



# ONONDAGA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS

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County Executive  
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Commissioner  
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## **OCICS – SWN Meeting** February 26, 2008 10:30 a.m. @ the 911 Center

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Present were:

John M. Balloni, Commissioner, 911 Center  
Jo-Anne Munroe, Deputy Commissioner, 911 Center  
Lori Hable, Secretary to the Commissioner, 911 Center  
David A. Stevenson, DHTA, Inc. 911 Center  
Thomas Roche, Project Coordinator, NYS – SWN  
Ed Johnson, M/A COM  
Gary Ferrara, General Dynamics – SWN

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*Ed Johnson* reported that where SWN build depends on our final design. We have two (2) kinds of sites:

- (1) High profile (full bullet proof shelter)
- (2) Low Profile (Cell/pole site, single RF channel on an 80' telephone pole)

SWN's preference is to co-locate on an existing government site as this creates less impact. We are exempt to local zoning. We can overbuild on a government site but not on a commercial site.

*Commissioner Balloni* said that the County is in the process of building out our tower sites/system now, which will be prior to SWN getting to our County. It seems likely you would want to co-locate on one of our new sites. There is a potential for that kind of agreement now.

*Ed Johnson* said that he is the manager for the site acquisitions and design for M/A COM. Ontario County is sharing resources and we M/A COM is beefing up the towers and adding shelters. The microwave backbone passes through the corner of the SW portion. Onondaga County would have to beef up towers and add more height.

*Commissioner Balloni* said that our radio system is a UHF digital trunked system with Motorola. Alcatel was contracted for the Microwave portion for our brand new system. Onondaga County is connecting everything with microwave. Onondaga County has 15db building coverage with the new system.

*Ed Johnson* added that there would be cost incurred to strengthen towers by SWN. There would be structural demands on sites for example if we added two (2) MW dishes on a site. We will continue with our original design.

Dave Stevenson said that Skaneateles, Elbridge and Lysander are the new sites for Onondaga County. We are in the negotiation stages with the landowners for these sites. Ed Johnson asked that if you have these three (3) fixed sites he would check them out. SWN can make available to Onondaga County sites surrounding our county that are Omni sites. SWN's preference of course, is sharing government sites, as it is more beneficial.

Therefore, to clarify, Ed Johnson stated that Onondaga County would like to build these three new sites and get some assistance. Dave Stevenson said that Onondaga County would build them anyway.

SWN is working on Erie County and Chautauqua County build out. Once tested and approved, Long Island will be next for build out of the West Niagara County. This is a two (2) year build out with end of construction by 2008. The Lakes North schedule is 2008 also.

Ed Johnson asked Dave Stevenson if he would give him the areas of concern for dead spots so that he can connect with where SWN sites are for complete coverage. Let us know Onondaga County's requirements.

Dave Stevenson said the Skaneateles area has dead spots; Lysander along the river near Jacks Reef; Elbridge site between the Baldwinsville WT site 180' tower and where the new site is to be Onondaga County needs coverage.

Ed Johnson requested latitude and longitude information on the three sites then he will do a re design of our (Onondaga County) sites. Tom Roche said that Dave Stevenson has to sign a Non-disclosure Agreement for SWN. The form was e-mailed; Dave Stevenson signed the form and was notarized for Tom Roche to take back with him.

Tom Roche and Ed Johnson said SWN would look at an agreement with Onondaga County and reimbursement for the build out of towers. The State does not work with cash items, so we have to figure this part of the scenario. Dave Stevenson asked if SWN could build the tower for Onondaga County. Ed Johnson stated that Lakes North is being built and could possibly build Onondaga County one tower in our county through this project.

Interoperability is set up through control stations with particular talk groups that go into the SWN gateway. Gateways are established with Motorola in surrounding counties.

Ed Johnson wanted to make this group aware of "Appendix A" with the State. When conducting your negotiations with the landowners, you cannot sell the property without the State's approval. For example, we own the tower but do not own the land. Dave Stevenson said that is why the County prepares land leases with clauses in them to cover these situations.

Meeting adjourned.