



© TARRANT COUNTY 9-1-1 DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Elected and Appointed Officials
FROM: Greg Petrey, Executive Director
DATE: May 9, 2011
RE: Regional Radio System Feasibility Study

It is the mission of the Tarrant County 9-1-1 District to continuously provide reliable, accurate, responsive, and effective emergency communication networks and services to its member jurisdictions ensuring the protection of life and property for citizens, business and visitors in its community. Critical to the provisioning of these services is the existence of reliable, interoperable public safety radio communications for first responders in the Tarrant County 9-1-1 District.

In 2010, it came to the attention of the Tarrant County 9-1-1 District Board of Managers that several jurisdictions within the District were in the process of planning radio system upgrades. As we know, radio system upgrade/replacement projects are expensive, time consuming endeavors. The Tarrant County 9-1-1 Board of Managers realizes that, in today's environment, it is incumbent upon District leadership to work cooperatively with our jurisdictions to minimize operational costs while simultaneously providing the best technologies possible for the District's first responders.

Accordingly, the Tarrant County 9-1-1 District Board of Managers, in its February 2011 monthly meeting, authorized the retention of Buford Goff and Associates (BGA), Inc. from Columbia South Carolina, to conduct a feasibility study that would identify potential roles that the District could have in the development and implementation of a regional radio system. Under consideration are options ranging from providing financial assistance to jurisdictions within the District to a District owned and operated regional radio system.

Over the next 100 days, BGA will be gathering information and formulating options and alternatives for the Board's consideration. As a key stakeholder in the District, input from yourself and other members of your organization can play a vital role in assisting the Board in determining the most appropriate course of action.

You or members of your organization will be contacted by BGA in the upcoming weeks to discuss the issues associated with this effort. As Executive Director of the Tarrant County 9-1-1 District, I encourage your involvement and thank you in advance for your cooperation in this matter.

If you have any questions in this regards, please feel to contact myself or the Chairman of our Radio Technical Operations Advisory Committee, Steve Streiffert, Assistant Director of IT Solutions at the City of Fort Worth.