33.910

LaValley, Terry

And was there another question to you or always said?

0:29:36.340 --> 0:29:37.430

advocate (Guest)

We're so for now.

0:29:37.850 --> 0:29:38.980

LaValley, Terry

OK. Thank you.

0:29:40.690 --> 0:29:43.830

Paul White

OK. Any other questions for Terry from the group?

0:29:44.860 --> 0:29:46.870

Burnham, Lance

I got I got 1 real quick one.

0:29:46.710 --> 0:29:47.860

Paul White

Yes. Yeah, let's go ahead.

0:29:48.790 --> 0:29:55.470

Burnham, Lance

Terry, we know through previous meetings previous other work, working groups we've we've relatively identified.

0:29:56.550 --> 0:30:0.70

Burnham, Lance

Who? Where we think who is applying for the grant.

0:30:1.60 --> 0:30:9.330

Burnham, Lance

Obviously that would be Sheriff Anderson's area Chief Pete's area in Montpelier expanding out Orange County is looking to expand a little bit.

0:30:11.220 --> 0:30:15.430

Burnham, Lance

Uh and Newport cities looking to expand out a little bit.

0:30:16.680 --> 0:30:22.530

Burnham, Lance

Uh, as well as St. Albans, so we we feel we have and Rutland as well. Sorry.

0:30:23.980 --> 0:30:25.810

Burnham, Lance

Out of all of those?

0:30:26.760 --> 0:30:31.260

Burnham, Lance

In your opinion, what would require the most work to get them up and going?

0:30:33.150 --> 0:30:33.810

LaValley, Terry

Umm.

0:30:33.550 --> 0:30:36.640

Burnham, Lance

As it relates to as it relates to our our infrastructure.

0:30:40.190 --> 0:30:49.80

LaValley, Terry

Well, you know, I know Barry Montpelier, I'm meeting with him in a couple of hours in a conference call or teams meeting. You know, they're working on a solution that.

0:30:51.130 --> 0:31:0.50

LaValley, Terry

They're rebuilding the network, basically doing an overlay network. So it seems like you know they're pretty independent and doesn't really require a lot of our assets.

0:31:1.530 --> 0:31:2.350

LaValley, Terry

Rutland.

0:31:4.80 --> 0:31:12.750

LaValley, Terry

You know, probably Rutland would require, would you know, benefit from a some assistance to us. And did you say Orange County was doing 1?

0:31:13.700 --> 0:31:14.460

Burnham, Lance

Yeah, but.

0:31:15.920 --> 0:31:19.150

Burnham, Lance

Very minor, just enough to probably expand one desk.

0:31:19.960 --> 0:31:27.300

LaValley, Terry

OK. Yeah, that one, you know the assets held in Orange County for us are pretty limited. So that might be the the biggest challenge.

0:31:28.320 --> 0:31:29.770

Burnham, Lance

OK. Thank you.

0:31:30.360 --> 0:31:31.690

LaValley, Terry

Umm so.

0:31:31.150 --> 0:31:33.640

Anderson, Mark

What does Whitman Bennington counties look like, Terry?

0:31:35.560 --> 0:31:36.590

LaValley, Terry

Uh.

0:31:37.910 --> 0:31:42.180

LaValley, Terry

Benningtons, you know, we do have some resources down there. Is that Mark asking that?

0:31:42.510 --> 0:31:42.870

Paul White

Yes.

0:31:42.650 --> 0:31:43.0

Anderson, Mark

Yes.

0:31:43.580 --> 0:31:52.150

LaValley, Terry

Yeah, there are some resources down there. One of the areas, ironically Mark is the Newfane area that we have some challenges in. I know we just transferred that tower to you.

0:31:53.620 --> 0:31:59.310

LaValley, Terry

But you know, there are some capabilities down there that we would be happy to talk to you about utilizing.

0:32:0.270 --> 0:32:2.520

Anderson, Mark

Sure. And Mrs Pells, who is very grateful.

0:32:3.140 --> 0:32:7.130

LaValley, Terry

I'm glad. I'm glad we may need to come back to you, ask us to use that tower we put in.

0:32:7.910 --> 0:32:8.550

Anderson, Mark

Work it out.

0:32:8.900 --> 0:32:9.100

LaValley, Terry

That.

0:32:13.280 --> 0:32:15.510

Paul White

So this might be a loaded question but.

0:32:16.740 --> 0:32:19.80

Paul White

Got to ask it anyway, if we.

0:32:20.20 --> 0:32:21.510

Paul White

Does it make and we've?

0:32:22.630 --> 0:32:30.110

Paul White

We have this unique opportunity with some money, but does it make sense to start handing out money to you know?

0:32:30.800 --> 0:32:39.730

Paul White

We've got a half a dozen places that have raised their hand and said, yeah, we'd like to do something with that money, but does it make sense to start handing that money out now when we don't know?

0:32:40.600 --> 0:32:47.380

Paul White

The full picture yet of what we need across the state to fill in all of these gaps that hasn't been studied to tell us, you know.

0:32:48.420 --> 0:32:50.230

Paul White

Where where we're not able to reach anybody.

0:32:52.220 --> 0:32:52.570

LaValley, Terry

Yeah.

0:32:51.540 --> 0:33:11.630

Paul White

You know, we're talking about you. You named off a handful of Lance named off a handful of places, but anecdotally, we might be able to say, yeah, there's a big need in Orange County, there's a big need in Windham County, but until somebody with some credentials does a some kind of a dive into that and tells us this is where you should be putting your resources, does it make sense to start handing out money now?

0:33:13.150 --> 0:33:14.380

LaValley, Terry

That is a loaded question.

0:33:15.690 --> 0:33:23.560

LaValley, Terry

You know, really I think the the group, the work of this group should determine, you know, where is the best place to invest the money?

0:33:24.780 --> 0:33:35.610

LaValley, Terry

You know you can get a pretty good feel from Mark knows his area will type of coverage you has down there. Now the sheriff's down in Rutland has an idea what their coverage is down there and what their needs may be.

0:33:36.340 --> 0:33:42.680

LaValley, Terry

And I think, uh, they probably have presented to this group or to the department what their capabilities are and.

0:33:43.320 --> 0:33:50.510

LaValley, Terry

We'll work with that to see how we can help make enhancements in those areas for communications. So it's it's a tough question, Paul.

0:33:54.740 --> 0:33:55.60

Paul White

Correct.

0:34:2.80 --> 0:34:4.970

Paul White

I'm just running down my list of notes here.

0:34:12.750 --> 0:34:20.820

Paul White

Is there again considering we have this unique, you know we may not get a big chunk of money again for a long time.

0:34:22.650 --> 0:34:39.880

Paul White

Is there something that's not currently on the table that should be? You know, there's some new technology, some new emerging thing that that we should be if we're if if now is the time to make improvements, we should make the improvements that we're gonna want for the next 25 years. Is there something that we're not?

0:34:40.570 --> 0:34:41.580

Paul White

Currently thinking about.

0:34:42.590 --> 0:34:47.500

LaValley, Terry

Well, for a lot of uh regions and states, they have moved from.

0:34:48.470 --> 0:35:11.420

LaValley, Terry

A conventional radio systems where there's a channel assigned for each district or each area, or you know, so each group law enforcement operates in one channel, EMS operates in one channel. There's a newer technology. It's not even new, but it's called trunking where the users share the frequencies in the intelligences in the network to make the most efficient use of the channels.

0:35:13.120 --> 0:35:15.290

LaValley, Terry

Vermont looked at a trunking system.

0:35:16.430 --> 0:35:31.840

LaValley, Terry

15 years ago and it was cost prohibitive at the time, but ideally the state would in from my perspective, would have had a trunking system that uses the radio channels or the radio spectrum more efficiently and whether or not that's a.

0:35:33.480 --> 0:35:42.210

LaValley, Terry

That's a solution that's affordable in Vermont. I would think that we would be financially challenged to do that, but that would be a better solution in Vermont.

0:35:43.20 --> 0:35:44.580

LaValley, Terry

If that is off the table.

0:35:46.800 --> 0:35:49.630

LaValley, Terry

There's a some other technologies that.

0:35:50.900 --> 0:35:54.510

LaValley, Terry

May be brought to bear. I'm not sure how effective it would be up to look at it.

0:35:55.770 --> 0:36:1.500

LaValley, Terry

Based on you know where these centers are going to be located. So if that's from our radio systems perspective.

