

MERA Logging Recorder Replacement

- a. In January 2006, the MERA Board authorized \$15,000 to hire a consultant (CIT-COM) to prepare an RFP, evaluate bids and oversee installation of a new logging recorder system.
- b. CIT-COM has concluded that the existing logging recorder systems used throughout Marin County are outdated and that newer recording technology is far superior and cost efficient to that purchased almost ten years ago.
- c. The RFP covered the replacement of the five MERA logging recorders and the two archiving servers along with an evaluation of the individual dispatch center needs. On May 8, 2008 representatives from each dispatch center unanimously selected VPI as their vendor of choice.
- d. Newer recording technology allows MERA's "common" channel recording requirement to be integrated into the master archive server located at the Sheriff's office. MERA would no longer own and maintain individual recorders at the Prime Site to log "common" trunked radio traffic.
- e. Each individual dispatch center will continue to own, operate and maintain its own recording system for logging information particular to that dispatch center. Each agency will contract with VPI for installation and maintenance of its own recording equipment.
- f. The fiscal impact for MERA's portion of the new logging system replacement was previously estimated to be between \$40,000 and \$150,000 (Item H-2 of the December 5, 2007 MERA Board minutes). In the recommended replacement system, MERA's one-time equipment costs are not to exceed \$55,000 and MERA's share of the on-going maintenance cost is anticipated to be less than \$11,000 annually.