

# NORTHWEST CENTRAL DISPATCHING PROJECT

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on Criminal Justice respected the cooperative venture of the applicants and the motivation of service and protection to the public.

## THE STATE PLANNING AGENCY (ILEC)

### Grant Requirements

The grant requirements were to be a 60-40 contract. ILEC would provide 60% of the total project cost in equipment and consultant services, including the APCO Evaluation Committee expenses. The municipalities would supply 40% of the total project cost in "in-kind" contributions.

The "in-kind" services were to be personnel costs for the planning, implementation and operation of the system during the term of the project. Some costs of equipment to be modified into the project was also included into the "in-kind" contribution.

The actual cost in the grant application was \$605,461. The ILEC share was 52%, the grantee share came to 48%.

The grantee share is comprised of "in-kind" services, such as: Salaries of the municipal employees planning, supervising, training and operating the center; and, the cost of municipally owned equipment and building space modified to be used in the project. The costs of telephone and teletype service, and equipment maintenance, after installation, will be pro-rated on a per-capita basis among the three communities.

### Agency Goals

The goal of the ILEC is to improve the level of law enforcement and criminal justice to more adequately protect and serve the citizens of the State of Illinois.

The cooperative, regional approach — especially in the area of communications—advances toward that goal.

### Grant Application Procedures

Grant application procedures are articulated in memoranda from both the regional and State planning agency. Each agency has staff to advise and assist in preparing an application. There are a wide variety of projects suggested; and, at least in Illinois, both agencies have been receptive to innovative projects that seek to attain the ultimate goal.

The following steps were followed in the successful application for the Northwest Central Dispatching Project:

- 1) Application to the regional committee
- 2) Meeting with the staff of the regional committee
- 3) Approval by the regional committee and transmitted to ILEC

- 4) Meeting with ILEC staff
- 5) Meeting with Standing Committee of ILEC
- 6) Approval of ILEC
- 7) Contract approval between consultant (IITRI) and the three communities

In each of these steps, the assistance of David Goldberg of the ILEC staff was most helpful.

## PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

### Monitoring the Project

#### Steering Committee

Membership of the Steering Committee includes the police chiefs of the three participating municipalities, the President of the Northwest Police Academy, and the police chiefs of the area towns who shared the same frequency with Arlington Heights and Mount Prospect — i.e.: Wheeling, Rolling Meadows, Hoffman Estates, Palatine, DesPlaines, Park Ridge. The consultants, from IITRI; and David Goldberg, of ILEC, are also members of the steering committee.

The function of the steering committee is to monitor the project and to provide more in-depth analysis of ideas and planning as the project progresses. The project director is chairman of the steering committee, which meets every 60 days.

#### Liaison with the Consultant

Closer liaison with the consultant is maintained by the project director and the chiefs of the participating towns. Meeting weekly, bi-weekly, or as otherwise needed — as a group or by telephone — the compilation of information, procedures and decision making keeps the project moving steadily toward completion, implementation and testing.

Field trips have included two visits to the central dispatch center in Muskegon County, Michigan; one visit to the Chicago Police Department; one visit to Peoria, Illinois; and one visit to Louisville, Kentucky.

The latter three trips were specifically to see the equipment in use which was being proposed by two manufacturers.

Suffice to say, we were favorably impressed with the equipment as we saw it in operation in the field.

## PROJECT EVALUATION

### Municipal Officials

One of the municipal mayors went along on one visit to Muskegon, Michigan. He was favorably impressed, as were the police chiefs and the consultants from IITRI.

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