0:36:2.150 --> 0:36:32.100

LaValley, Terry

Dispatch console perspective, the ability to utilize its channels. We're currently using the App Tech solution and there's a lot of flexibility in that solution and the ability to allow dispersed users to access the radio channels. So that's really a good technology, a good core technology that I would think we would want to promote in which I continue to promote across the state to utilize so that we can share the resources. So for example, if Orange County wanted to be able to talk on a Rutland county channel state channel.

0:36:32.520 --> 0:36:40.110

LaValley, Terry

With this technology installed, they would be able to do that. So it allows a lot of flexibility for the radio resources that are available across the state.

0:36:43.410 --> 0:37:4.280

Paul White

Yeah, and well, and that's when we talked a little earlier about failover capabilities. If you know if if we stand up a dispatch center in Chelsea and then all of a sudden Chelsea has a propane tanker rollover right in front of the Sheriff's Office, do they have the ability to flip a switch and send those calls to Newport or to Windham County or to wherever?

0:37:9.240 --> 0:37:9.430

Paul White

Right.

0:37:5.130 --> 0:37:20.670

LaValley, Terry

Right. And I mean that's a redundancy in the from an operational standpoint. You know there's there's redundancy in the system itself. There's one tower Relap, another tower. So for us doing the app Tech solutions several years ago, if Williston for example.

0:37:26.410 --> 0:37:26.740

Paul White

Right.

0:37:21.370 --> 0:37:31.470

LaValley, Terry

Would be shut down for some reason. Then we can given if we got the right amount of staff, could dispatch from Westminster, we do it for AOT. When the EOT center can't be a.

0:37:33.70 --> 0:37:44.320

LaValley, Terry

Occupied, for whatever reason, they can use a disk a a laptop to dispatch over the Lt Channel. So we we provide a lot of flexibility in that core and I think it's something that we should utilize whenever possible.

0:37:48.40 --> 0:37:48.650

Paul White

Yeah.

0:37:47.430 --> 0:37:48.700

LaValley, Terry

Just have dubbed people to do it.

0:37:53.640 --> 0:37:53.900

LaValley, Terry

Hmm.

0:37:55.60 --> 0:37:55.490

advocate (Guest)

Just.

0:37:49.400 --> 0:37:58.190

Paul White

Like when you when you talk about when you were talking about the trunking, it being cost prohibitive. Is that just to upfront cost prohibitive or is there ongoing cost for that as well?

0:38:9.700 --> 0:38:10.630

8b5fbdc9-3438-4fdc-b7de-26f6f9314204

Comes more soft.

0:37:58.900 --> 0:38:20.120

LaValley, Terry

Whether there's a there's a capital investment of millions of dollars, and then there's a ongoing cost after that like any technology and you know as this technology evolves and becomes more software dependent in the support for the software is really where you start seeing the incremental increases in total operating costs up X.

0:38:20.70 --> 0:38:20.480

8b5fbdc9-3438-4fdc-b7de-26f6f9314204

Facts.

0:38:28.160 --> 0:38:28.570

Paul White

OK.

0:38:32.630 --> 0:38:33.220

Paul White

Sure, go ahead.

0:38:27.970 --> 0:38:49.330

advocate (Guest)

Mr. Chair, I have can I make one more question about LTE and Terry? Terry, the integration at the planning level of shared tower, shared generators, etcetera, to what degree we know that Firstnet, even when completed their build out was only gonna cover about 75% of the stake so.

0:38:50.30 --> 0:38:57.920

advocate (Guest)

We have dead zones around the state, including where AT&T pretended to put band 14 and didn't.

0:38:59.340 --> 0:39:15.960

advocate (Guest)

How should this group address or recommend addressing the integrated planning for both broadband cellular, which is becoming more essential for public safety response, and the LMR that we're we pretty much only been talking about here today.

0:39:17.550 --> 0:39:33.600

LaValley, Terry

Alright, so you know the LTE solution in Vermont in the next generation of cellular technology is an important tool that we should be using for responses. So like maps and data, et cetera, the first nap solution in Vermont.

0:39:34.380 --> 0:39:46.10

LaValley, Terry

Had a commitment to build a I believe it's 27 new towers or 37 new towers. Excuse me? And we are getting close to completing that project, but that's not a.

0:39:47.50 --> 0:40:3.430

LaValley, Terry

It's really not the destination, it's a the first nap program is a reinvestment in the state. So as this technology evolves and Vermont, we'll see more and more coverage. And there's also, you know, the competitive market. We have other carriers in the state that's providing LTE, et cetera.

0:40:4.100 --> 0:40:4.490

LaValley, Terry

So.

0:40:5.350 --> 0:40:26.30

LaValley, Terry

The integration of the two at the dispatch level is important because the the dispatchers may want to push something to the first responder in the field and back and forth. I'm not saying it's not important, it's important, but the the growth of that system in Vermont has been slower than anticipated and the investment in that solution has a.

0:40:27.200 --> 0:40:58.470

LaValley, Terry

Hasn't taken place as quickly as we we would hope. So it's growing. It's gonna be available. It is available in some areas, but I think Mark was saying he was in a bad cell coverage area on this call this morning. So you know, I think we all know know first hand what the cell coverage is like whether you're a rise in the AT&T or another customer. But you know I think that's developing and growing and we wanted to utilize that whenever possible. And I think that's just another component that we need to look at for that type of technology. But in the voice dispatch world, the.

0:40:58.610 --> 0:41:3.780

LaValley, Terry

The primary solution right now is ellamar land mobile radio. The two way radio systems.

0:41:11.210 --> 0:41:11.570

Paul White

OK.

0:41:12.950 --> 0:41:14.660

Paul White

Anything else before we let Terry go?

0:41:22.210 --> 0:41:22.660

LaValley, Terry

Yeah.

0:41:19.900 --> 0:41:23.150

Paul White

Well, thank you, Terry for your time this morning. I can't promise I won't bug you again.

0:41:26.250 --> 0:41:26.440

Paul White

Yeah.

0:41:23.740 --> 0:41:34.910

LaValley, Terry

No, no worries. I appreciate the opportunity to to meet with everyone and and see everybody. I it's it's been great. So then the gums up, I'd be more than happy to provide some input if it would be beneficial to the group.

0:41:35.440 --> 0:41:37.660

Paul White

I'm sure we'll be in touch. Well, thank you.

0:41:37.60 --> 0:41:40.540

LaValley, Terry

OK, have a great day everybody. Thank you. Thank you, Terry.

0:41:47.0 --> 0:41:47.490

Paul White

OK.

0:41:50.310 --> 0:41:53.930

Paul White

I had actually had anticipated that that would take longer, that there would be more questions, but.

0:41:54.570 --> 0:41:57.450

Paul White

So we are, we've got some time there.

0:42:0.260 --> 0:42:4.990

Paul White

Issues or comments from previous conversations that anybody wants to follow up on or any.

0:42:8.310 --> 0:42:9.910

Paul White

Anything that anybody has for the group?

0:42:13.580 --> 0:42:13.800

Burnham, Lance

Sure.

0:42:15.880 --> 0:42:16.80

Paul White

Yep.

0:42:12.960 --> 0:42:17.190

Neal, Barbara

Call uh. I still owe the Group A few things. Umm, some.

0:42:27.670 --> 0:42:28.0

Paul White

OK.

0:42:19.50 --> 0:42:30.830

Neal, Barbara

A map that that shows the different layers of dispatch and all that. I've had people out on leave the past week, so I haven't gotten that done yet, but hopefully that will be coming before the next meeting.

0:42:33.890 --> 0:42:40.280

Paul White

OK, Lance, you were, I thought having planning to have some additional conversations with.

0:42:45.590 --> 0:42:45.990

Burnham, Lance

Yep.

0:42:41.760 --> 0:42:46.250

Paul White

I forget which sheriff it was over in New Hampshire. Is it Jeff Stiegler? I forget who you're talking to.

0:42:46.800 --> 0:42:48.180

Burnham, Lance

Yeah. Yep.

0:42:48.860 --> 0:42:54.150

Burnham, Lance

Umm yeah, I actually met with him a couple hours after last week's meeting.

0:42:55.430 --> 0:43:1.440

Burnham, Lance

And I brought up the some of the questions that the group had. It was actually a very good meeting.

