

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 NOVEMBER 14, 2018

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

Roll call showed the following present, Jim Woolford, Paul Johnson, William Flott, Mark Travis, Mike Ingles (arrived 11:17 a.m.), Tim Henson alternate for Al Metzke, Gary Bird alternate for Scot Wrighton and Scott Runyon. Absent was Al Metzke, Scot Wrighton and Robert Turner. Also present was Diane Schwahn, Liv. Co. Director of Finance; Ben DuBois, Supreme Radio; Dave Lander, Supreme Radio; Candi Bradshaw and Randy Wittenberg.

Woolford led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Woolford stated the Board Minutes for October 10th and Finance Committee Minutes of October 10th 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 October 10th, Finance Minutes for October 10th by Bird with a second by Runyon. A voice vote was unanimous with all ayes. 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 October. A motion to approve was made by Johnson with a second by Flott. A roll call vote was unanimous with all ayes. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Approve 2019 VV ETSB Budget – Woolford stated it had been published for 30 days as required with Wittenberg stating the same. A motion was made to approve the 2019 VV ETSB Budget by Travis with a second by Bird. A roll call vote was unanimous with all ayes. Motion carried.

As brought up on the floor - None

NEW BUSINESS:

Approve letter to fire departments – Woolford stated the board should have a letter in front of them signed by Wittenberg and himself as they had discussed sending out to the rural fire districts. He stated 2 items they covered was correcting the increases that were above the 5% and giving notice for the end of life for the UHF system. Wittenberg reported there was a LCMAA meeting tomorrow night and they will be given this letter at that time. He stated they have to understand that we can't continue to operate the UHF system as it is without spending a lot of money. He stated the EMS agencies would fall under the same as the fire departments. A lengthy discussion was held on having to correct going over 5% increase per contract and go back and adjust those rates giving them notice of this. Another discussion was held. Flott asked if the new budget reflects going back to the 5% with Wittenberg stating yes it does. A discussion was held on new agreements being needed as well as "I am responding". Wittenberg held a discussion on this as well as Star Com pagers from Dave Landers. Johnson gave a report on these pagers and who was testing. He also stated he would be willing to help write a grant for the fire departments to help them get what they need to go Star Com. A discussion was held on the grant. Wittenberg also stated he is working on negotiations with Motorola on how to keep costs down on our Star Com fees. Another discussion was held about having another meeting sometime around early December to start the grant process with the fire departments. A discussion was held on a few more viable options have come around. Landers stated Supreme has purchased 2 pagers that work with Star Com specifically for Livingston County fire departments to test. He said they could demonstrate how they work for them. A motion to approve the letter to the fire departments was made by Bird with a second by Runyon. A roll call vote was unanimous with all ayes. Motion carried.

Approve dispatch chairs – Wittenberg stated they have a capital improvement plan now and they need new chairs. Wittenberg handed out a quote for chairs. He reported they met with Miller at Work in Springfield. He brought his chairs here and let the telecommunicators test out the chairs. They got to pick out their chair. He stated they are custom made and have cool cushions. He discussed about the cushions and the problems with odors in the chairs we have now. Wittenberg reported this company is going around the state to get more chair orders and the more orders he gets the better discount we would get. He would like for the board to approve the purchase of 4 chairs and the cushions and then taking advantage of any additional discount we may get. Schwahn stated he should not order them until after the first of the year so it is in next year's budget. A discussion was held on the chairs. A motion was made to approve purchasing 4 dispatch chairs and cushions after January 1, 2019 by Bird with a second by Henson. Roll call vote was unanimous with all ayes. Motion carried.

Approve dispatch consoles – Wittenberg stated he handed out 2 quotes for consoles. He explained them to the board and stated he was meeting with another vendor tomorrow so they won't take action on this until next month. He gave the prices for the consoles explaining that one is \$116,000.00 for 5 consoles, the other

is for \$90,000. He reported the \$116,000.00 one does not include taking down the old consoles and disposing of them, but the \$90,000.00 one does include taking down the old consoles. He explained the financials of this over a 60 months buy out lease. He explained the nice features of each one and he really likes they have cabinets for the CPU's and the wiring is all run through conduit. He stated they are both quality furniture. Several questions were asked and answered about the consoles. A question was brought up about the carpeting in the dispatch center. Wittenberg stated he would like to at least get the carpeting cleaned before the install. A discussion was held on this. He said they would have to come up with a plan on how to install the new equipment and still be operational at the same time. More discussion was held concerning the interest rate for leasing. This was tabled until next month.

As brought up on the floor – None.

Coordinator's Report – Bradshaw reported she had nothing new to report.

Director's Report – Wittenberg reported he hired another part-timer which would bring him them up to 4. He stated Weber-Rodriquez would be returning to work next week for now.

He stated he did meet with Brendan Burkowski who is a former Assistant State's Attorney at Pontiac and is part of the Johnson Law Group in Bloomington. He is getting back to him stating they have an attorney in their law group who handles government entities like ours. This person has been on vacation for 2 weeks. The question would be whether he has the capacity to do what we are asking him to do like intergovernmental agreements to re-write and then intermittent work. He has not had a call back as of yet.

He reported he sent an e-mail out to all the Chiefs on Crime Stoppers. A Crime Stoppers meeting has been set up for the 28th. They are still trying to find someone for Fairbury.

Wittenberg stated he has started looking at an early retirement incentive program for some of our employees, which could be a cost savings for them if they retire early. He said he would look into this to see if there is a savings for them and then he would get back to the board and let them make a decision on this. Schwahn stated the county had to budget for that with which Wittenberg stated he understood that and it would not be for 2019 but possibly 2020. Woolford stated this was just exploratory at this time.

Closing comments from the public – Landers stated another system to be looked at with the UHF System going out is the sirens throughout the county. He stated Motorola approached him at the IPSTA Conference concerning the sirens and Motorola would be willing to take a look at doing a pilot to do our siren control on Star Com. He stated so if there was any interest in this group to sit down and have a meeting to see what Motorola's definition of a pilot would look like, they are

willing to do that. Wittenberg said the most logical place to do that would be Pontiac and Streator. Wittenberg asked Lander to talk to Motorola and get a couple of dates and get back to him and he will set it up with these guys. Travis asked if maybe they should test a rural area also. They said they could do that also. A discussion was held on this. It was asked if the fire grant could include the sirens and Johnson didn't think it would. He said IEMA may be able to help with this.

There was no need to go into executive session.

Closing comments from Chairman or board members – Woolford said he appreciated Supreme Radio showing up to our board meetings regularly and answering a lot of the technical questions.

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 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Candi Bradshaw Candi Bradshaw