Marin Emergency Radio Authority [MERA]

July 26, 2023

**Governing Board Communication** 

Agenda Item C-1

TO: MERA Governing Board FROM: Todd Williams - Operations Officer

SUBJECT: MERA System Operations Update June 2023

MERA July System Maintenance Report (Prior Month June Reporting)

## The Radio Communications division provided the following support to MERA:

Mt. Sonoma MERA Mountaintop Site Outage - Loss of service via channel 3 between the Sonoma and Big Rock Mountaintop links. Issued resolved via replacement spare channel bank.

- o The microwave link servicing Sonoma to Big Rock went out several times within a short period, from 12:00 noon - 05:00 p.m. in the same day, partially due to foggy conditions.
- o Consequently, the above occurrence is normal or routine with old channel bank equipment. In most cases, the channel banks come back up on their own the following night or via remote means. However, unfortunately in this instance, the channel bank did not come back up on its own within 3 days (not good!).
- o After multiple attempts to manually reset the channel bank, there was no success. The following day, Radio Communications went to the actual Sonoma site to reset power and conduct a hard reset of the channel banks. Again, with no success.
- o After many attempts and failed troubleshooting efforts, the channel bank was replaced with a spare which resolved the issue immediately.
- o Ultimately, the channel bank's main purpose or role is breaking up the microwave T1 signal apart into individual time slots, which assist with the proper distributions of radio frequency (RF) signals, etc.
- o The Radio Communications division continues to monitor this service link with no further findings, concerns, and/or reasons to remain alarmed.
- o Furthermore, it's a growing concern for Radio Communications, as we thoroughly conduct quarterlies. Our major concerns remain; feasibility of used/aged spare parts/equipment, low stock concerns, reliability of non-warrantied equipment, and potential delays while transitioning to the new Next Gen network.

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Civic Center Generator Air Conditioner (AC) Deficiencies - Major concerns pending from excess heat at various MERA sites. Issue addressed; however, permanent resolutions are ongoing).

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- o Unfortunately, the heat is not letting up any time soon. Most of our mountaintop site AC units have either been replaced, scheduled for replacement, or there's a nearing solution.
- o The Civic Center Prime Site is our most recent and concerning site. Concerns linger around power, AC feasibility, and/or reliability supporting service equipment, i.e., the Prime Site is the brain of the MERA network.
- Historically, the Civic Center facility has always brought about its own challenges, i.e., vintage facility, equipment, access, pathways, and/or structural deficiencies, etc.
- o The DPW Facilities Maintenance Division has been continuously working on mitigation efforts, solutions, and challenges, i.e., installing/running/maintaining two separate "move and cool" units, insulating of overhead ceiling installation, disabling supported/unsupported exhaust fans, and redesigning primary/alternate unit replacement systems with quotes, etc.
- o Currently the two "move and cool" units are being monitored 24/7 by both our local Radio Communications and Facilities Maintenance staff.
- We are confident that through collaborative efforts between Facilities Maintenance, Radio Communications, MERA Executive leadership, DPW Executive leadership, and various other supporting agencies, that we are approaching a permanent solution to prevent further uncertainty, unreliability, and vulnerabilities, etc.

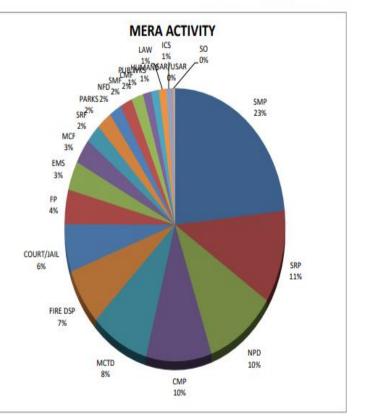
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## MERA SYSTEM OPERATION

June	2023		
Agency	Radio	Call	Busy
Grouping	Calls	Time	Time
SMP	48,233	100000 1000	0:00:00
SRP	24,088	68:49:04	0:00:00
NPD	22,134	64:26:18	0:00:00
CMP	19,504	59:54:19	0:00:00
MCTD	17,096	53:07:04	0:00:00
FIRE DSP	16,829	41:55:59	0:00:00
COURT/JAIL	16,488	35:05:49	0:00:00
FP	9,157	25:37:57	0:00:00
EMS	3,158	21:32:29	0:00:00
MCF	6,196	18:22:34	0:00:00
SRF	5,934	13:59:17	0:00:00
PARKS	4,761	13:50:17	0:00:00
NFD	4,359	11:14:06	0:00:00
SMF	4,552	11:09:07	0:00:00
CMF	4,531	10:51:02	0:00:00
PUB WKS	2,963	7:27:46	0:00:00
HUMANE	2,486	7:09:20	0:00:00
LAW	2,709	7:01:09	0:00:00
ICS	1,670	4:27:54	0:00:00
SAR/USAR	700	1:40:10	0:00:00
SO	305	0:44:53	0:00:00
FIRE MSC	108	0:20:44	0:00:00
OTHER	110	0:19:19	0:00:00
MUT AID	112	0:14:47	0:00:00
TOTAL:	218,183	625:28:04	0:00:00

Category		Radio Calls	Call Time	Busy Time	Percent Usage
	LAW TOTAL:	142,618	407:46:09	0:00:00	65.2
	FIRE TOTAL:	46,367	131:05:28	0:00:00	21.0
	PUBLIC WORKS TOTAL:	26,600	79:12:20	0:00:00	12.7
	NON-MERA TOTAL:	2,598	7:24:07	0:00:00	1.2
		218,183	625:28:04	0:00:00	100.0



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## MERA SYSTEM OPERATION

Annual	2023		
Agency	Radio	Call	Busy
Grouping	Calls	<u>Time</u>	<u>Time</u>
SO	200,788		0:00:00
SRP	145,277		0:00:03
NPD	128,654		0:00:00
CMP	115,915	360:40:25	0:00:00
MCTD	97,387	312:08:28	0:00:00
FIRE DSP	99,828	251:17:08	0:00:00
COURT/JAIL	96,899	207:10:38	0:00:00
SMP	62,706	188:02:46	0:00:02
FP	54,821	150:52:10	0:00:00
EMS	18,266	126:48:30	0:00:00
MCF	33,613	103:54:40	0:00:00
SRF	36,038	83:56:53	0:00:00
PARKS	27,970	81:59:12	0:00:00
SMF	29,353	72:37:46	0:00:00
CMF	27,512	67:47:34	0:00:02
NFD	25,900	67:08:12	0:00:00
PUB WKS	24,591	63:28:52	0:00:05
LAW	19,313	48:22:16	0:00:00
HUMANE	12,238	34:22:26	0:00:00
SAR/USAR	5,149	13:47:17	0:00:00
ICS	3,971	10:08:56	0:00:00
FIRE MSC	420	1:29:10	0:00:00
MUT AID	639	1:27:20	0:00:00
OTHER	293	0:53:57	0:00:00
TOTAL:	1,267,541	3643:21:39	0:00:12

Category LAW TOTAL: FIRE TOTAL: PUBLIC WORKS TOTAL: NON-MERA TOTAL:	Radio <u>Calls</u> 824,373 276,079 154,212 12,877	Call <u>Time</u> 2350:05:18 788:47:10 468:39:25 35:49:46	Busy <u>Time</u> 0:00:05 0:00:02 0:00:05 0:00:00
	1,267,541	3643:21:39	0:00:12

