

**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 OCTOBER 11, 2017**

Chairman Woolford called the meeting to order at 11:02 a.m.

Roll call showed the following present, Jim Woolford, Al Metzke, William Flott, Paul Johnson, Mark Travis, Robert Turner and Mike Ingles. Absent were Jerry Causer. Alternate filling in for Causer was Chief Runyon. Scot Wrighton arrived at 11:05 a.m. Also present were Jim Hargitt, SELCAS; Jeremy Stoller, SELCAS; John Clemmer, Livingston County Financial Specialist; Candi Bradshaw and Randy Wittenberg.

Woolford led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Woolford stated the Board Minutes had been presented from the August 16<sup>th</sup> meeting (there was no meeting for Sept. 13<sup>th</sup>) and he would entertain a motion to approve. A motion was made to approve the August minutes by Flott with a second by Ingles. Voice vote was unanimous with all ayes. Motion carried.

Woolford asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda for bills and financial reports, items a. through e. Travis inquired as to what consisted of the radio repairs and maintenance. Wittenberg explained about some problems with some microwaves and receivers. A motion to approve was made by Turner with a second by Metzke. A roll call vote was unanimous with all ayes. Motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Flott asked a couple questions about regarding tower in Dwight, where the \$25,000 would come out of. Wittenberg stated it would probably come out of next year's budget.

Dwight Tower Update – Wittenberg reported Motorola were on their way to Dwight this morning to meet with the City of Dwight and finish up the lease agreement. They are hoping to get started on the project early in November and have it completed no later than January 1<sup>st</sup>. A short discussion was held on the tower.

Flott inquired if work had been started on next year's budget, which Wittenberg responded it had. He said he was hoping to have a budget committee meeting and have it ready for November's meeting. Wrighton asked if the new resolution on how the fire and ambulance districts will be billed. A discussion was held on the policy needed for clarity going forward on what local capital improvements will be expected to be made by local agencies and not 911. Wittenberg led a discussion on what they were looking at for the new fees for ems agencies and figure out what the best way which will be fair to all of them.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

Chatsworth Tower Update – Wittenberg reported they have a new tower in Chatsworth. He said they have had some issues with power interruption at the tower. Wittenberg explained the challenges with the generator at Chatsworth and they may have to replace the generator over there. A discussion was held on the problems they have been having along with some protocol problems he was having within the center. He reported the tower company was supposed to be notifying us if we lose power and they have not been doing this. Metzke inquired about the problems as to whether it was equipment problems or notification. Wittenberg went through what the problems had been and what was done to correct the notification problem. A long discussion was held on possible solutions including possibly replacing the generator.

Nixle - Wittenberg reported Nixle is basically a reverse 911 system. He stated it would allow them to notify public of road closures, weather issue information going on. He stated this will be a requirement of NG911 and we will have to do this eventually. He said it's a good tool to have and save lives during extreme weather or road closures, missing children etc. It was said any issue any agency has can be used to get their information out to the public. He said the public can sign up and receive text messages also. He said it costs \$9,000.00 a year. It's a software and Nixle takes care of bringing it up and keeping it updated. A motion was made to adopt Nixle was made by Wrighton with a second by Ingles. A roll call was unanimous with all ayes. Motion carried. It was also discussed about having a policy regarding this product. A long discussion was held on this topic covering



concerns along with the possibilities of different uses for this software system.

Turner brought up the topic of Crime Stoppers issue he was having. He stated when Streater came over to new center Crime Stoppers did not come over. He explained the problems he was having after hours with the reporting of information. A long discussion was held on this topic. Wittenberg stated they could have a conversation about this and whether it is a possibility of having these calls come into the center. Turner was going to gather more information as to number of calls, etc.

Woolford brought up the incident involving Earlville where Streater responded, Pontiac sent their K-9 officer and county sent some deputies. They were using IREACH and Star Com does not have IREACH footprint. Woolford was wondering why, at which point Turner said it was because the state has to give approval for the use of IREACH which they have not given to anyone. Wittenberg said he would be talking to Motorola to see what can be done about this. A lengthy discussion was held on this topic.

Coordinator's Report – Bradshaw reported only additional thing she wanted to report was that she was notified by ISP there may be an additional check to some PSAPs regarding some late carrier payments which they received and would forward on the PSAPs instead of including them in the next regular checks. She reported they had received theirs and it was only for \$35.00. Flott asked with the new \$1.50 surcharge and when would it start. Bradshaw stated it would start being collected beginning January 2018 but PSAPs would only receive the new amount for 4 months in 2018.

Director's Report – Wittenberg stated the only other activities he has is they started is they have started contract negotiations with the union. He stated they have a more detailed report in executive session. He stated they have completed all the training with the new fire protocols.

Closing comments from the public – Hargitt from SELCAS inquired about the night the Chatsworth Tower went down and if dispatch really knew they were down. He stated it didn't seem like dispatch knew due to SELCAS did not respond by radio and dispatch called them by phone to see if they were going. They discussed the time frame which if they do not answer dispatch something is not right. The hours they are staffed during the day Monday – Friday from 8:00 a.m. until about 5:00 or 6:00 p.m. Hargitt also stated that sometimes dispatch does not say 2<sup>nd</sup> ambulance and that is important for his people to know because they need to start worrying about getting 3<sup>rd</sup> ambulance ready. Wittenberg stated the new protocols stipulate they do

this and if they are not he needs to know this. Hargitt also reported on an incident where dispatch got the call and hot buttoned it to McLean and it was a 17 minute time delay before they got notified. He also said they had a call for a Maple Street apartment in Fairbury and it was actually in Chatsworth. Hargitt also revisited the EMS dispatch fees and gave the suggestion to take EAV, call volume and population and add all together and divide by 3 to get your new fee. It was also discussed if they roll they are dispatched. Further discussion was held.

Closing comments from Chairman or board members – Woolford stated tomorrow is an active shooter drill at Caterpillar. It's a live drill so you will hear radio traffic going on and is scheduled from 8:00 a.m. until 10:30 a.m.

There was a motion made to go into executive session for (5ILCS 120/2)(c)(1) Personnel Matters by Flott with a second by Wrighton. Roll call vote was unanimous.

Regular session suspended at 12:13 p.m.

Regular session resumed on October 11, 2017 at 12:55 p.m.

Action resulting from executive session – None

There being no further business a motion to adjourn was made by Flott with a second by Turner. Voice vote was unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 12:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Candi Bradshaw

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Candi Bradshaw", written in dark ink. The signature is positioned to the right of the typed name "Candi Bradshaw" and is underlined.