

Aitkin County Board of Commissioners  
Request for County Board Action/Agenda Item Cover Sheet



To: Chairperson, Aitkin County Board of Commissioners      Date: 04/03/13

Via:

From: Sheriff Scott Turner

Title of Item: CodeRED Emergency Communications Network DEMO

Requested Meeting Date: 04/09/13 Est. Presentation Time: 15 min

Presenter: Sheriff Scott Turner

**Type of Action Requested** (check all that apply)

- For info only, no action requested       Approve under Routine Business
- For discussion only with possible future action       Adopt Ordinance Revision
- Let/Award Bid or Quote (attach copy of basic bid/quote specs or summary of complex specs, each bid/quote received & bid/quote comparison)
- Approve/adopt proposal by motion       Approve/adopt proposal by resolution (attach draft resolution)
- Authorize filling vacant staff position
- Request to schedule public hearing or sale       Other (please list)
- Request by member of the public to be heard
- Item should be addressed in closed session under MN Statute \_\_\_\_\_

**Fiscal Impact** (check all that apply)

- Is this item in the current approved budget?  Yes     No (attach explanation)
- What type of expenditure is this? \_\_\_\_\_ Other (attach explanation)
- Revenue line account # that funds this item is: 254-5310 allowable expense under E911 state funding
- Expenditure line account # for this item is: \_\_\_\_\_

**Staffing Impact** (Any yes answer requires a review by Human Resources Manager before going to the board)

- Duties of a department employee(s) may be materially affected.  Yes     No
- Applicable job description(s) may require revision.  Yes     No
- Item may impact a bargaining unit agreement or county work policy.  Yes     No
- Item may change the department's authorized staffing level.  Yes     No



**Supporting Attachment(s)**

- Memorandum Summary of Item
- Copy of applicable county policy and/or ordinance (excerpts acceptable)
- Copy of applicable state/federal statute/regulation (excerpts acceptable)
- Copy of applicable contract and/or agreement
- Original bid spec or quote request (excluding complex construction projects)
- Bids/quotes received (excluding complex construction projects, provide comparison worksheet)
- Bid/quote comparison worksheet
- Draft County Board resolution
- Plat approval check-list and supporting documents
- Copy of previous minutes related to this issue
- Other supporting document(s) (please list) Demo

**Provide eleven (11) copies of supporting documentation NO LATER THAN Wednesday at 8:00am to make the Board's agenda for the following Tuesday. Items WILL NOT be placed on the Board agenda unless complete documentation is provided for mailing in the Board packets. (see reverse side for details)**

# SCOTT A. TURNER

## SHERIFF OF AITKIN COUNTY

217 Second Street NW  
Aitkin, MN 56431

218-927-2138 Emergency 911  
Sheriff Fax 218-927-7359 / Dispatch Fax 218-927-6887

### MEMO

To: Aitkin County Board of Commissioners

Date: April 3, 2013

From: Sheriff Scott Turner

Re: Code Red Mass Notification System

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Attached is a copy of the proposal from CodeRED for providing of an emergency communications network to the citizens of Aitkin County. During times of Emergency, this will allow Aitkin County to quickly notify the affected parties and provide them with critical information to further help keep them safe.

A number of similar companies exist that provide a similar service. After looking at some of those, this is the product that we feel would best serve Aitkin County. At this time, 32 of the 87 counties in Minnesota have gone with CodeRED for their Emergency Communications needs.

Some of the emergency scenarios that could be helped with this increased capability are severe weather events, power outages, road closures and one that we are all too familiar with: flooding. It could also be of assistance when we are looking for lost or missing persons, abducted children, or alerting a community about criminal activity in their neighborhood. It can be used for simple things like alerting specific groups or calling in personnel in times of need or assisting local units of government with their emergency communications needs. A Demo of this product is scheduled for 11:30 at the next board meeting.

This service is an allowable expense for use of the dedicated E911 funds. It is also an expense that would certainly aid in helping keep the people who live, work and recreate in Aitkin County more informed and safe.

The proposal is a multi-year proposal with an opt-out every December if the money is not allocated for such service. If approved I would envision putting this on the board agenda for reauthorization until such service is determined to not appropriate the funds for such service.

I am recommending this expenditure of the dedicated E911 funds for this service. The annual cost would be \$6884.

Once again, if you have any questions prior to the April 9, 2013 Aitkin County Board Meeting, please do not hesitate to call.

## Sue Bingham

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**From:** Sue Coffman [sheriff2@co.aitkin.mn.us]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 03, 2013 11:17 AM  
**To:** 'Sue Bingham'  
**Subject:** Article from Duluth News Tribune

Also re CodeRED

[Itasca County upgrades phone warning system](#)  
News Tribune staff - 04/03/2013

Itasca County is rolling out a new emergency warning system this month and is asking residents and business owners to sign up for phone notifications. The CodeRED Emergency Notification System will warn people by phone about situations such as evacuation notices, terrorism alerts, missing child reports, health alerts and severe weather in the region. The county will test the system at 1 p.m. April 12. It is expected to reach 22,000 residents. The county is seeking unlisted and cell phone numbers to add to its database. To find out if you are included, go to the county's sheriff's office Web site. Residents can also call (218) 327-7483 for more information or to check the list. The system isn't new to the county, Emergency Management Coordinator Marlyn Halvorson said. The county has used City Watch in the past. "It's an upgrade," Halvorson said. "It will be a lot quicker." CodeRED can contact 1,000 people within minutes. And with addresses added to the database, it can pinpoint who should be warned in severe weather situations, he said. That database can be updated, so when residents move they can simply put in their new information. The warnings can come by text, e-mail or phone message. Halvorson said the system will be an enhancement to weather radios because people often have their cell phones with them at all times. On April 12, residents can expect a message stressing that it is a test of the system. If residents don't get a call and want to be on the list, they should contact the county.