

**SALEM COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS
WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 2, 2013
6:00 PM**

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm by Director Acton followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Director Acton stated that adequate notice pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act had been given of this meeting and read the Open Public Meetings Act Statement.

On roll call, the following Freeholders were present: Deputy Director Cross, Freeholders Laury, Vanderslice, Ware, Bobbitt, Timberman and Director Acton.

PRESENTATIONS

Deputy Director Cross, Tower Update

- Quinton Tower – Microwave antenna is installed on the tower, coax lines are run from the antenna to the shelter, radio transmitters are in place in self-contained cooling cabinets, interior connectivity work will begin once the exterior work is completed at the Pennsville site. Then they will move to Quinton and upon delivery of the combiners. Combiners are ordered and should be on site within two weeks.
- Pennsville Water Tower – The microwave antenna is expected to be done next week. Supports for the antenna are welded on top of the tower and awaiting connection. Coax lines are run from the microwave position down to the ice bridge and across to the shelter. The radio transmitters are in place. The interior connectivity work will begin once the exterior work is completed and upon delivery of the combiners.
- Gateway Water Tower – Moving equipment from one location to the new one to eliminate radio interference. The microwave antennas are installed on the tower, coax lines are run from the antenna down to the ice bridge and to the shelter, radio transmitters are in place. The interior connectivity work will begin once the exterior work is completed and upon delivery of the combiners.

The radio programming project has begun the planning phase to reprogram every portable and mobile radio that is possessed by fire, EMS and police.

The repeater that went down on the Pittsgrove Tower approximately a week ago was fixed today so everybody should be back on line.

BJ Ayars, Cert National Preparedness Month

The presentation focused on the history and ability to communicate and educate the public through Social Networking. A short video clip was played to lay the groundwork for how important the project is. BJ noted that the Salem County Watch Dog, South Jersey Times, Facebook and Twitter are used to communicate all types of information not just emergencies. Upcoming projects include retooling the readysalem.org website, an electronic school for communicating to local emergency management organizations and global connect which is the reverse 911 system.

BJ Ayars & Ross, "CERT" role in Disaster Readiness and Response

Community Emergency Response Team is a group of volunteer's ages 18 to 90 from all demographics including the disabled and is funded through grants. CERT frees up the trained and experienced responders to take care of the critical task that require a certain level of qualifications. CERT has been called upon to respond during Hurricane Irene, the Elsinboro, they support county and local municipalities and provide regional support. They are currently working with Woodstown High School and the Red Cross to create a pet friendly shelter. The team is requesting the Board consider a small line item in the budget to use for maintenance of equipment, uniform shirt, and to continue an incentive program.

Director Acton presented a proclamation to the Team for CERT National Preparedness Month.

At 7:15 pm Director Acton stated the meeting will recess now until 7:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Evern D. Ford
Clerk of the Board