

**ILLINOIS STATE  
UNIVERSITY**

**BOARD OF  
TRUSTEES**

**Resolution No. 2023.05/25**  
**Authorization for Two-Way Radio**  
**Service Contract**

**Resolution**

Whereas, Illinois State University continues to utilize two-way radios to support daily and special event operations, and

Whereas, the University's current two-way radio agreement has been in place for nearly ten years and the contract cannot be extended per State procurement code, and

Whereas, the current system meets the University's needs, but the radios themselves have been out of support for several years, and

Whereas, the University has undertaken an exhaustive study of existing and anticipated two-way radio usage needs, while considering alternate options such as cellular phones and radio services apps on cellular phones, and

Whereas, this study yields an overall reduction of approximately 100 two-way radios to support this proposal:

Therefore, be it resolved that the Board of Trustees authorizes the University to enter into a five-year contract, (July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2028 with renewal option(s) for five additional years), with current provider ClearTalk Communications, Inc. at a total cost of not to exceed \$1,388,400

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Board Action on:	_____	Postpone:	_____
Motion by:	_____	Amend:	_____
Second by:	_____	Disapprove:	_____
Vote:	Yeas: _____ Nays: _____	Approve:	_____

ATTEST: Board Action, May 12, 2023

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Secretary / Chairperson

**Board of Trustees  
Illinois State University  
Authorization for Two-Way Radio Service Contract**

Two-way radios have been a decades-long, reliable method for University personnel to remain in real-time contact with one another. While cellular phones and two-way radio applications on cellular phones offer potential companions to or future replacements of traditional two-way radios, physical radios remain the most effective option for most daily and special event operations.

The University is nearing the end of a 10-year hardware and service contract with ClearTalk Communications, Inc. for such services. The provided services during these past 10 years have met operational expectations. The two-way radio infrastructure is located atop Watterson Towers, which yields ideal coverage for the campus footprint, extending throughout Bloomington Normal and up to the Lexington Farm. Separately from the original 2014 two-radio hardware and service contract, the University licensed space on the Watterson Tower roof for the antennae and transmission infrastructure for two-way radios used on campus, by other public safety agencies, and other ClearTalk Communications customers. The license agreement is also nearing its expiration term and the license to retain the Watterson roof space will be considered as a concession related to this proposed sole-source procurement.

Most of the current two-way radios were purchased in 2014 and had support discontinued by Motorola several years ago. The price to assess and repair an existing radio has neared the cost to purchase a new radio. New model radios are being introduced in 2023 which meet University requirements and should have an operational life of 5-10 years.

In preparation for this proposal, the University considered a number of factors, including: (1) migrating to the State’s public safety radio network (currently in use by the University’s Police department), (2) retiring two-way radios and replacing with software donated to the University that provides two-way radio services as a cell phone app, (3) building our own two-way radio service, (4) reducing the number of new two-way radio purchases and (5) retaining the existing quality of service.

Ultimately this proposal recommends (1) Continuing service with the same two-way radio provider, with a new multi-year contract in place, (2) Replacing nearly all two-way radios with current models. The bulk of the costs for this service come at the beginning of the contract with the purchase of radios and accessories. Subsequent annual costs include the purchase of radios, accessories and monthly usage fees based on the number of active radios.

	<b>FY24</b>	<b>FY25</b>	<b>FY26</b>	<b>FY27</b>	<b>FY28</b>	<b>FY29</b>	<b>FY30</b>	<b>FY31</b>	<b>FY32</b>	<b>FY33</b>
One-Time costs	\$550,000									
Additional purchases		\$20,000*	\$20,400	\$20,800	\$21,200	\$21,600	\$22,000	\$22,400	\$22,800	\$23,200
Annual Radio Service fees	60,000	61,000	62,000	63,000	64,000	65,000	66,000	67,000	68,000	69,000
<b>Totals</b>	<b>610,000</b>	<b>81,000</b>	<b>82,400</b>	<b>82,800</b>	<b>85,200</b>	<b>86,600</b>	<b>88,000</b>	<b>89,400</b>	<b>90,800</b>	<b>92,200</b>

\* Estimate of new radio purchases, accessory purchases, radio repairs, etc., increasing by 2% per year

Funding Source: General Revenue and Bond Revenue