0:43:3.80 --> 0:43:17.500

Burnham, Lance

One of the things that we really wanted to ask or nail down a little bit was specifically the centers that are around New Hampshire. Did these happen through legislative or did they just happen organically?

0:43:19.30 --> 0:43:28.40

Burnham, Lance

The the sheriff basically said this was just all organically they just kind of landed in the laps of the sheriff's because.

0:43:28.860 --> 0:43:33.280

Burnham, Lance

At that time they they did have 24/7 dispatch centers, so they just.

0:43:34.220 --> 0:43:35.410

Burnham, Lance

Really expanded it.

0:43:36.590 --> 0:43:42.300

Burnham, Lance

The legislature was not involved in it. The communities got together and said this is kind of what we want.

0:43:44.400 --> 0:43:45.990

Burnham, Lance

As far as.

0:43:46.990 --> 0:43:54.430

Burnham, Lance

Of the standard level of service they they basically do what we do here in Vermont.

0:43:55.530 --> 0:44:1.430

Burnham, Lance

The the training that they received is the exact same training that we received or that the dispatchers received.

0:44:2.130 --> 0:44:3.950

Burnham, Lance

And there is a standard.

0:44:5.70 --> 0:44:15.700

Burnham, Lance

And I think it's APCO that also oversees it the training level kind of comes through them. They have a recommended staffing levels that they follow.

0:44:17.200 --> 0:44:20.670

Burnham, Lance

For some reason they they're not short dispatchers.

0:44:21.990 --> 0:44:24.460

Burnham, Lance

Which is what we're obviously seeing a problem there.

0:44:25.680 --> 0:44:26.890

Burnham, Lance

And.

0:44:28.320 --> 0:44:34.400

Burnham, Lance

I don't wanna say there's a reason for that. I'm curious if the regional centers is the reason for that. I don't know.

0:44:35.240 --> 0:44:53.790

Burnham, Lance

Their pay is relatively standard to what we have here in Vermont, but they have a lot of senior dispatchers that have been there for quite some time. There seems to be 2 levels brand new people that have been there anywhere between one to three years and people have been there up upwards to 30 years so.

0:44:54.510 --> 0:45:4.600

Burnham, Lance

Umm. And I think we were seeing that before the consolidation of the two dispatchers, we had very high, very low turnover rate at that time.

0:45:6.660 --> 0:45:7.380

Burnham, Lance

Uh.

0:45:8.530 --> 0:45:9.150

Burnham, Lance

The.

0:45:10.0 --> 0:45:18.10

Burnham, Lance

I I did ask about the the the funding mechanisms and as I mentioned last week to the group, it was through taxation.

0:45:19.580 --> 0:45:33.140

Burnham, Lance

The three people each center, which is basically each region within their kind of counties within New Hampshire, ten of the twelve counties actually have regionalized centers each of those.

0:45:34.90 --> 0:45:54.400

Burnham, Lance

Are regions or or counties has what they call a governance board. They're made-up of three people that are elected through the counties. They are the ones that meet annually. They look at the data, they look at the calls for service, they look at whatever they have and they are the ones that come up with.

0:45:54.860 --> 0:45:55.500

Burnham, Lance

Umm.

0:45:56.710 --> 0:45:59.690

Burnham, Lance

The recommended funding costs and.

0:46:0.700 --> 0:46:6.220

Burnham, Lance

I asked if that is relatively consistent throughout the years and he said it was.

0:46:7.440 --> 0:46:13.20

Burnham, Lance

But it's up to that governance board. Those three people who they call Commissioners.

0:46:13.710 --> 0:46:24.100

Burnham, Lance

To decide really what the cost per call would be, and he says it's relatively stable there, seeing an increase since obviously like what we're seeing through Kovid and everything but.

0:46:24.850 --> 0:46:29.770

Burnham, Lance

It really is up to that governance board to decide that the cost for that.

0:46:30.550 --> 0:46:32.60

Burnham, Lance

I think it's a very unique model.

0:46:33.330 --> 0:46:36.730

Burnham, Lance

It makes sense for them. I don't know if it would work here.

0:46:37.390 --> 0:46:40.220

Burnham, Lance

UM, because this project is so new.

0:46:41.520 --> 0:46:44.970

Burnham, Lance

I'd welcome people's ideas or what their thoughts are about that.

0:46:45.860 --> 0:47:8.100

Paul White

Well, I'm. I'm curious. He you. You said that this the center, the system that they have which is kind of occurred organically but does that to include the the governance model that they have that how did they arrive at you know three people and that they're gonna be elected and how they're elected and there's there's no no pressure applied from the state level for them to do this uniformly from region to region.

0:47:8.830 --> 0:47:17.930

Burnham, Lance

Right there, would there? There was no pressure, I think that also was I think the director of the 911 board at the time had a lot to do that.

0:47:19.890 --> 0:47:20.580

Burnham, Lance

But.

0:47:32.890 --> 0:47:33.330

Paul White

Yeah.

0:47:22.880 --> 0:47:34.70

Burnham, Lance

Yeah, I guess I didn't ask the question as far as how did it organically happen, I don't know if maybe 1 county did it and the rest just followed suit. I can I I can easily call him back and get that answer.

0:47:34.110 --> 0:47:38.380

Paul White

Of course, Jeff's only been there a few years, so he may not know the full history of it, but.

0:47:36.940 --> 0:47:39.20

Burnham, Lance
Right, right, right.

0:47:42.300 --> 0:47:42.790

Paul White
Brian.

0:47:44.850 --> 0:47:50.960

Brian Peete
Sorry about that, Lance. What was the the gentleman's name? So I'm doing again the meetings and I and I missed his name and position.

0:47:51.490 --> 0:47:53.410

Burnham, Lance
Sure, it's uh, Sheriff Jeff Stiegler.

0:47:54.430 --> 0:47:54.900

Brian Peete
I was wrong.

0:47:54.360 --> 0:47:55.320

Burnham, Lance
Ste.

0:47:56.30 --> 0:47:57.980

Burnham, Lance
STEIGLER.

0:47:59.220 --> 0:48:0.140

Brian Peete
And he's in New Hampshire.

0:48:0.910 --> 0:48:2.360

Burnham, Lance
Yes, using Grafton County.

0:48:2.850 --> 0:48:6.160

Paul White
Yeah, he was the police chief in Bradford, Vermont, for a little while.

0:48:6.580 --> 0:48:7.10

Burnham, Lance
Yep.

0:48:8.500 --> 0:48:8.880

Brian Peete
Thanks.

0:48:10.940 --> 0:48:16.560

Burnham, Lance

I did ask. I did ask his opinion knowing that, you know, he did work in a relatively.

0:48:17.400 --> 0:48:23.360

Burnham, Lance

A rural area here in Vermont. If this was a good way for Vermont to go.

0:48:24.930 --> 0:48:30.90

Burnham, Lance

And he agreed that it was just because it'll the continuity of service would be.

0:48:30.820 --> 0:48:32.460

Burnham, Lance

Would be would be better.

0:48:33.660 --> 0:48:35.70

Burnham, Lance

And that is that.

0:48:35.900 --> 0:48:40.170

Burnham, Lance

You have people that know the area that are right around the corner rather than.

0:48:41.410 --> 0:48:44.790

Burnham, Lance

In his in his well, he was here. He was calling up to Derby.

0:48:45.540 --> 0:48:45.790

Paul White

Right.

0:48:45.510 --> 0:48:51.660

Burnham, Lance

Relative Bradford Derby. It really isn't that far in the state of Vermont, but it is a distance.

0:48:53.140 --> 0:48:58.140

Burnham, Lance

It would be different if you're calling from Bradford to Williston, which is a significant difference.

0:48:58.440 --> 0:48:59.700

Paul White

Right. Which is the case now.

0:49:0.180 --> 0:49:1.700

Burnham, Lance

Yeah. Yep.

0:49:5.970 --> 0:49:6.310

Paul White

OK.

0:49:6.260 --> 0:49:8.910

Burnham, Lance

Uh, just trying to think if I missed anything.

0:49:16.160 --> 0:49:23.210

Burnham, Lance

I did ask for an approximate value of what someone said he brought up like Littleton, NH.

0:49:24.550 --> 0:49:27.780

Burnham, Lance

Now a little tin is also relatively busy.

0:49:28.960 --> 0:49:34.130

Burnham, Lance

Their town pays a total of approximately 200,000 a year for their dispatch service.

