

**REGIONAL DISTRICT OF OKANAGAN-SIMILKAMEEN
BOARD POLICY**

POLICY: E911 Radio Equipment Cost Apportionment Policy

AUTHORITY: Board Resolution No. **B372/13** dated **November 21, 2013**.

AMENDED: Board Resolution dated: November 18, 2021

POLICY STATEMENT

The Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen (RDOS) is responsible for providing a comprehensive Public Safety E911 Fire Radio Communications System for the dispatching and support of emergency responders.

PURPOSE

To establish and maintain a Public Safety E911 Fire Radio Communications System.

DEFINITIONS

Fire Department – A fire service group organized by a municipality, regional government, First Nations band or brigade/society.

Fire Dispatch Centre –The system that is interfaced to the PSAP network that refers to person or place designated for handling a fire department incoming call for help by a citizen, then alerting a the specific Fire Department.

RDOS E911 Fire Radio Communications Committee – A governance Committee (made up of RDOS administration and members of the emergency services user groups) established to regulate/protect the integrity of the communications system in its entirety.

RDOS E911 Fire Radio Communications System – The Fire Radio Emergency Communication System infrastructure.

PSAP- Public Safety Answering Point. This is the 9-1-1 centric name for dispatch centers, and can be used to describe the centers that answer 9-1-1 calls

RESPONSIBILITIES

In order to maintain the grade of service, security, and integrity of the radio system, it is necessary to clearly define the roles and responsibilities of participants in the system.

The RDOS E911 Fire Radio Communications System is responsible for providing the installations and infrastructure necessary for:

1. Notifications and emergency radio paging of participating Fire Departments
2. Communication support between the Fire Dispatch Centre and the “Incident Command.”

Participating agencies shall be responsible for providing, and maintaining, the “end-user” radio equipment to receive radio traffic and receive pages. Participating agencies are also responsible for maintaining the

emergency radio equipment in accordance with accepted practices and standards as established by the RDOS Board.

Responsibility of radio equipment costs shall be apportioned as follows:

RDOS 911 Fire Radio System	Fire Departments
Leases and Accommodations for Repeater Infrastructure	Vehicle mobile VHF Radios – Acquisition and maintenance
24X7 Response and Preventative Maintenance Agreements for Repeater Sites & Equipment	VHF Portable (handheld) Radios – Acquisition and maintenance
Network capital replacement schedules and costs	Cellular Phones – Acquisition and maintenance
Acquisition and maintenance UHF, VHF licences required for network operations	Pagers – Acquisition and maintenance
Operations and compliance to Industry Canada regulations and standards	Vehicular Repeaters – Acquisition and maintenance
Overall governance of the system with guidance and recommendations from the Radio Committee	Satellite Phones – Acquisition and maintenance
Backup Telephone Line and related expenses in operation of the back-up interconnect operations	3 rd party supplemental dispatch notification and GPS tracking systems – Acquisition and maintenance
Fire Hall VHF Base Stations – Acquisition, maintenance and security monitoring of equipment storage area.	

Fire Departments

ANARCHIST MOUNTAIN	OLIVER	SUMMERLAND
HEDLEY	OSOYOOS	TULAMEEN
KALEDEN	ERRIS CREEK	WILLOWBROOK
KEREMEOS	PENTICTON	EAST GATE
NARAMATA	PENTICTON INDIAN BAND	HAYES CREEK
OK FALLS	PRINCETON	APEX MOUNTAIN

PROCEDURES

The intent of implementation and acquisition of any interconnected communication device must meet the minimum industry standard as established by the RDOS E911 Fire Radio Communications Committee and on approval are not exempt from jurisdictional purchasing policies.

STANDARDS

National Fire Protection Association Standards (NFPA) used to guide the E911 Radio Equipment Cost Apportionment Policy.

1. NFPA 1225 “Standards for Emergency Services Communications”
2. NFPA 1221 “Standard for the Installation, Maintenance, and Use of Emergency Services Communication Systems”
3. NFPA 1061 “ Standard for Public Safety Telecommunications Personnel Professional Qualifications”