



December 13, 2023

Governing Board Communication

Agenda Item B-4

TO: MERA Governing Board

FROM: Heather Plamondon, Executive Officer

SUBJECT: Review and Approve the Addition of Radio ID's for the Next Gen System and Inventory Update

Recommended Action:

1. Authorize the addition of MERA Radio ID's for operational use among our Members and Mutual Aid Partners. This will be at no additional cost to MERA, as these numbers fall within our exiting licenses purchase under the Motorola contract.

Background:

1. Southern Marin Fire Protection District: 5 New ID's

SMFD is requesting to add 4 radios to Command Vehicles and one to a Utility Vehicle for a total of 5 additional units. These are intended to support incident commanders. These radios are all compatible with the NEXT GEN system and will be programmed for Current and transition use.

2. Marin County Sheriff's Office: 30 New ID's

The Sherrif's Office is intending to hire up to 20 new staff in the coming year. MERA can provide them with recycled GEN ONE radios as a temporary place holder until the NEXT GEN transition occurs. Staff has communicated that the SO will need to purchase the new (additional radios) but MERA will need to provide a Motorola ID for each of the additional radios. This addition still falls within the original number of system licenses purchased under the NG Contract. This allocation will support the new hires as well as a cache.

3. Pt Reyes National Park: 15 New ID's

Pt. Reyes has acquired 15 new APX8500 Mobile Radios and are requesting access to the GEN one System and ability to transition to Next Gen to support Mutual Aid communications for Law Enforcement Rangers and Fire Management Staff in and around the park areas. Staff is working on updating the MOU for system access with all our Mutual Aid partners and this increase will be included in that agreement.

Staff continue to work with the County of Marin Radio Shop on reconciling the Master Inventory of radios currently being used on the MERA system. We have made significant progress towards managing the duplicates, ensuring that the radios that will need to transition to NEXT GEN are the correct models, and we are preparing new MOU documents for our non-member partners to clean up or contact information and capture relevant radio information to support better record keeping.