0:49:35.90 --> 0:49:37.270

Paul White

For all services, police, fire, EMS.

0:49:36.670 --> 0:49:38.880

Burnham, Lance

Officers all services. Yep.

0:49:43.180 --> 0:49:48.380

Paul White

And that's the only funding they get is from those municipal appropriations, nothing from the state.

0:49:48.960 --> 0:49:49.720

Burnham, Lance

Nothing from the state.

0:49:54.670 --> 0:49:56.600

Paul White

OK it seems.

0:49:57.570 --> 0:49:58.940

Paul White

Somewhat cost effective.

0:50:1.200 --> 0:50:6.280

Burnham, Lance

Yeah, I mean, it is, if you're like Littleton, if you're combining those three agencies.

0:50:7.920 --> 0:50:11.310

Burnham, Lance

For a total of 200,000, it doesn't. It really isn't.

0:50:12.380 --> 0:50:14.880

Burnham, Lance

Not that I won't say 200,000. Not a lot of money, but.

0:50:15.0 --> 0:50:17.770

Paul White

Right. But for a community the size a Littleton, that's.

0:50:18.360 --> 0:50:18.730

Burnham, Lance

Yeah.

0:50:19.380 --> 0:50:20.20

Burnham, Lance

That's not bad.

0:50:20.140 --> 0:50:20.810

Paul White

That's not bad.

0:50:23.100 --> 0:50:27.40

Paul White

And I forget, we may have talked about this already. I assume they have some kind of.

0:50:27.670 --> 0:50:30.440

Paul White

I think you did tell us before. There's a formula based on.

0:50:31.530 --> 0:50:32.280

Paul White

I forget what?

0:50:35.710 --> 0:50:40.520

Paul White

And how they arrive at the assessment for each member municipality.

0:50:41.320 --> 0:50:56.450

Burnham, Lance

Yeah, it's based on call volume case numbers and I believe police police may have a little bit different formula of how they of how they build. But I believe EMS and fire is just based on call volume.

0:50:58.440 --> 0:50:59.200

Paul White

Yeah, I was.

0:51:0.410 --> 0:51:4.570

Paul White

Doing some searching on the Internet and actually came found a old report from.

0:51:5.290 --> 0:51:15.820

Paul White

Commissioner, sleeper so that tells you how far, how old the report was, but it talked about the Lamoille County Sheriff's Office. And like you, Lance, you had described it as being a complicated.

0:51:16.490 --> 0:51:31.200

Paul White

Funding formula and it's, I don't know if they're still using the same thing, but at that, at the time of that report, which I think was maybe 2004, it was they were getting their funding half based on the town's grand list and half based on the town's population.

0:51:32.400 --> 0:51:32.860

Burnham, Lance

Yeah.

0:51:32.110 --> 0:51:34.970

Paul White

So it didn't take into. It didn't take into effect call volume at all.

0:51:35.580 --> 0:51:44.100

Burnham, Lance

No, and just I don't know if people know this, but the reason that that formula so complicated is it came out of a lawsuit.

0:51:46.110 --> 0:51:47.480

Burnham, Lance

And.

0:51:48.510 --> 0:51:58.180

Burnham, Lance

Legislature got intervened and the lawsuit basically said legislature has come up with the funding mechanism, which is that formula, so.

0:51:58.380 --> 0:52:14.810

Paul White

But I'm not sure how you know, so they were again, this may have very well have changed, but the the formula that I was looking at that was in effect at that time it was it'll pick a town, say the town of Cambridge. It looks at Cambridge's grand list as a percentage of the entire counties grand list.

0:52:15.480 --> 0:52:15.810

Burnham, Lance

Yes.

0:52:17.400 --> 0:52:17.880

Burnham, Lance
Yeah.

0:52:17.0 --> 0:52:28.840

Paul White
But how does that work? Like for example, Lamoille County Sheriff dispatches for the town of Berry, which is not in Lamoille County. So how do they take Berry Towns grand list and compare it to a percentage of Lamoille counties grand list? I have no idea how.

0:52:29.280 --> 0:52:33.720

Paul White
Uh Sheriff Marcus arrives at the amount that he bills us here in Barrytown.

0:52:35.560 --> 0:52:35.860

Paul White
Yes.

0:52:44.170 --> 0:52:44.520

Paul White
OK.

0:52:35.80 --> 0:52:47.540

Burnham, Lance
Yeah, I don't know the answer to that. I do know that uh, Cambridge is still they are Rogers still using that that old formula. I I think he's mandated I believe I don't barbed you know if he's.

0:52:48.290 --> 0:52:50.0

Burnham, Lance
We still mandated to use that morning.

0:52:50.460 --> 0:52:54.270

Neal, Barbara
I I didn't know that history you just described Lance and.

0:52:55.550 --> 0:53:3.260

Neal, Barbara
I I don't know, but we can ask him for an update on the funding mechanisms in Lamoille County if that's helpful.

0:53:4.550 --> 0:53:11.220

Burnham, Lance
Yeah, actually I'm not too far from him. I'm working out the outpost. Maybe I'll just take a ride around lunchtime and see if he's in his office.

0:53:11.670 --> 0:53:15.840

Paul White
I always have a hard time finding him in the office, but maybe you'll have better luck since you're closer.

0:53:17.140 --> 0:53:18.30

Burnham, Lance
I'll call him first.

0:53:18.200 --> 0:53:18.450

Paul White
Yeah.

0:53:20.270 --> 0:53:20.580

Paul White
Yeah.

0:53:18.670 --> 0:53:21.960

Anderson, Mark
I would call him for she's, uh, in middle of hang season.

0:53:22.710 --> 0:53:22.950

Burnham, Lance
Yeah.

0:53:22.380 --> 0:53:24.760

Paul White
Yeah, well, not today probably, but.

0:53:25.670 --> 0:53:25.920

Burnham, Lance
Good.

0:53:27.810 --> 0:53:28.370

Paul White
Umm.

0:53:28.950 --> 0:53:29.940

Anderson, Mark
So.

0:53:30.470 --> 0:53:31.60

Paul White
Yeah, mark.

0:53:31.870 --> 0:53:41.230

Anderson, Mark
I I haven't dug into it too deeply yet, but when we began having this conversation a year ago, I got Hanover NH's.

0:53:42.530 --> 0:53:43.330

Anderson, Mark
Formula.

0:53:44.350 --> 0:53:46.160

Anderson, Mark

Which I'm happy to share the slideshow.

0:53:47.360 --> 0:53:55.240

Anderson, Mark

But my understanding is it was kind of a. It was a formula similar to to Rogers, but it also takes a three-year average of call volume.

0:54:4.530 --> 0:54:4.750

Paul White

Right.

0:53:55.940 --> 0:54:21.690

Anderson, Mark

So the benefit to the towns being if you have a an abnormal year with a spike in call volume, you don't see an immediate spike in your assessment. But the second piece of that is that they can project it. And so because of the, I think it was a three-year average, they are able to say OK, three years from now because we had a bad year this year, three years from now we're going to need to allocate this much and they can plan for it which.

0:54:22.980 --> 0:54:29.160

Anderson, Mark

While complicated at don't think anyone hears afraid of rolling up their sleeves and doing a little work. If it treats people right.

0:54:29.520 --> 0:54:32.490

Paul White

Right. It helps smooth out the the peaks and the valleys and the.

0:54:33.560 --> 0:54:34.240

Paul White

The cost?

0:54:36.800 --> 0:54:40.430

Anderson, Mark

What's a good way to distribute it? e-mail. Chat.

0:54:41.970 --> 0:54:42.400

Anderson, Mark

Pigeon.

0:54:43.420 --> 0:54:44.830

Paul White

UM well.

0:54:46.100 --> 0:54:54.990

Paul White

If it's something for public consumption, we can put it on our resources page or we can if you wanna send it to me, I can distribute it to the group. If it's something we don't want.

0:54:55.690 --> 0:55:2.300

Paul White

You know, I guess if it's hand handovers document, we don't know if we should post it publicly without their permission.

0:55:4.670 --> 0:55:10.840

Anderson, Mark

Yeah, I'm not sure of the public records. It seems to be that it was a a public presentation, but I can ask that question.

0:55:11.730 --> 0:55:17.730

Paul White

Yeah, I mean because it's, I mean anything that's in the public domain, there's no reason why we shouldn't make it available on our.

