Key features of the Dakota/MESB/MNDOT Cooperative Agreement

- Three party agreement among Dakota County, MNDOT, and MESB.
- The term of agreement shall remain in effect until the County subsystem is removed from service or substantially replaced at the end of its useful life.
- The agreement is subject to termination in the event of a material violation of the terms and conditions of the cooperative agreement.
- Requires the Dakota County subsystem to operate under the rules and policies of the MESB and the Statewide Emergency Communications Board (SECB).
- Requires that the Dakota County subsystem be made available for day to day use by authorized users approved by the MESB or the SECB.
- Allows Dakota County to designate authorized local users of the subsystem.
- Establishes the allocation of operating costs for the regional system by the MESB and MNDOT. The agreement provides for regional cost sharing for software subscription costs, operational costs, and preventive maintenance based on the proportional share of the Dakota County subsystem that will carry regional users. This is defined as 7/15 of the total costs of the 9 site-15 channel County/Regional Integrated Subsystem. For the 10th Dakota County Subsystem Site, Welch, utilities and tower rent will be shared costs with the 7/15 portion billed to MNDOT and the remaining being the responsibility of Dakota County.
- Requires that Dakota County establish leases and licensing agreements for antenna sites necessary for operation the subsystem
- Allows Dakota County to recover from the MESB costs imposed by lease and license agreements that are eligible for reimbursement by the MESB. These costs include utilities, lease expenses, tower maintenance, building upkeep, and equipment maintenance
- Requires MESB and MNDOT approval prior to construction for any amendment to the Dakota County ARMER Participation Plan
- Establishes that MNDOT and Dakota County are each responsible for the maintenance and the associated maintenance costs for all equipment they own.
- Requires Dakota County and MNDOT to work cooperatively to determine how system expansions needed to accommodate increase usage are to occur and how any costs associated with the expansion will be split between Dakota County and MNDOT.