

VERMILION VALLEY
REGIONAL EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS
JOINT AUTHORITY

VERMILION VALLEY REGIONAL E.T.S.B.

**MINUTES OF VERMILION VALLEY REGIONAL EMERGENCY
COMMUNICATIONS JOINT AUTHORITY / ETS BOARD**

MEETING OF JULY 18, 2017

Chairman Woolford called the meeting to order at 11:05 a.m.

Roll call showed the following present, Jim Woolford, Al Metzke, William Flott, Paul Johnson, Mike Ingles, Robert Turner and Scot Wrighton. Absent were Jerry Causer and Mark Travis. Alternate filling in for Causer was Chief Runyon. Also present were John Clemmer, Livingston County Financial Specialist; Gary Bird; Streater Fire Chief, Tim Henson, Dwight Police Chief, Dave Landers; Supreme Radio/former Motorola, Candi Bradshaw and Randy Wittenberg.

Woolford led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Woolford asked if there were any questions or corrections on the June 14th Minutes presented to the board. There were none. A motion was made to approve the June minutes by Wrighton with a second by Metzke. Voice vote was unanimous with all ayes. Motion carried.

Once the bills made it around the table Woolford asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda, items A and B, which was made by Flott with a second by Wrighton. A roll call vote was unanimous with all ayes. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Motorola Deal – Wittenberg reported he has come to an agreement with Motorola. They have agreed to install a tower in Dwight (existing water tower in Dwight by Donnelley's) and the boards participation in this will be \$25,000.00. He stated anything more than that will come out of the user fees. He passed around copies of the agreement. A discussion was held on what that means. Dave Landers explained a little about how Motorola does

these projects with upgrading the system. More discussions were held on generators, warranties and other issues. Flott asked if they put in used equipment is that guaranteed to work. Landers stated yes it was because the equipment belongs to Motorola and it is their responsibility to fix it. A long discussion was held on this issue. Henson explained the problems they were having in Dwight, how the testing went in Dwight and stating his understanding of what kind of coverage he should get from Star Com in Dwight. Another discussion was held on how this should resolve Dwight's problem. Henson also stated he would be willing to let Fairbury use their car repeaters to see if that would resolve their problems as well. Henson went on to say it's not just the matter of the downtown foot patrol and bike patrol but they were only getting 30 to 50 percent portable radio coverage. He said they have done retraining on how to use the radios etc. He also stated he thought Wittenberg had done a wonderful job getting the cost down from around \$300,000.00 to \$25,000.00. Henson also said this would not only benefit them but also the county when they come up into that area along with the neighbors to the north who may have to come down to the Dwight area. A motion was made to approve the contract with Motorola by Wrighton with a second by Ingles. Wrighton stated he just wanted to point out to the board there is always a risk with this type of thing. He also brought up again as he did last month that he believes the board needs to come up with a board policy to be clear as to what is the responsibility of our member agencies for their communication and what's our responsibility for running a central dispatch. Wittenberg, Ingles and Woolford all voiced their agreement with clearing up this policy. However, Woolford stated they also need to look at Fairbury on their issue also. A discussion was held. Wittenberg stated they did some testing in Fairbury with a repeater and it seems to possibly take care of their problem. Woolford stated with the motion on the floor and a second to approve the contract with Motorola a roll call vote was called with all ayes. Motion carried. A discussion was held on who will hold the licenses and a discussion on the repeater licenses. Landers gave his opinion. Wittenberg stated they would make sure this was all straightened out.

Auditor Selection – Wittenberg reported they had presented Mac and Associates audit quote last month and for 2017 it would be \$6,000, for 2018 would be \$6,150 and for 2019 would be \$6,300. He stated they had contacted another auditor and was told they would charge at least \$10,000. Wittenberg stated he felt the ones currently doing the audit knows our operation and has done a good job in the past. John Clemmer stated he has been very happy with Mac and Associates since he has been with the county.

He also stated this would be a very difficult year due to 2 months being as LIV COM and the rest of the year being VVRECJA. Ingles stated he thought they should stay with the current auditors for at least one more year. A long discussion was held by board members on this topic. A motion was made to allow Wittenberg to negotiate a one year audit contract with Mac and Associates not to exceed \$6,500 by Wrighton with a second by Ingles along with a caveat they do it for \$6,000 as stated in the current proposal given to the board. A discussion was held on the convenience of the auditor doing both audits at the same time with the county's audit. Roll call vote was unanimous with all ayes. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

911 Funding – Wittenberg reported there has been a lot of back and forth with the legislative bills for 911. It was reported after 2 vetoes HB1811 has passed.

He reported he spent the afternoon with Swartz and discussed the possible plan to increase the overall funds. He also stated this was a budget issue and would be discussed and worked through in the budget committee meetings to come in the near future.

Johnson reported they had been notified Dwight Fire and Pontiac Fire have received the firefighter grant to get all the radios for \$219,000; which would put them with star com mobiles and portables. The match they had was \$10,000.00; \$6000.00 from Dwight and \$4,000.00 from Pontiac. He stated the money is being held in an escrow account with FEMA. He is having meetings to get radio prices. He reported once they get the finalized pricing they can go ahead and make the purchase. A discussion was held on how the other fire departments within the county were given the opportunity to join in on the grant application and they refused to do so. It was also discussed if part of the budgeting in the future has a mechanism to separate the infrastructure that needs to be maintained for the non-Star Com agencies. Wittenberg stated the budget committee needs to start meeting after the first of August to work on next year's budget and how those impact fees are going to work.

Coordinator's Report – Bradshaw reported by end of today LaSalle County Sheriff and Mendota will be cut over completely to IVRD/Peru and Ottawa and we will no longer have to be their backup.

Director's Report – Wittenberg reported he would defer his report to executive session.

Closing comments from the public – None.

There was a motion made to go into executive session for (5ILCS 120/2)(c)(1) Personnel Matters by Flott with a second by Ingles. Voice vote was unanimous with all members present voting aye.

Regular session suspended at 12:03 p.m.

Regular session resumed on July 18, 2017 at 12:23 p.m.

Action resulting from executive session – No action taken.

Closing comments from Chairman or board members – None.

There being no further business a motion to adjourn was made by Flott with a second by Ingles. Voice vote was unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 12:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Candi Bradshaw Candi Bradshaw