0:55:18.560 --> 0:55:23.160

Paul White

Resources page because there are people with an interest that are following what we talk about.

0:55:28.40 --> 0:55:28.480

Paul White

OK.

0:55:29.470 --> 0:55:36.480

Paul White

I have uh before I. I don't wanna cut off anybody that might have comments or questions or follow up from previous meetings.

0:55:37.820 --> 0:55:38.690

Paul White

I have. Uh.

0:55:40.30 --> 0:55:42.340

Paul White

So interrupt me at any time I guess is my point, but.

0:55:43.170 --> 0:55:50.0

Paul White

Sitting here last night thinking about OK, if Terry doesn't fill the entire time, what are we? What are we gonna take up next?

0:55:51.980 --> 0:56:2.550

Paul White

And I arrived at in no particular order, sort of a list of things that either are in my head or things that I think I've heard people say or.

0:56:3.890 --> 0:56:5.620

Paul White

Just things that randomly.

0:56:6.440 --> 0:56:8.30

Paul White

Popped into my head at midnight last night.

0:56:11.500 --> 0:56:13.40

Paul White

And I guess I would just like to.

0:56:14.450 --> 0:56:20.660

Paul White

Get an idea of are these just my thoughts? Are is the group in agreement with these thoughts?

0:56:22.830 --> 0:56:27.30

Paul White

And if nobody has anything else, I can sort of run down this list that I put together.

0:56:28.590 --> 0:56:29.660

Paul White

If somebody has something else.

0:56:28.960 --> 0:56:31.640

Neal, Barbara

The only thing I I have Paul is.

0:56:32.860 --> 0:57:1.850

Neal, Barbara

We had you and I had talked about inviting Clay Purvis to talk to this group, and Clay Purvis is the Director of Telecommunications at the Public Service Department. To kind of give an overview of the lay of the telecommunications world in Vermont and what what his office does and might be able to contribute to this conversation. He did confirm that he can come next week. And so I guess I'm checking with you, Paul, to make sure.

0:57:1.950 --> 0:57:5.350

Neal, Barbara

You want me to send him the invite and we're ready to go with that.

0:57:5.940 --> 0:57:30.710

Paul White

Yeah, I think there's value to that. Anybody. I mean, I don't think it needs to be a very long presentation, but I got a thumbs up from Brian and a head nod from Lance. Is there anybody that doesn't see any value to having clay come talk to us briefly next week? Well, I guess we'll remains to be seen how brief it is, but I think the more information we can gather, the better I feel. I feel like as chair, I'm kind of floundering here and then I'm still trying to.

0:57:31.40 --> 0:57:36.490

Paul White

Figure out next steps so the more information that I can cram into my head, the better.

0:57:37.380 --> 0:57:40.240

Neal, Barbara

Check. I'll forward him the meeting invite then for next week.

0:57:40.630 --> 0:57:40.930

Paul White

OK.

0:57:44.530 --> 0:57:51.680

Paul White

So this is these things. Like I said, there are no particular order. It's just things that as I went through my notes from the previous three meetings.

0:57:55.150 --> 0:58:10.840

Paul White

Stuck in my head and I would just like to sort of find out our is everybody on the same page or are some of us thinking on different wavelengths. And so I'll just run down my list and if anybody has strong feelings one way or the other, please let me know.

0:58:12.200 --> 0:58:13.600

Paul White

The first thing on my list is that.

0:58:14.460 --> 0:58:14.740

Paul White

Umm.

0:58:15.690 --> 0:58:19.180

Paul White

It's sort of framed. This says as a working group. Are we in agreement that?

0:58:20.190 --> 0:58:28.230

Paul White

And then my bullet points that regional dispatch centers should have uniform protocols like the 911 call taking protocols that currently exist in the P apps.

0:58:32.950 --> 0:58:33.950

Paul White

The comment on that.

0:58:35.160 --> 0:58:41.490

Paul White

In other words, a call comes in to Mark shop should be handled basically the same way a call coming into Brian Shop or.

0:58:42.230 --> 0:58:44.140

Paul White
Newports or orange counties.

0:58:47.300 --> 0:58:56.400

Anderson, Mark
I guess I'll throw out the I don't have an issue with the concept, but that seems to be building in an expectation that also requires a lot of.

0:59:0.640 --> 0:59:0.900

Paul White
Right.

0:58:57.150 --> 0:59:4.150

Anderson, Mark
Uh infrastructure to follow it, not the tower infrastructure, but rather meaning staff. Who's the governing body?

0:59:5.40 --> 0:59:5.340

Paul White
Right.

0:59:4.630 --> 0:59:16.520

Anderson, Mark
Uh, et cetera, and those might be tricky wickets to thread, so for those reasons, I might say we recommend that for future study and let's deal with this project first.

0:59:21.500 --> 0:59:26.450

Neal, Barbara
Right. I I agree with that. It does add another layer of complexity.

0:59:27.290 --> 0:59:36.330

Neal, Barbara
I do think it's important, so maybe it can appear on a list as something that, like Mark said, is good to study or is it should rather than a shout.

0:59:42.460 --> 0:59:42.840

Paul White
OK.

0:59:40.90 --> 0:59:44.570

Neal, Barbara
So yeah, I I agree with the complexity issue though.

0:59:45.950 --> 0:59:46.300

Paul White
OK.

0:59:48.790 --> 0:59:59.470

Paul White

In a similar vein that the level of service that can be expected by a user agency should be the same for everyone. Whether you're a small volunteer organization or a large municipal agency.

1:0:6.220 --> 1:0:8.750

Burnham, Lance

How how would you describe level of service?

1:0:10.540 --> 1:0:12.250

Paul White

Well, I would say say.

1:0:13.650 --> 1:0:20.20

Paul White

Not to pick on Brian, but you know if it's a, say, Montpelier Police Department is operating a center, you know if the.

1:0:20.960 --> 1:0:26.140

Paul White

Worcester Fire Chief calls in he should get the same response, the same timeliness the same.

1:0:27.900 --> 1:0:38.430

Paul White

Professionalism not as the Montpelier Fire Chief. You know that it shouldn't matter whether you are the agency that's providing the service or the agency. That's the customer.

1:0:43.220 --> 1:0:45.50

Burnham, Lance

Yeah, I I would agree with that.

1:0:46.530 --> 1:0:47.180

Burnham, Lance

I.

1:0:49.520 --> 1:0:55.530

Burnham, Lance

I think there is there's uniqueness in who The Who the customer is.

1:1:3.620 --> 1:1:3.910

Paul White

Right.

1:1:4.910 --> 1:1:5.220

Paul White

Sure.

1:0:56.160 --> 1:1:6.270

Burnham, Lance

And what I mean by that is law enforcement is gonna demand or just require a different level of service than dispatching the Ms.

1:1:7.20 --> 1:1:9.270

Burnham, Lance

Ah, to somewhere but.

1:1:10.240 --> 1:1:17.110

Burnham, Lance

Yeah, I I think that brings frankly professionalism to it and there should be a standard on.

1:1:23.320 --> 1:1:30.590

Paul White

Umm, what about regional centers, wherever they may be around the state should all utilize equivalent technology and hardware.

1:1:34.360 --> 1:1:35.990

Anderson, Mark

It's a good question for Terry.

1:1:36.480 --> 1:1:36.690

Paul White

Right.

1:1:43.300 --> 1:1:43.550

Paul White

Right.

1:1:38.890 --> 1:1:44.380

Burnham, Lance

But I think they'd almost have to if we're because you're gonna need redundancy. You're gonna need backup. You're gonna need.

1:1:45.660 --> 1:1:55.960

Burnham, Lance

You you're gonna need, as you said, Paul, if if a tanker rolls over in front of the Sheriff's Department and they're not utilizing the same equipment that say VSP is.

1:1:59.210 --> 1:1:59.450

Paul White

Right.

1:1:56.580 --> 1:1:59.550

Burnham, Lance

Umm, we're not gonna be able to take over them so.

1:2:13.540 --> 1:2:13.850

Paul White

Right.

1:2:5.830 --> 1:2:18.310

Anderson, Mark

The totally agree with what Lance said, but we're also gonna have to contemplate the currently existing infrastructure that absolutely is not. And then maybe we're talking the 100 year plan of.

