

**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 SEPTEMBER 30, 2020**  
**ZOOM MEETING**

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

Roll call showed the following present, Jim Woolford, William Flott, Jim Hargitt, Robert Turner, Gary Bird and Tim Henson. Absent were Jacob Campbell, Tony Childress and Paul Johnson. Also present was Diane Schwahn, Finance Director, Candi Bradshaw and Randy Wittenberg.

Woolford stated to forego the Pledge of Allegiance due to being a zoom meeting.

Woolford stated the Board Minutes for July 14<sup>th</sup> (There was no August meeting) were in their packets and asked if there were no comments or corrections he would entertain a motion to approve. Flott stated a typo needs to be corrected for Newsome's first name. A motion was made to approve the Board Minutes of July 14<sup>th</sup> by Flott with the correction with a second by Bird. A voice vote was unanimous with all ayes. A roll call vote was unanimous with all ayes from Jim Woolford, Gary Bird, William Flott, Jim Hargitt, Tim Henson and Robert Turner. Motion carried.

Woolford stated financial reports & bills for July & August were in their packets and if no discussion he asked for a motion to approve the bills and financial reports for July and August. A motion to approve was made by Hargitt with a second by Turner. A roll call vote was unanimous with all ayes from Jim Woolford, Gary Bird, William Flott, Jim Hargitt, Tim Henson and Robert Turner. Motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

As brought up on the floor – Flott brought up Crime Stoppers inquiring how they would get the information out about Crime Stoppers. Wittenberg reported he has been attending a couple of Rotary meetings and they have Gary Helsing who has a vehicle wrapped with the logo that has been going around the county meeting with people. He also stated he has phone calls into all of

the newspapers and they are working through this as fast as they can. Woolford stated they have social media pages they have been putting out information on. Wittenberg and Woolford stated they have been getting it out through social media agency-wise. Wittenberg stated they have had 4 tips come in and one has even been given to the FBI.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

Budget – Director sent out latest copy of the budget. It contains a supervisory position but does not mean that position is approved. Approving the budget does not mean this position is guaranteed. They will discuss this later at a committee meeting. Woolford also stated he sent out recommendations to the board regarding salaries. Wittenberg reported with the new contract, the supervisory position and increases to management salaries the total budget is \$45,459 less than a year ago due to fact that 4 highly paid people left and replaced them with lower paid employees and a contract with Motorola that has ended which was \$72,000 a year. He stated they also re-negotiated a couple of other contracts for next year. One being with Intrado which they saved about another \$20,000.00. Flott asked if this is the year they start paying Spillman? Wittenberg replied no they have another year yet before they have to start paying that. Wittenberg stated they have held pretty firm with what they have. He asked if Schwahn had any comments with no verbal response heard. Flott asked that overtime is down considerably from past years and is that realistic. Wittenberg stated he thought so and explained. Schwahn did state she thought the budget was good. Woolford stated if no other questions on the budget they could make a motion to put the budget on display for public comments for 30 days and pass the budget at the next meeting with a motion from Turner and a second by Hargitt. A roll call vote was unanimous with all ayes from Flott, Hargitt, Henson, Woolford, Bird, and Turner.

ICOPS – Woolford stated he and Wittenberg met with ICOPS earlier this month and had one session and came to a tentative agreement and the union has ratified this. Wittenberg stated they ratified it unanimously last week. The highlights is basically they got a 2 ½% increase and at the bottom end, people on probation that have been with us less than a year will go to \$19 an hour but those not on probation but have been a couple of years will go to \$20 an hour. He also explained to continue with longevity. He also explained how that works. He stated there was no change on any insurances but they did ask of a bigger medical allowance which they did based on the number of years they have been here. He also reported they held firm on using part time employees for the overtime. He stated they went from 8 hours of sick time a month to 9 hours a month based on they work 84 hours every 2 weeks. A discussion was held on the contract. Turner asked about how the longevity check was paid out, if it was once a year with Wittenberg stating it was. A motion was made by Turner to accept the ICOPS contract with a second by Henson. A roll call vote was unanimous with all ayes from Hargitt, Woolford, Henson, Bird, Turner, and Flott.

As brought up on the floor – None.

Coordinator's Report – Bradshaw reported nothing other than what was in her written report.

Director's Report – Wittenberg reported the same as his written report he sent out. He did say there was a lot of COVID information for them. He explained how they are the keeper of all that

information. A discussion was held on this information. Woolford stated the health department informed him that it is taking somewhere between 24 - 72 hours before they know this information and they still have a delay so they all have to be cautious. A discussion was held about if it came into the center. Wittenberg reported the law states if an employee has to be off for COVID they will be paid for the quarantine period and you cannot charge their sick time. A discussion was held on the topic if they had several employees out with this what they would have to do. Henson asked about Media-Com and the generator in Dwight. Wittenberg explained about the problem they had with it not automatically starting when the power went off. He stated he will be working with Media Com to get this problem taken care of.

Closing comments from public - None

Closing comments from Chairman and board members - Flott inquired about the next meeting to approve the budget. Wittenberg stated it would be in November. Turner stated good job to Woolford and Wittenberg for a one time negotiation which is unheard of. Hargitt also stated a thank you to Wittenberg for the couple of presentations which heard favorable results. Wittenberg stated the goal is to do more of those.

There was no need to go into executive session for (5ILCS 120/2)(c)(1) Personnel Matters Executive Session.

There being no further business a motion to adjourn was made by Flott with a second by Henson. Voice vote was unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 11:42 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Candi Bradshaw *Candi Bradshaw*