

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 MARCH 16, 2022

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

Roll call showed the following present were Jim Woolford, William Flott, Gary Bird, Mike Nolan, Jacob Campbell, Josh Jahn, Jason Moore and Kathy Arbogast filling in for the Sheriff. Absent were, Jim Hargitt, and the Sheriff. Also present were Jeff Hamilton, Sheriff's Department; Alina Hartley, Executive Director Livingston County Board; Diane Schwahn, Finance Director Livingston County Board; Dave Landers, Supreme Radio; Candi Bradshaw, Sarah Cook and Randy Wittenberg.

Woolford led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Woolford stated the Board Minutes for February 16, 2022 were in their packets and if there was no discussion he would entertain a motion to approve. A motion was made to approve the February 16th Minutes by Flott with a second by Bird. A voice vote of was unanimous with all ayes. Motion carried.

Woolford stated financial reports & bills for February were in their packets and if no discussion he asked for a motion to approve the bills and financial reports for February. A motion to approve was made by Campbell with a second by Jahn. A roll call vote was unanimous with all ayes. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Radio Project – Wittenberg stated they went through that thoroughly in the finance meeting. He stated the only thing he could tell them is tomorrow night there is a Mutual Aid Meeting at Bernardi's, which is the annual dinner they host for the fire departments. He reported he has invited Dwight and Streator as well. He stated

they are going to do an update on what the total financial cost of the project is and ask them again to give him a radio count as to what they may or may not need. He stated he is also going to explain to them the finances of the E.T.S.B., where we are at financially and where we are at grant status wise. He stated those here at the meeting are more than welcome to come and enjoy a nice chicken dinner. He explained what he wants them to totally understand what the real cost would be to replace what we currently have and that it makes no sense for us to do. A discussion was held on them being close to where they will present to the board and get the board's direction on which way they want to go, with Wittenberg agreeing. Wittenberg explained the tower we maintain right now is owned by the county and they actually maintain that tower for us, but we maintain about 5 or 6 towers within the county that we have equipment on and are responsible for. Wittenberg explained the amount they are receiving from a grant from the county and a grant we have applied for with the State 911 Board and what that covers. Campbell asked if any of them were tied to the radio project with Wittenberg stating none of them are specifically tied to the radio project however, none of them are tied to any specific project. Woolford stated we have not been awarded any grant money from the State as of yet. Wittenberg stated they are still working through some things yet and he has a call with Cindy in the morning on the grant.

As brought up on the floor – Nothing.

NEW BUSINESS:

Dispatch Revenue – Wittenberg began by stating again that they met with the Finance Committee this morning. He stated he has given them a proposal for a start as to what the revenue should look like. There was no action that came out of the finance committee. He stated so they will continue to move forward with some revenue projections and try to get that in the best shape they can. Bird stated he believed AMT should be in Streator at least until October and they should know in June whether that is their end date or not.

As brought up on the floor – None.

Coordinator's Report – Bradshaw stated the only thing she had to report was dispatch received notice from Frontier/Intrado that the Longmont mode to our ANI/ALI was down but we were still receiving 911 calls on the other mode. They reported they had quit for the night and would resume this morning to correct the problem. To her knowledge it is still not fixed at this time. Wittenberg asked if we were seeing any disruption in service with Bradshaw stating no.

Director's Report – Wittenberg reported he handed out copies of his report and they continue to work on several projects with Motorola and he is working with Diane on a couple of things. He stated he and Cook did meet with Pontiac Fire and talked to

them about E-Dispatch. He reported they are trying to figure out a way, if they go to Star Com radio, they have a good backup to the pagers. He stated they have IAM Responding right now. He said some departments like it and some don't. He stated Pontiac Fire doesn't use it, they use E-Dispatch. He stated Cook has been testing it on her phone. He stated they are trying to find the right solution to this so they are testing some things right now to make sure whatever they put out there for them is the right thing. Bird added since they had just gone through an ISO review that IAM Responding doesn't count as a backup system for paging because there is no set time to get you the call. He asked if they could try to find a system that has a set time in it, that would help with ISO reviews. Wittenberg stated he thinks E-Dispatch has that and so far he and Cook have been pretty impressed with E-Dispatch. A discussion was held on E-Dispatch and Wittenberg explained a little about ISO's. It was asked if they are seeing better response times from testing with E-Dispatch compared to IAM Responding with Wittenberg stating yes. Another discussion was held. Cook stated part of her plan is to end up with IAM Responding on her phone too but she hasn't done it yet. She stated she doesn't want two going at the same time. Another discussion was held on some differences between IAM Responding and E-Dispatch.

Wittenberg stated Cook and Rakoczy have been working hard on getting some of their records stored and put away and they will be storing most of their records downstairs. He stated he will be moving upstairs in the next couple of months.

He reported the Manville Tower had been down for about 3 weeks due to a UPS situation and they couldn't do anything about it because of the snow and mud. He stated they were able to work around it and he didn't think anyone noticed any disruption from it. They did finally get that fixed last week.

Bird asked about the tornado sirens in Streator with Wittenberg stating the last he talked to Ben he thought he had it isolated. He stated they would have to wait for next month to test it and he would really like Bird to call him and let him know if it worked or not. Flott asked if we page for Dana with Wittenberg explaining how they use IAM Responding and they call them. He stated if we go to Star Com we will have the ability to page them. He also explained how we do not collect any money from Dana Police but we collect from Dana Fire. A discussion was held.

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

Closing comments from the Public – None.

Closing comments from Chairman and board members – None.

There being no further business a motion to adjourn was made by Flott with a second by Bird. Voice vote was unanimous with all ayes. Meeting adjourned at 11:21 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Candi Bradshaw