1:3:34.570 --> 1:3:38.730

Anderson, Mark

Can we have a formula that factors in the obvious?

1:3:39.820 --> 1:3:42.260

Anderson, Mark

Uh. Differences there? Uh.

1:3:42.30 --> 1:3:54.940

Paul White

Yeah. I mean, whatever the formula is, it's arrived at. Whether it's, you know, in Lamoille County. It's a combination of grand list and population or whether it's call volume and population or. But as long as the same formula is applied.

1:3:57.160 --> 1:4:4.780

Paul White

Yeah. When? Who? However, we arrive at that formula would need to take into account the wide variety of places around the state.

1:4:9.280 --> 1:4:19.170

Paul White

This is something that I think that Lance had mentioned from the sheriff in New Hampshire. Dispatching services are best delivered close to home by local personnel versus the dispatch center on the other end of the state.

1:4:28.970 --> 1:4:29.270

Paul White

Uh.

1:4:29.350 --> 1:4:32.120

Paul White

This, I think is probably me talking.

1:4:34.260 --> 1:4:37.130

Paul White

It may not be in agreement with some on the group, but.

1:4:39.0 --> 1:4:41.90

Paul White

The thought that grant funds should not be awarded.

1:4:41.890 --> 1:4:53.520

Paul White

For prospective new regional centers, until we have a clear picture of what the needs are statewide, you

know, are we gonna spend money on standing up of a center in Newport when we don't know what the needs are in Bennington?

1:4:54.800 --> 1:5:18.640

Paul White

Are we? Are we gonna just take these? Well, there's not. We cause we're not the group looking at these applications. But should the department just start handing out grant money as the applications come in when we haven't arrived at? And we're actually a long ways from knowing what the overall needs are statewide. Or should the recommendation be made to put that process on hold until we have the full picture.

1:5:23.290 --> 1:5:29.860

Brian Peete

I I think the only issue with that one is is because of the the the dire situation, the lack of infrastructure.

1:5:31.80 --> 1:6:1.150

Brian Peete

That that there should be something built in there, that it has an eye on capabilities that will whatever's built will be able to meet any future capabilities that that we know that we can project are going to be needed, whether it's interoperability, continuity of operations and everything to that effect. So I think that if if an agency comes up with the plan, that will not only meet currently what they're doing, but also will fit into any growth that I think that it's something that should be considered.

1:6:1.230 --> 1:6:4.230

Brian Peete

And however the the currents.

1:6:5.740 --> 1:6:14.980

Brian Peete

The grant is written that it should those who are are going to make that judgment like people like like Lance and Terry, they should be able to know how that system's gonna be built out.

1:6:23.640 --> 1:6:24.50

Paul White

Yeah.

1:6:23.680 --> 1:6:24.130

Burnham, Lance

It's.

1:6:22.480 --> 1:6:27.420

Anderson, Mark

Lance, what's the current status of state police dispatch statewide?

1:6:29.840 --> 1:6:39.260

Anderson, Mark

I mean, I I've had nothing push over to me. So to me, I could care less. But to Brian's point, it sounds like that there's a pressure that we're not feeling in Windham County.

1:6:42.80 --> 1:6:45.810

Burnham, Lance

Well, I, I mean we're right now we're operating at about.

1:6:46.260 --> 1:6:47.130

Burnham, Lance

Uh.

1:6:48.430 --> 1:6:52.700

Burnham, Lance

I ran the numbers last week. We've got 20 vacancies out of.

1:6:53.420 --> 1:6:56.310

Burnham, Lance

UH-58, I believe.

1:6:57.220 --> 1:6:57.580

Burnham, Lance

Yeah.

1:6:58.940 --> 1:7:8.450

Burnham, Lance

You know we're doing, we're covering it. We've done a especially down in our Westminster barracks. We've made a substantial changes down there. We changed their schedules.

1:7:8.530 --> 1:7:9.110

Burnham, Lance

Umm.

1:7:9.600 --> 1:7:18.50

Burnham, Lance

Uh, we're turning a blind eye to overtime, quite frankly. So I don't we're getting by.

1:7:19.790 --> 1:7:33.570

Burnham, Lance

Luckily, we're getting applications, but it it's like police work. We we can get an application now, but we know what that person is not gonna be sitting at a desk for another five months. They're not gonna count towards anything. So.

1:7:34.830 --> 1:7:37.460

Burnham, Lance

I think we're taking baby steps forward.

1:7:37.940 --> 1:7:44.50

Burnham, Lance

Uh, but love, just take bigger steps. But we're kind of stuck in the structure of what dispatching is.

1:7:46.50 --> 1:7:49.200

Paul White

Yeah, I'm just. I look at, I look at the list of.

1:7:50.440 --> 1:8:0.970

Paul White

You know, and I know I've said this before, but if you look at the list of who Williston and Westminster dispatching for, if if the goal is to help ease that pressure on VM SP dispatch.

1:8:2.820 --> 1:8:8.50

Paul White

Then, you know Montpelier, Windham County. Those aren't the areas of greatest need.

1:8:9.20 --> 1:8:13.720

Paul White

But yet I know those are the areas that are prepared to submit an application for the money.

1:8:14.970 --> 1:8:20.320

Burnham, Lance

Yeah, I know. I had a conversation with the Rutland sheriff last week.

1:8:21.340 --> 1:8:27.550

Burnham, Lance

He is moving forward. He is applying for the grant.

1:8:28.820 --> 1:8:34.350

Burnham, Lance

He had some questions that I kind of referred him over to Christian Pedit at HSI.

1:8:35.750 --> 1:8:38.0

Burnham, Lance

Or Hsu and.

1:8:51.880 --> 1:8:52.80

Paul White

Right.

1:8:39.440 --> 1:8:53.530

Burnham, Lance

So they are definitely moving forward. I'm sure Bob can probably speak to that better than I can, but Raven County will be a huge a huge step forward for us if they could slowly start integrating into that.

1:8:54.930 --> 1:8:56.420

Burnham, Lance

Bob, do you have anything to add to that?

1:8:57.550 --> 1:9:26.200

Robert Schlachter

Umm well just echoing what you just said. You know we know that we are probably the largest user out

there for services from Westminster with the you know allied agencies and we are working to try to put something together. The sheriff has been doing quite a bit of background work and glad you and he have made contact with each other and you pointed in a direction as far as getting more information on some of the fun.

1:9:27.440 --> 1:9:29.790

Robert Schlachter

Use this in the light to make it work.

1:9:31.640 --> 1:9:48.350

Robert Schlachter

Again, we're we're at the point where sure, we can put in an application, but whether it'll be flushed out to the point that it needs to be to meet everything that's going to be a little bit interesting to see because again, we're kind of doing this.

1:9:49.170 --> 1:9:50.580

Robert Schlachter

Without a lot of, uh.

1:9:51.310 --> 1:9:52.140

Robert Schlachter

Background.

1:9:53.670 --> 1:10:13.420

Robert Schlachter

Staff and the like, and I think the sheriff is doing a great job. We have a local group here and we meet fairly regularly so we can talk about these things. And one of the things that came up in our meeting last week but and we actually had a legislator there and a state senator there is the fact that the money.

1:10:14.910 --> 1:10:17.850

Robert Schlachter

Alright, in a parking lot grant application.

1:10:18.930 --> 1:10:23.850

Robert Schlachter

Timing is somewhat of an issue because you know if OK.

1:10:24.940 --> 1:10:25.370

Robert Schlachter

We don't.

1:10:26.940 --> 1:10:30.670

Robert Schlachter

If we didn't apply now, I think we'd be bad, really bad instead.

1:10:31.690 --> 1:10:35.470

Robert Schlachter

But certainly whatever we do is gonna require a lot more work.

1:10:39.300 --> 1:10:41.820

Paul White

So usually did I hear you say that?

1:10:42.850 --> 1:10:44.800

Paul White

An extension of the deadline would be helpful.

1:10:46.620 --> 1:10:53.480

Robert Schlachter

I think it would be, uh again. I don't know how everybody else is working on this because we have several.

1:10:54.120 --> 1:10:55.950

Robert Schlachter

Places around the state doing it right now.

1:10:57.90 --> 1:11:6.460

Robert Schlachter

But one of the you know, we come right back to I think square one and I think you and I talked about this ball last week when we were on the phone is.

1:11:7.810 --> 1:11:13.780

Robert Schlachter

OK, we're gonna do these things. And then what? If this committee came up with a whole different?

