

**RESOLUTION  
ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Public Safety and Justice  
INITIATED BY



Kathren Sukus, Director  
DRAFTED BY

Public Safety and Justice  
SUBMITTED BY

August 1, 2014  
DATE DRAFTED

**AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE  
DIGITAL SIMULCAST EQUIPMENT FOR THE NEW EDGERTON TOWER**

- 1 **WHEREAS**, the 911 Communications Center is responsible for the continuous operation of the public safety
- 2 radio communications infrastructure in Rock County; and,
- 3
- 4 **WHEREAS**, the Communications Center, through its public safety work groups, has identified radio coverage
- 5 deficiencies in the Edgerton and North-Central areas of Rock County; and,
- 6
- 7 **WHEREAS**, a new Communications Tower is being constructed at 95 Artisan Drive in the City of Edgerton to
- 8 address these coverage deficiencies; and,
- 9
- 10 **WHEREAS**, a new digital law simulcast system will be installed at three tower locations (Edgerton, County A,
- 11 Beloit-Mill Street) to improve the radio signal for the County Main frequency; and,
- 12
- 13 **WHEREAS**, an additional fire/EMS simulcast site will be added to the new Edgerton tower to interface with
- 14 two existing simulcast sites (County A and Beloit-Mill Street) to improve the radio signal for the Rock Fire
- 15 Main frequency; and,
- 16
- 17 **WHEREAS**, General Communications, Inc. of Madison, Wisconsin is the sole certified Raytheon equipment
- 18 dealer in Wisconsin as well as the maintenance provider for the Rock County public safety radio system
- 19 infrastructure; and,
- 20
- 21 **WHEREAS**, the total cost for equipment, licensing, configuration, programming, and installation of these
- 22 systems is \$201,933.90; and,
- 23
- 24 **WHEREAS**, the funding to purchase the receiver equipment has been budgeted and is available.
- 25
- 26 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly assembled this
- 27 11 day of September, 2014 that a contract be awarded to General Communications, Inc. of
- 28 Madison, Wisconsin, in the amount of \$201,933.90 to purchase digital simulcast equipment to improve radio
- 29 coverage for law, fire and EMS agencies in Edgerton and the North-Central areas of Rock County.

Respectfully submitted,

**Public Safety and Justice Committee**

Mary Beaver  
Mary Beaver, Chair

Hank Brill  
Hank Brill, Vice Chair

Terry Fell  
Terry Fell

Brian Knudson  
Brian Knudson

Larry Wiedenfeld  
Larry Wiedenfeld

14-9A-109

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FISCAL NOTE:

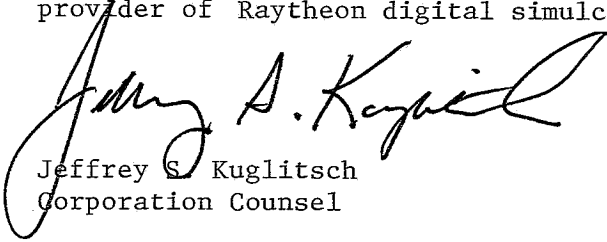
Sufficient funds are available in the Communication Center's capital asset account, 23-2400-0000-67161, for the cost of this project.



Sherry Oja  
Finance Director

LEGAL NOTE:

The County Board is authorized to take this action pursuant to secs. 59.01 and 59.51, Wis. Stats. In addition, sec. 59.52(29), Wis. Stats. requires the project to be let to the lowest responsible bidder. General Communications, Inc., is the sole source provider of Raytheon digital simulcast equipment.



Jeffrey S. Kuglitsch  
Corporation Counsel

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE:

Recommended.



Josh Smith  
County Administrator

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Communications Center is solely responsible for the infrastructure, operation, and maintenance of the public safety digital radio system in Rock County. After the mandated narrow-banding and digital conversion of our main public safety radio frequencies in 2012, it was determined that portable radio coverage for Rock County law enforcement and fire/EMS agencies had been reduced in several areas of the County. The most predominant problem areas included the City of Edgerton, Mallwood Subdivision, and Highway 51 South along the Rock River in the Towns of Rock and Beloit.

