



## MEMO

City of Helena  
Lewis & Clark County

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**To:** Ron Alles, City Manager  
Eric Bryson, County Administrative Officer

**CC:** Nancy Everson, Tim Magee

**From:** Art Pembroke

**Date:** 4/8/2011

**Re:** Blackberry Use and Costs

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I have reviewed our internal Blackberry costs and configuration. To begin, let me present the current costs and configuration associated with our Blackberry Service.

The initial costs for the service including hardware were paid for through a grant with a grant obtained by the Sheriff's department. The initial costs were just over \$17,000. The primary purpose was to allow alerts to be sent to radio project staff when there was a problem with one of the radio sites. Included in the initial purchase was the server, 50 licenses and 1 year of maintenance for those licenses

We currently have annual Blackberry software license maintenance of \$1904 per year. The contract runs March 22<sup>nd</sup> through March 21<sup>st</sup> of each year. We can lower our license count to 20 users and the license maintenance will drop to \$1375.00 per year. The lowest number they license for is 20 users.

Our server hardware is on warranty through April 9, 2013 at which time it is scheduled for replacement at a projected cost of \$4800 based on the initial purchase.

We also have to pay a Novell node license for each user device (Blackberry phone) at a cost of \$77 per device. So this cost is basically a per-user cost as well.

I am not including any individual costs (data plan, blackberry device cost) in this document as they are paid for by the customer not the enterprise.

We currently have 8 users registered users of the service and they are: Charles Gilmore, Dave Rau, Derek Brown, Leo Dutton, Melanie Reynolds, Ron Alles, Steve Larson, and Steve Utick.

So our costs for fiscal year 2012 will be \$2518 which comes out to \$315 per user if we keep the 50 license count. It would be \$248 per user if we reduce the license package to 20 licenses.

We also need to include \$1600 per year for replacement of the blackberry server in 2013. This would raise the current user charge another \$200 per year (\$514 and \$448 respectively).

Obviously the more users we have the lower the individual costs. If we were to have 20 users with a 20 license package, each user would pay \$226 per year.

Currently, we have the money for the Blackberry server licenses included in our fiscal year 2012 budget at \$1904 which is recouped through our network access fee.

I look forward to discussing our future direction as it relates to the Blackberry service.