1:11:14.190 --> 1:11:26.40

Robert Schlachter

Uh. Standard mechanism, whatever. Down the road here, as we're meeting our mandate with the legislature, there's just a lot of open questions, I guess at this point and how that's all going to sugar up.

1:11:34.390 --> 1:11:40.960

Burnham, Lance

I think this this legislation when I read it, it was almost the the, the, the.

1:11:44.970 --> 1:11:45.240

Paul White

Right.

1:11:41.960 --> 1:11:53.110

Burnham, Lance

Dumb it down. It's like the chicken and the egg conversation. You know, we're we're we're lending out money yet this this group is tasked with how we support it long term.

1:11:53.780 --> 1:11:57.650

Burnham, Lance

And we're we're literally giving out six and a half \$1,000,000.

1:11:58.500 --> 1:12:1.150

Burnham, Lance

Yeah. We don't even know how we're gonna keep that up.

1:12:10.40 --> 1:12:10.250

Burnham, Lance

Right.

1:12:1.850 --> 1:12:20.760

Paul White

Right. Well, that's that's my, that's my problem is the right that we're we're actively getting ready to hand out this money now when this working group granted I I I don't have any idea how we're gonna really have come up with any kind of report by December 1st at the rate we're going but even if we do.

1:12:22.680 --> 1:12:27.510

Paul White

Money will all some of the money will already be in the process of being awarded before we even write our report.

1:12:28.590 --> 1:12:28.860

Burnham, Lance

Right.

1:12:28.420 --> 1:12:35.220

Paul White

Which makes I don't know why that surprises me because it does involve the legislature, but it makes no sense.

1:12:36.70 --> 1:12:39.760

Burnham, Lance

Yeah. And maybe that's a conversation with the Commissioner.

1:12:40.440 --> 1:12:40.650

Paul White

Right.

1:12:45.10 --> 1:12:57.900

Paul White

OK. Well, we are at 943 before I know we've already had some public input, but I will formally open it up for public comment in just a minute. Is there anything anybody else wants to?

1:13:0.940 --> 1:13:2.560

Paul White

Bring up before we do that.

1:13:6.440 --> 1:13:37.50

Neal, Barbara

I have one thing and I'm not really sure where it fits in the in the conversation, but something to consider as as we were talking about all these different models, you know what's going on in New

Hampshire, what the various funding models and kind of operational models, even within Vermont. It occurred to me that that some existing dispatch centers are working fine operationally. They're funding mechanism is working for them. Maybe technology wise they're.

1:13:37.150 --> 1:13:40.420

Neal, Barbara

They're operating the the way they wanna operate and.

1:13:46.170 --> 1:13:46.490

Paul White

Right.

1:13:41.600 --> 1:13:49.10

Neal, Barbara

What should the recommendation from this group be about that? I mean, my thought is if it ain't broke, don't fix it so.

1:13:47.770 --> 1:14:4.470

Paul White

Right. Well, that's. Yeah, that's a valid question. Are we, do we want to come up with recommendations that only apply to new centers that might stand up or do we wanna try to shoehorn everybody into the same model as a, you know, ultimate eventually? You know, if if they.

1:14:3.660 --> 1:14:9.400

Neal, Barbara

Or maybe there? Maybe there's various ways to meet. Whatever our recommendation is.

1:14:10.430 --> 1:14:10.990

Neal, Barbara

Umm.

1:14:12.860 --> 1:14:18.860

Neal, Barbara

Anyway, just that was just something that kind of came up in my mind throughout the conversation today.

1:14:21.420 --> 1:14:36.460

Burnham, Lance

So Bob, when you when you say that are you, do you have like somebody in mind just as an example, are you talking about a peace app or are you talking about say someone like I don't like Burlington PD who who is an internal has all their internal stuff?

1:14:37.70 --> 1:14:45.800

Neal, Barbara

Right. Burlington PD is a good example. I mean, I don't know all the details of their their operations and all that, but I haven't heard anything.

1:14:47.680 --> 1:15:1.510

Neal, Barbara

Coming out of there, Lamoille County Sheriff's Department is another one from at least what I know and maybe can get more detail from the sheriff on funding, but that has worked well for Lamoille County for a long, long time.

1:15:2.400 --> 1:15:3.330

Neal, Barbara

So.

1:15:4.900 --> 1:15:12.210

Neal, Barbara

And I'm sure there's other examples around the state. I'm naturally drawing a blank right now, but so there are.

1:15:13.370 --> 1:15:36.630

Neal, Barbara

There are unknown needs around the state. That's one component. There is. There's some places that are working just fine or at least appear to be on the surface. I haven't heard any mention of the whole Chittenden County initiative. They were working on a regionalized dispatch center, but I haven't heard them come up as part of this conversation, so I don't know where they are.

1:15:38.210 --> 1:15:39.280

Neal, Barbara

In in that.

1:15:43.950 --> 1:15:44.340

Paul White

So.

1:15:42.990 --> 1:15:49.50

Neal, Barbara

So, so so my point is just to to consider that that some places.

1:15:50.340 --> 1:16:4.490

Neal, Barbara

May be working now fine and equitably in the in the the the funding mechanism being applied to everyone how they provide service to all of their customers, their various agencies and so forth.

1:16:12.750 --> 1:16:13.30

Paul White

Right.

1:16:5.580 --> 1:16:15.510

Neal, Barbara

Umm and I'm I. I'm just putting out the possibility that there might not be one best model. Maybe there is a variety of models that fit into a?

1:16:16.360 --> 1:16:20.880

Neal, Barbara

Best practice or recommendation that we can come up with? Don't ask me what that is though.

1:16:21.150 --> 1:16:34.540

Paul White

Yeah, I guess I had intended to before now and I need to have a conversation with Sheriff Markku. But as far as I know they don't have any kind of a governance body, right? It's just the the body is the sheriff.

1:16:35.840 --> 1:16:36.840

Paul White

That's my understanding.

1:16:36.150 --> 1:16:39.110

Neal, Barbara

I believe that's the case. Yeah, yeah.

1:16:46.310 --> 1:16:47.690

Neal, Barbara

Right. Yeah, good point.

1:16:37.920 --> 1:16:53.470

Paul White

And you know, in one of my one of my concerns with that is that, OK, you say it's worked well for a long time. Well, that's because Roger Marko's been the sheriff for a long time. If he if he retired, somebody new comes in and decides they wanna totally change things up, what does that do to their customer municipalities?

1:16:55.230 --> 1:16:56.690

Neal, Barbara

Good question. Yeah.

1:16:59.220 --> 1:17:0.810

Paul White

OK. Anything else, anybody.

1:17:4.730 --> 1:17:4.940

Paul White

Yeah.

1:17:3.170 --> 1:17:6.180

Brian Peete

I got something just real quick, I think as we're.

1:17:11.50 --> 1:17:11.290

Paul White

Yeah.

1:17:38.610 --> 1:18:11.20

Brian Peete

Should be able to to meet or contribute with the existing infrastructure that the state already has. So if we look at those different things that you know we have to have X amount of policies and processes that we have to have a formula that's based in equity. And then so if we have those recommendations

and then we contract that out, maybe use some of that state funding to contract it out to an organization that we can give that to you and then they can come back with the specificities or consultants and then we can go from there to design a full plan rather than us trying to take a bite out of this huge elephant.

1:18:13.860 --> 1:18:14.20

Paul White

Right.

1:18:15.980 --> 1:18:16.200

Paul White

Right.

1:18:11.320 --> 1:18:26.430

Brian Peete

By going down into the weeds like that, because we're most certainly gonna miss a whole bunch. But I think that any recommendations we come out which should be putting that in the lap of a consultant or hiring somebody to help us to come in here and do that right rather than us taking up that mantle.

1:18:27.240 --> 1:18:34.720

Paul White

Yeah, I I agree, because I certainly don't feel qualified to write this report that's required by the by the charge.

1:18:35.540 --> 1:18:35.830

Paul White

Umm.

1:18:37.270 --> 1:18:42.770

Paul White

And I don't even know who I would turn to, so I need a consultant to tell me who to hire for a consultant.

1:18:48.130 --> 1:18:50.700

Paul White

OK. Anybody else before I open it up for public comment?

1:18:53.830 --> 1:18:55.490

Paul White

If not, is there any public comment?

