



Rio Grande Valley Communications Group

Jeff Johnston, Chairman of the Board

PO Box 220

McAllen, Texas 78505-0220

June 27, 2022

As it enters its 11<sup>th</sup> year, the Rio Grande Valley Communications Group continues to strive to reliably provide seamless, interoperable Public Safety 700/800MHz communications to our public safety partners throughout South Texas. Our present system includes 14 individual tower sites and 150 repeaters which reach into all or part of ten South Texas counties, while hosting 120 customers and their 21,000+ individual radios. Our two full-time staff members work hard to keep our overhead cost the lowest of any similar regional communications system in Texas.

While costs such as tower rental fees, vendor rates, and contractor charges have risen each year since its inception in 2011, the RGVCG has strived to keep costs low, and has only raised subscriber rates twice during that time – allowing it to keep rates at less than half of any regional radio system in Texas. All this while providing coverage from South Padre Island to Roma, and from the US/Mexico border up to Falfurrias.

Following lengthy discussion, the RGVCG Board of Directors has voted (pursuant to By-Laws as amended and approved on May 9, 2012 - Article VIII C) to increase the subscription rates by \$1.00 in each of the 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 fiscal years for Full Time, Vendor, Utility, and Part Time (Interop Only) subscribers. This increase will allow for continued development of the regional system, and yet will still keep our rates below half of the statewide average subscriber rate.

This fee increase will take effect starting at the next contract billing cycle (October 1, 2022), and again in the following billing cycle (October 1, 2023) and is in compliance with the specifications required in the Interlocal Agreement Radio Service, and/or Radio Service Contract, Section III (Duties of Agency, F - Fee Adjustment).

This past year, the RGVCG has completed an additional upgrade to the Motorola Core software to version 20.1, which included some virus software enhancements and dispatch console software upgrades, firmware, and drivers, and we were also able to upgrade dispatch console software to the newest version, which includes new feature sets. The Group continues to work with Motorola on future software version upgrades, and on further system enhancements to increase capacity and coverage. Additionally staff continues to seek additional grant funding to cover various system enhancements and upgrades, and to evaluate supplementary services that could be made available to our user organizations in the future.



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Should you require a quote based on the new rates please reach out to Randy Gonzales at [Randy.Gonzales@mcallen.net](mailto:Randy.Gonzales@mcallen.net) and we will gladly provide the needed information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "JJ", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Jeff Johnston  
RGVCG Board Chair