



# Onondaga County Legislature

**JAMIE McNAMARA**  
Clerk

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Chairman

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## **PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES – JULY 26, 2022** **MARK A. OLSON, CHAIRMAN**

**MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Ryan, Mr. Knapp, Mr. Garland**

**MEMBERS ABSENT: Mr. McBride**

**ALSO ATTENDING: Mr. Bleyle, Ms. Barber, Mr. Beebe**

Chairman Olson called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. *The minutes of the previous meeting have been distributed. There are no corrections to the minutes, and the minutes are approved.*

**1. SHERIFF:** Chief William Bleyle

**a. INFORMATIONAL: Radio Replacement Project**

- On 2/1 the Legislature approved bonding in the amount of over \$4.6M to replace all the Sheriff's radios (portables, mobiles, control stations and other accessories)
- Originally, equipment purchased in 2009 was part of \$35M bonding issue for Onondaga County's Inoperable Communication System, 14 years old, reached end of usable service life, many radios are failing and not repairable
- Process to replace:
  - Looked at several manufactures based on criteria, experience & knowledge of the manufacturer
  - Radios approved for law enforcement use, on the digital trunked network by E911
  - Presence of the manufacturer's authorized radio service vendors in Onondaga County, and recommendations of Sheriff's staff
  - 3 month comprehensive evaluation of the manufacturer products from 3 vendors
  - Primary focus was on portable radios, secondary was on mobiles and control stations; portables are the bread/butter of field personnel; most often used when needed to call for help
- Evaluation ~ things considered:
  - Product specification review, hands on examination and evaluation by personnel, more than 50 sworn members of Sheriff's Department participated, including all 4 departments: police, civil, correction and custody
  - Standardized evaluations were built, tech staff members administered hands on testing
  - Police patrol carried samples from vendors, radios from all 3 manufacturers
  - Completed dry testing, tested battery life, technologies, and received feedback from other public safety agencies based on experience and success with product
  - Looked at experience of the manufacturer with technology, radio services and cost effectiveness
  - At completion of 3 month study, Motorola Solutions was found to be the best and most cost effective solution
- Key factors:
  - Full range of portable and mobile radios, single and multi-band portable radios, LTE Technology portable
  - Transport units in the jail travel all over NYS; drug and warrant people travel all over the state and country
  - LTE gives ability for this; Motorola received high ratings from police deputies
  - Life expectancy is greater than 10 years, experience with Motorola product; have received great service, using newer technology
  - Vendor experience, Motorola claims to have 80-85% of the public safety radio market, quality of product, IMPRES battery technology lasts longer
  - Pricing - able to negotiate a significant discount on top of NYS contract pricing, Motorola will hold price

- through end of year and make available to any Onondaga County public safety or public service agency
- Due diligence was done for this choice as Motorola Solutions was chosen as the best, most cost efficient
  - Are there local companies to buy and service the radios?
    - Nobody manufactures the radio locally, it comes down to does somebody get a cut of the sales price
    - No local vendors other than Motorola Solutions that are authorized under the state contract as the seller of Motorola products
    - County can negotiate a better deal with the authorized seller
    - Motorola will offer these discounts through United Radio; i.e. Fire Dept., other county departments will be able to get that discount through United Radio
    - If a radio does not work, Sheriff's bring portable or mobile to local service shop. Some repairs made by service shop (e.g. broken antenna), some may have to be shipped to factory depot
  - Radios have a 3 year warranty; 7-10 years for radios life expectancy of EFJ product, 10 years+ for Motorola product
  - Ordering 700 portables, 200 mobiles, 12 control stations; Motorola 8000 portable, APX 8500 multi band portable, APX NEXT LTE portable, APX 6500 mobile, APX 8500 multi band mobile
  - Three comparable manufactures; pricing comparable – L3 Harris, Motorola Solutions, EF Johnson (Kenwood)
  - EF Johnson makes a portable/mobile that meets 911 requirements, L3 Harris only portable
  - EFJ portable only comes in single band, cannot currently get multi band or LTE options (different chargers, adaptors are not compatible with different manufacturers)
  - 900 Motorola units will be purchased through state contract seller “Motorola Solutions”, local vendor could not give the price Motorola Solutions offered. Reportedly they receive a benefit from the sale
  - From technology standpoint, EFJ did not meet tech or life cycle needs
  - From a user experience, 3 radios, 3 manufactures - microphone cord on one came off approximately at 30° angle, problem for caring in vest pocket, took up more room on duty belt, VP6000, it was not multi-band; VP6000 did not have LTE
  - Radios are GPS capable, E911 does not have the infrastructure currently, they use the mobile computer terminal system for vehicle location, all manufacturers offer that in their portables
  - Service contract has several phases: local vendor uses, programming, installing radios, installing control facing, Air One, looking at coverage issues, Justice Center
  - This radio project will involve local vendors for installation, programming, and implementation
  - County has contract with local service center, includes monthly maintenance if desired

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



DEBBIE KAMINSKI, Assistant Clerk  
Onondaga County Legislature

## **July 22, 2022, Public Safety Committee Meeting Minutes Additions**

Leader Ryan:

- Agree with many of the comments
- Local is a significant part of what has to drive the decision
- Appreciate the due diligence
- You're saying that some of the repairs will be done by United Radio?

Chief Bleyle:

- Some repairs yes will be done at united radio

Leader Ryan:

- This will be in the service agreement?

Chief Bleyle:

- It's not really a service agreement
- Time & Materials are more cost-effective for us

Leader Ryan:

- How many portables are you going to order?

Chief Bleyle:

- About 700 portables, about 200 mobiles, and probably about a dozen control stations

Leader Ryan:

- Those 900 Motorola units will those be purchased with or through the local company?

Chief Bleyle:

- The answer is no but they will get a cut, they get a benefit from the sale

Leader Ryan:

- It's not the initial 900, it's everything that comes after

Chief Bleyle:

- That's Correct

Leader Ryan:

- You mentioned that you looked at three manufacturers
- You mentioned pricing and they were comparable

Chief Bleyle:

- Yes they were L3 Harris, Motorola, Kenwood/EF Johnson

Leader Ryan:

- Obviously, public safety is paramount. It is concern #1 for all law enforcement.

- I wasn't aware that the EF Johnson VP 6,000 wasn't LTE capable

Chief Bleye:

- Or multi-ban capable