1:18:56.430 --> 1:18:57.460

Paul White

That we haven't heard already.

1:18:59.10 --> 1:19:1.60

advocate (Guest)

Yeah, I won't repeat what I said already.

1:19:2.940 --> 1:19:3.610

advocate (Guest)

Can you hear me?

1:19:3.970 --> 1:19:5.110

Paul White

Yep. Yeah, we can hear you.

1:19:5.70 --> 1:19:7.120

advocate (Guest)

Alright, Steve Whittaker for the record.

1:19:8.920 --> 1:19:21.0

advocate (Guest)

With regard to Brian Pete's comment, you don't have the luxury of time. You can't spread two years of consulting here, especially when there's a momentum to hand out millions of dollars.

1:19:21.460 --> 1:19:47.400

advocate (Guest)

Uh, in the next months, so in fact handing out millions of dollars without a plan that addresses governance, that impresses radio interoperability, that aggresses failover could be throwing the wrench in the works of what this group is attempting to do. So the legislation requires a plan, but that plan is not specified and it's.

1:19:48.210 --> 1:19:57.860

advocate (Guest)

Primarily to be done by the department. So this this group is primarily looking at funding sources, budget and.

1:19:59.240 --> 1:20:1.270

advocate (Guest)

Governance issues so.

1:20:2.440 --> 1:20:26.150

advocate (Guest)

The but what the legislation leaves out is that relationship of LMR and LTE for the public safety broadband, with priority and preemption, and the capital costs. If you are attempting to achieve the report that was asked for, you've gotta get a handle on the capital cost. That means you would need to use some of this.

1:20:27.100 --> 1:20:45.80

advocate (Guest)

General fund money. The six and a half million that is available this year by vote of the Joint Fiscal Committee. To do that radio assessment that Terry Lavalier referred to to a size up every system. And what it's gonna cost to upgrade, replace or infill.

1:20:45.780 --> 1:20:46.330

advocate (Guest)

Ohh.

1:20:47.430 --> 1:20:49.530

advocate (Guest)

You also have the issue of.

1:20:50.310 --> 1:21:20.940

advocate (Guest)

Board mentioned Chittenden County Steve Lock when he was still a Fire Chief in Burlington, mentioned that they wouldn't be ready until late 2023 and that may be why they're not proposing to put a grant in. He said that at a 911 board meeting, I think he since moved to South Burlington, which I believe would be the host to that regional dispatch center, but we have a problem that this committee should deal with, which is the size of Shelburne. Shelburne is too big.

1:21:21.20 --> 1:21:41.960

advocate (Guest)

The fail or too big to fail over to anybody. So either you scale Shelburne down or you build something equivalent, or you do a any to any architecture which is very expensive and that if Shelburne were to fail, that dispatch could load, could be picked up by multiple centers.

1:21:42.620 --> 1:21:43.300

advocate (Guest)

Umm.

1:21:44.200 --> 1:21:48.390

advocate (Guest)

With normal one calls that's already the case with dispatching it is not.

1:21:49.760 --> 1:21:55.550

advocate (Guest)

So with regard to standards for dispatching, I think you.

1:21:56.730 --> 1:21:57.200

advocate (Guest)

I.

1:21:58.440 --> 1:22:2.370

advocate (Guest)

Every, every every dispatch center is going to welcome the funding.

1:22:4.60 --> 1:22:18.920

advocate (Guest)

That comes along with state funded training and state funded quality assurance and quality control that those expenses are way too large for any one regional center to pay for. And if they're not interoperable, we're wrestling this whole.

1:22:20.460 --> 1:22:50.450

advocate (Guest)

Work group was catalyzed due to the staff shortage. So when you talk about staffing shortages, the portability of the ability of a staffer, a train dispatcher, or 911 call taker to work anywhere in the state and have common protocols and uniform call handling is essential. Staffing is our most precious resource and it's gonna end up being more expensive than the technology over time. So in that regard.

1:22:51.70 --> 1:22:54.720

advocate (Guest)

Both for job security, career advancement and job portability.

1:22:55.960 --> 1:23:1.200

advocate (Guest)

Especially in a failover situation, uniform standards are essential in my view.

1:23:2.480 --> 1:23:2.970

advocate (Guest)

I don't know.

1:23:3.840 --> 1:23:8.190

advocate (Guest)

So I sent you all a few minutes ago. A map of the.

1:23:11.920 --> 1:23:15.970

advocate (Guest)

Barbie, you're you're staff is calling me back right now. I gotta ditch the call.

1:23:17.710 --> 1:23:23.940

advocate (Guest)

So I just sent you a map that shows that derived from the tables that are sent.

1:23:25.380 --> 1:23:29.390

advocate (Guest)

And you can see the Rockland County in Gray and you can see the.

1:23:30.830 --> 1:23:32.480

advocate (Guest)

Williston in green.

1:23:34.730 --> 1:23:36.850

advocate (Guest)

Actually, it's not relevant. County, it's the.

1:23:37.860 --> 1:24:7.430

advocate (Guest)

With Mr Peace app is currently dispatching 20 something tiles around Rutland County, so Rutland County should be our highest priority for stand up, not central Vermont Central Vermont is trying to scam a radio replacement radio system out of this general fund without the governance in place and

without any authority or agreement from the currently served towns. Barbier your list and also failed to include capital police as being dispatched by.

1:24:7.830 --> 1:24:8.770

advocate (Guest)

Not till your PD.

1:24:10.560 --> 1:24:40.10

advocate (Guest)

So the the fact that we have to get our governance in place and get these towns to agree that they're willing to forfeit some of their quality of service, while if Montpelier were to take on dispatching for Rutland County or Swanton or Northfield balloon, etcetera, those are gonna impact the quality of service we currently have which is being skated under the radar because of the lack of governance. We've got two cities.

1:24:40.130 --> 1:24:46.280

advocate (Guest)

Meeting today with with Terry, who are actively trying to undermine the regional authority so.

1:24:48.200 --> 1:24:48.490

Paul White

OK.

1:24:47.380 --> 1:25:7.440

advocate (Guest)

I would just urge caution and urge that you use some of this money to use the chasm tool that Terry referred to and get this statewide inventory done with professional assistance so that we're ready to get decisions with funding out of the legislature in 2023, not 2024. It's too important.

1:25:8.320 --> 1:25:8.710

advocate (Guest)

Thank you.

1:25:9.340 --> 1:25:11.570

Paul White

OK. Thank you. Steve, is there any other public comment?

1:25:32.850 --> 1:25:33.80

advocate (Guest)

So.

1:25:17.920 --> 1:25:47.130

Paul White

Hearing none to love, Steve did mention one thing that I had on my list is there is, you know, we've got we've got a couple of lists from Barb as far as dispatch agencies and who covers who and who's dispatched by who. And I think Lance had something similar. But there are a handful of agencies that we don't want to forget that are not. They don't appear on anybody's list. Capital police is one of them because they don't respond to 911 calls. So they don't appear on E91E911's lists.

1:25:48.230 --> 1:26:15.470

Paul White

UVM police is another one a several of the sheriff's departments you know they're active, they do motor vehicle work, they do law enforcement work, but they're not in the primary responders to 911 calls. So they don't appear on anybody's lists. And then of course, we have a whole smattering of part-time police departments that in some handful of constables that are not on anybody's list. So we do have a bunch of agencies that we need to not forget about.

1:26:18.610 --> 1:26:21.180

Paul White

Without any last comments from anybody.

1:26:22.510 --> 1:26:24.860

Paul White

We will have Clay Purvis from.

1:26:25.780 --> 1:26:27.790

Paul White

Public Service department next week.

1:26:32.990 --> 1:26:34.390

Paul White

And I guess that's about all I've got.

1:26:39.920 --> 1:26:41.750

Brian Peete

I'd like to make a motion to adjourn.

1:26:44.680 --> 1:26:45.380

Burnham, Lance

I would 2nd.

1:26:46.0 --> 1:26:48.30

Paul White

OK. Anybody opposed?

1:26:49.580 --> 1:26:52.630

Paul White

We are adjourned. Thank you, everybody, and see you in a week.

1:26:53.630 --> 1:26:54.270

Burnham, Lance

I think everybody.

1:26:53.950 --> 1:26:54.490

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Thank you.

1:26:54.450 --> 1:26:55.330

Robert Schlachter

OK, hold on.