

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 17, 2018

Chairman Woolford called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

Roll call showed the following present, Jim Woolford, Al Metzke, William Flott, Paul Johnson, Mark Travis (arrived 11:04 a.m.), Gary Bird filling in as alternate for Scot Wrighton, Robert Turner and Scott Runyon filling in as alternate for Jerry Causer, Absent were Jerry Causer, Scot Wrighton and Mike Ingles. Also present was Diane Schwahn, Liv. Co. Director of Finance; Ben DuBois, Supreme Radio; Dave Landers, Supreme Radio; Candi Bradshaw and Randy Wittenberg.

Woolford led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Woolford stated the Board Minutes for June 13th and June 13th Finance Committee Minutes were in their packets and asked if there were no comments he would entertain a motion to approve. A motion was made to approve the Board Minutes of June 13th by Bird with a second by Metzke. A voice vote was unanimous with all ayes. Motion carried.

A motion was made to approve the June 13th Finance Committee minutes was made by Flott with a second by Turner. A roll call vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

Woolford stated financials were in their packets and if no discussion he asked for a motion to approve the financial reports and bills for June. Flott stated he had a couple questions, one being did everyone pay the increase for this year. Wittenberg stated he received a request for a copy of their agreement by a couple of entities, but no one has not paid their increase. Flott stated he saw we replaced the capacitors for the UPS System and asked who did it with Wittenberg stating the company who does our maintenance replaced them. Flott also asked about the anticipated amount from fire departments doesn't match what we have gotten in. Bradshaw stated they all pay in at different times and some pay way ahead. She stated even if they pay ahead they are billed for the increase beginning in April and all pay the increased amount. Flott also asked about the overtime still being high. Wittenberg stated he has a couple of part-timers trained so the overtime should

lessen soon. He reported on two dispatchers who are out on sick leave. He gave a report on the two newly trained dispatchers. A discussion was held on income coming in from the State. They are making regularly scheduled payments to 911.

Schwahn asked the board about what kind of reports they would like to receive. After a discussion the board decided the regular reports they are getting now are fine with them. A motion to approve the July financials was made by Flott with a second by Turner. A roll call vote was unanimous with all ayes. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Dwight Towers – Wittenberg reported to his knowledge the Dwight police radios were working fine. He asked Metzke if he was good. Metzke said he wasn't sure because he was told they took off the patch. Wittenberg stated the patch is still up. A discussion was held on whether the patch should remain or not. DuBois stated if you take the patch down anyone who is a dedicated Star Com user will not be able to hear any analog traffic. It was decided to leave the patch up for now but at some point they will have to test it to make sure when they take it down everything works correctly. A discussion was held. Travis asked if before they take it down if they could get the repeater situation taken care of for Fairbury. A discussion was held on this. Dave Landers stated he talked to Henson a little about this. He thought Henson wanted to keep a couple of the repeaters. A discussion was held. Wittenberg stated he would talk with Henson next week on the repeater issue.

As brought up on the floor –

Bird brought up EMD that was discussed a month or two ago which he stated Wittenberg told him today he is working on this. He wanted to suggest as that process moves forward; they are working on MIH but it will progress far beyond what that describes. The goal he stated is to reduce the number of frequent calls to 911 and decrease the number of non-emergency transports by ambulances and responses by fire departments. He would like to see fire and ems get together in a meeting to look at dispatch protocols and have everyone on the same page as to when to dispatch fire and ems, etc. Wittenberg stated what they are asking for is in a lot of areas reasonable. He is a little leery of the triage part. He discussed what his concerns were. Bird agreed with him but stated he feels they need to have this meeting as this progresses along and try to have everybody in the V-Com system on the same page. Wittenberg stated that was why they had all the meetings with the fire chiefs was to have everyone dispatched the same. Wittenberg stated he had no problem setting that meeting up. Bird stated he thought they were a couple of months away from that yet. Woolford stated he felt it is the board's direction that anything that enhances our capability for dispatching and making for safer communities they definitely want to explore.

NEW BUSINESS:

As brought up on the floor – Travis brought up the ownership of Spillman which was discussed previously as well as administration of Spillman. A long discussion was held on this topic. A discussion was also held on an individual buying a module and who pays for what. Woolford also explained what the User Group for Spillman does. Another discussion was held on modules. Woolford stated he and Wittenberg would get together to discuss how they want to approach this and what a proposal might be.

Coordinator's Report – Bradshaw reported she had nothing new other than what was in her report. She stated Flott had already hit on the new capacitors which were installed in the UPS. She said it took them approximately 3 hours to complete. She did also mention that the batteries for the UPS are in their 3rd year and would need replacing within the next two years. She stated the estimated cost last time was around \$10,000.00 but she thought it came in with a cost of around \$8,000.00.

Director's Report – Wittenberg reported Steve Pyle was in from Motorola. They met about the Dwight site. Steve stated he has had some communication with Chief Henson and Henson said everything was running pretty good for right now. Steve also informed Wittenberg they are doing away with the T1 and going to a cloud based system. He said it shouldn't mean anything different for us, just a newer technology.

He reported Bradshaw and Higgins went to an EMD meeting last week while he was on vacation. They brought back some notes and he was going through those notes and are trying to get some EMD protocols put in place for us. He stated we do have EMD protocols in place currently and are using Power Phone right now which is recognized by the State as proper protocol. He said it looks like the OSF system wants to create some better protocols between ourselves, fire departments and ems.

He stated he is working with Nixle again. He hopes to have it up and running by the end of August. The trainer he was working with left and he didn't hear from anybody for a while.

He reported the Spillman Rip and Run project with the fire departments is complete except for the testing. There are some changes needing to be made in our hardware. Sear has to do something within the server to correct the problem.

He reported staffing level is back to what it was a year ago. He said he would probably look to hire another part timer and start training. A discussion was held on this.

He also reported he thought the budget numbers look good.


There was no need for an executive session.

Closing comments from Chairman or board members – Metzke asked about the Spillman Rip and Run with Wittenberg stating he would also be receiving this.

Closing comments from the public – Landers from Supreme Radio stated Supreme has made an investment in a couple of communication dual band pagers specifically for the fire departments in Livingston County. They dropped off a couple at Dwight this morning and they will be testing the UHF portion as well as Star Com. He wanted to let the board know if other departments in the county are interested they can cycle them through the county so they can get a feel of how Star Com paging will work. They should get a good feel from the testing in Dwight. Johnson stated Dwight Fire is looking to go to Star Com pretty soon. He said it would be nice to have some kind of roadmap to show the process to go to Star Com and the cost, etc. A discussion was held on this to get fees and other things. Johnson explained what had to be done on his end. Wittenberg will call him early next week with Wittenberg saying to involve Chief Runyon also. Metzke asked if anyone had talked to Grundy County about a talk group. Wittenberg stated he has a call into them but hasn't heard back as of yet. Metzke stated they found there was a Star Com talk group for Morris Hospital for med alerts. A discussion was held on this.

There being no further business a motion to adjourn was made by Flott with a second by Bird. Voice vote was unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Candi Bradshaw

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Candi Bradshaw", written over a horizontal line.