



# Watertown Fire Department

106 Jones Street, Watertown, WI 53094 • 920-261-3610 • 920-261-7527 fax  
www.watertownfiredept.com

February 21, 2024

Re: ARPA Fund Allocation Request

This memo outlines a **request for \$21,960.62 in ARPA funding** to add two (2) dispatch consoles. This will allow Watertown Dispatch to talk to fire fighters on the radio channels, interface with consoles, and record channels to upgrade the fire department's dispatching capabilities and radio communication system. These console additions will include one dispatch channel and a Talk-Around Channel (TAC) during incidents.

The dispatch channel (Fire Main Dispatch Channel) allows for communication between Watertown Dispatching Center and the fire department vehicle or portable. Without this, there would be no communication between the fire department and dispatch. This will be a recorded radio channel.

The fireground channel allows for on-scene operations or training communications. During a structure fire or major event, operations would be used on the TAC channel. This allows for clearer, and more effective communication because it can penetrate walls better than VHF. This channel is recorded, so review of an incident and training can be conducted to improve communications and outcomes of incidents. This will be a recorded radio channel.

A second fireground channel allows for on-scene operations when the first TAC channel is being used during an event already in progress. This will be a recorded radio channel.

The paging channel allows dispatch to page/alert us of an incident and simulcast with Jefferson County VHF paging. This will be a recorded radio channel.


This request is in addition to what was requested for the 800MHZ from Chief Teesch. He thought that the original price included all four dispatch consoles, however, it was for just one. With the remaining funds, we can almost fund the second console, however, we fall short of the four total channels that are needed.

A breakdown of costs is provided below.

Balance for 2 <sup>nd</sup> console			\$1,479.84
Console Additions	\$10,240.39	x 2	<u>\$20,480.78</u>
Total			\$21,960.62

If you have additional questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

  
Anthony Rauterberg  
Deputy Fire Chief  
Watertown Fire Department