While some of these areas experienced scratchy coverage when they were wide-band analog, the combination of narrow-banding and digitalization have caused the signals to be inaudible at times. Narrow-banding reduced the signal strength and the digital transmission reacts differently than analog and no longer becomes scratchy when out of range, it simply drops the transmission (similar to how a digital cell phone works when out of range of a cell tower).

In order to improve portable transmit and receive coverage for these areas, a new communications tower is being constructed in the City of Edgerton. The equipment required to improve the signal strength for law units is a three-site Raytheon digital simulcast system placed at towers in Edgerton, County A/Burdick Rd, and Beloit Mill Street. The quote from General Communications for this system is \$133,047.60.

A similar approach was used several years ago to improve transmit and receive coverage on the main fire repeater for the County and that has worked very well. To improve the northern part of the County, an additional Raytheon digital simulcast site will be added to the existing system at the new Edgerton tower. The quote from General Communications for this additional site is \$68,886.30.

Total cost of both projects is \$201,933.90 to include equipment, licensing fees, installation, programming, and configuration. This project was budgeted and approved for 2014 and there are funds available in the Communications Center budget.

This project was not put out for bid because it is sole source equipment. General Communications is the only certified JPS (Raytheon) service provider in Wisconsin and they hold the maintenance contract for the public safety radio system in Rock County (see attached letter from JPS Communications, Inc.). Approximately 40% of the cost is the licensing fee for the P25 (digital) equipment.

# JPS Communications, Inc.

a subsidiary of Raytheon Company

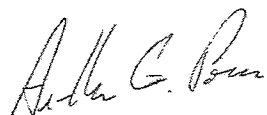
5800 Departure Drive  
Raleigh NC 27616  
(919) 865 1054  
cell: (919) 413 0816  
arthur.powers@raytheon.com

July 30, 2014

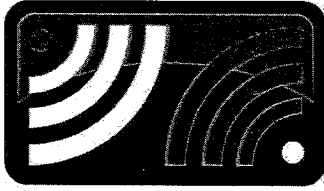
Gary Pelletier  
General Communications Inc.  
5157 Anton Drive  
Madison, Wisconsin 53719

Dear Gary,

This is to confirm that General Communications Inc. is currently the only authorized JPS P25 dealer in the State of Wisconsin.



Arthur Powers  
Vice President – Contracts & Corporate Development



# GENERAL COMMUNICATIONS

*your safety is our business*

August 11, 2014

Rock Co. Communications Center  
Attn: Kathren Sukus  
3636 N. County Trunk Hwy F  
Janesville, WI 53545

RE: Here is a Quote for Adding Edgerton as third site to the Rock County Fire simulcast and making the sheriffs main a three site simulcast at Edgerton, Mill St and County A.

### **Adding Fire simulcast to Edgerton**

<u>Qty</u>	<u>Description</u>		
1	Harris Mastr III P25 Base Station and TX-RX Duplexer		
1	JPS P25 Upgrade		
1	19" Rack		
2	1/2" Superflex Jumpers		
1	1/4" Superflex Jumper		
1	Miscellaneous Grounding Cable & Split Bolts		
1	Polyphaser Lightning Protection		
1	FCC License		
1	Installation, Programming and Configuration		
		<b>Sub Total:</b>	<b>\$68,886.30</b>

### **Making Sheriff's Main a Three Site Simulcast - Edgerton, Mill St and County A**

<u>Qty</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>List</u>	<u>List Total</u>
2	Harris Mastr III P25 Base Station and TX-RX Duplexers		
2	JPS P25 Upgrade		
2	19" Rack		
7	Superflex Jumpers		
1	FCC License - Estimate		
1	DB224 Antenna		
2	Ground Kits, 7/8"/ 7/8" Connectors		
250	7/8" Hardline Cable		
1	Cable Hangers and Mounts		
2	Polyphaser Lightning Protection		
1	Installation, Programming and Configuration		
		<b>Sub Total:</b>	<b>\$133,047.60</b>
		<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$201,933.90</b>

If you have any questions please call 608-310-7127 or e-mail [rwestgard@gencomm.com](mailto:rwestgard@gencomm.com)

Sincerely,

Richard Westgard

Service Manager