LCRA Update Caldwell County Radio Project

January 9, 2024



Update – Lockhart Tower

- COA/GATRRS is upgrading the sites to the Caldwell County ACS platform(dispatch) and swapping the Lockhart site router with an ethernet capable router to eliminate the T1 limitation that occurs with the GATRRS upgrade in May 2024.
- Lockhart tower site microwave connectivity issue is being addressed by GATRRS and LCRA (@ Creedmoor site) as a redundant connectivity to CTECC.
- LCRA is moving Caldwell County's microwave at the Creedmore site into the LCRA shelter and providing an ethernet pathway to GATRRS at CTECC.

*** All plans are by Caldwell County and the City of Lockhart in response to the changes to GATRRS that the City of Austin noted in their letter dated October 23, 2023.

Update – Dispatch & Operations

- County and the City are coordinating programming updates to the mobile and handheld radios with LCRA for transitioning of County and City dispatch operations
- LCRA is working with Caldwell County and CAPCOG to transition a colocated dispatch center through a temporary location in the Caldwell County Judicial Center until the permanent location is completed.
- LCRA will coordinate with GATRRS the coordination of the transition of activating the new radio sites with the powering down of the existing sites during the radio system migration.

Update - Frequencies

- GATRRS is acquiring new frequencies to continue operation of the GATRRS system in Caldwell County.
- LCRA is moving forward with the plan to move existing county/city frequencies from their existing locations to the new Caldwell County radio system sites.
- Both the City of Lockhart and Caldwell County will retain the ownership of their existing frequencies and any additional frequencies that are required to allow for proper operation of the new sites.

GATRRS Review with Caldwell County & City of Lockhart

November 28, 2023

Updates – Lockhart Tower

Caldwell County radio users need to be on LCRA Radio System by end of April '24

OR

Work with Motorola to move off T1 circuits before GATRRS Core upgrade scheduled for May '24

Lockhart tower site microwave connectivity issue is being addressed by GATRRS and LCRA (@ Creedmoor site) as a redundant connectivity to CTECC

GATRRS will decommission Creedmoor site in Jan '24 (contingent on LCRA completing the microwave connectivity in Dec '23)

Updates – Dispatch & Operations

County and the City to coordinate programming updates to the mobile and handheld radios with LCRA for transitioning of County and City dispatch operations

County and the City to coordinate with LCRA for the migration and replacement of dispatch consoles

GATRRS and LCRA to closely coordinate turning on of the new LCRA sites and turning off the GATRRS sites GATRRS is coordinating with Region 49 on new frequencies to Caldwell County for their new towers to be managed by LCRA

Updates -Frequencies

Updates – Fentress Tower

Fentress site remains active on GATRRS until the County radio users have been migrated to the new LCRA Radio System

After the migration, Fentress site radio equipment, shelter and generator will be 'relocated' to a new GATRRS site

Caldwell County, as the tower owner, will be responsible for tower light monitoring after the Motorola alarm system is terminated

Iron Mountain & Lockhart Tower Radio Equipment

TxDOT intends to negotiate use of radio equipment with the County and the City of Lockhart

TxDOT proposes to further discuss the details with both the Judge and the City Manager Updates -Decommissioning Once migrated to LCRA system, the County and the City of Lockhart to finalize plans with the tower owner to decommission the tower equipment

Towers in scope for decommission are Lockhart, Iron Mountain, and Creedmoor (monopole)