

THURSTON 911 COMMUNICATIONS
OPERATIONS BOARD MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, APRIL 17, 2017 @ 1:00 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Tim Braniff, Chair – Thurston County Sheriff's Office
Mike Buchanan, Vice Chair – Olympia Fire Department
Steve Brooks – Lacey Fire District #3
Dusty Pierpoint – Lacey Police Department
Jon Weiks – Tumwater Police Department
Scott LaVielle – Tumwater Fire Department
John Wood – Fire Chief's Association
Kurt Hardin – Medic One

TCOMM STAFF:

Keith Flewelling – Executive Director
Wendy Hill – Deputy Director
Tim Klotz – IT Manager
David Taylor – Radio Services Manager
Lisa Cummings – Administrative Assistant

GUESTS:

Chief Mark Nelson – East Olympia Fire District #6
Terry Ware – Olympic Ambulance

Call to Order

Chair T. Braniff called meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Approval of Agenda & Minutes

M/S/C approval of the April 17, 2017 agenda. (J. Wood/K. Hardin)
M/S/C approval of the January, 23, 2017 Operations Board meeting minutes.
(S. LaVielle/M. Buchanan)

Correspondence – None.

Public Testimony – None.

Subcommittee Reports

IT Services – T. Klotz reviewed the updated 2017 IT Project List (attachment). Update included:

- Project 1 complete – All of the active CAD workstations have been replaced with new workstations.
- Project 6 DOL Photos to CAD – This project went live approximately 3 weeks ago and is working well. K. Flewelling clarified this project was funded by the 2016 ending fund balance and was subsequently much less expensive than original estimates. K. Flewelling reviewed the software highlights as well.

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Radio Services – D. Taylor reviewed the updated 2017 Radio Project List (attachment). He noted the report format has been changed to provide a more comprehensive narrative which should be more user-specific between fire service and law enforcement. Updates included:

- Bush Mountain is closer to finalization and is summarized in the attached report. No significant damage was reported this winter. TCOMM is in the process of negotiations with the the Tumwater School District to provide a contribution to complete this project which will benefit the school district as well. K. Flewelling congratulated D. Taylor on his efforts towards this project.
- S. Brooks questioned the new State Patrol Building and whether the coverage would just address F2, and if so, how F2 was chosen instead of F9? D. Taylor reviewed how NFPA is written specifically for fire department first responder communication. The local fire marshal is the enforcement officer and has the authority to decide based on the specific needs of each agency.
- M. Buchanan reported there is no in-house antenna at St. Peters Hospital and agencies currently operate off the booster installed in the watch room. He reported that Olympia Fire Marshal R. Bradley is working with St. Peters hospital in order for antenna installation to move forward. D. Taylor clarified this specific system affects both primary law enforcement and fire channels.

Old Business

Public Safety Radio System Project Update - K. Flewelling reported the Public Safety Radio Steering Committee met on February 28th to review the presentations made by the manufacturers and 911 system administrators in Washington. The unanimous consensus of the committee is to support replacement of the radio system. The Administration Board gave approval for TCOMM to hire a consultant and perform a radio study to ensure nothing was missed in the data and information collection. The consultant would also provide a cost/benefit analysis of whether TCOMM should purchase a stand-alone radio system or if it would be more beneficial to partner with another agency on their radio system. The Administrative Board agreed with the recommendations provided and directed staff to issue an RFP which published on March 26th and due back April 20th. A small evaluation team will review each response received and a recommendation will be presented at the May 3rd Administration Board Meeting.

Legislative Update- K. Flewelling provided the following legislative update to include:

- Substitute House Bill 1258 – This bill requires 911 centers to have an active display when there is a person with disabilities involved in the emergency location. The software needed would cost approximately \$25,000 to install and \$20,000 a year to maintain. The bill has been modified only requiring a feasibility study and had an impact to the 911 office of approximately \$43,000. The study is due back the end of 2018.

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- House Bill 1786 – This bill increases the membership of the State Interoperability Executive Committee to include a seat for 911. The bill passed and is on the governor’s desk for signature.
- House Bill 1284 – This bill creates a statewide school emergency panic button. Due to funding issues, this bill died in committee.

Text to 911 Update - W. Hill provided a brief update on text-to-911, which has been in place for one year in Thurston County (attachment):

- In 2016, 202 text messages were processed, of which 11 (5.4%) were valid text-to-911 messages (unable to speak or make a voice call).
- 21 (10.4%) emergency texts were received where a voice call could have been placed to 911 instead.
- The majority of texts received were classified as non-emergency. These categories included abandoned, prank, accidental, cell phone SOS, etc. W. Hill clarified when abandoned texts are received, TCOMM policy requires staff to text the individual back, asking if they can safely take a 911 call and to silence their phone.
- W. Hill reported a text-to-911 panel reviewed and discussed the data at the APCO-NENA Spring Forum and the data provided by each agency was comparable to the data from TCOMM.

Law Enforcement Priority 3 and 4 Notifications – W. Hill provided an updated status on the end of the trial period for no longer notifying LE agencies for pending priority 3 and 4 calls. She reported receiving positive feedback from TCOMM staff, FLAC members, and user agencies as well. No further discussion.

M/S/C to continue with the new procedure for Priority 3 and 4 Notifications. (J. Weiks/D. Pierpoint)

FirstNet/AT&T Partnership – K. Flewelling provided an update to FirstNet, reporting they selected AT&T, who will produce a statewide plan within the next six months for the state of Washington for the Nationwide Public Safety Network. Plan details will include coverage area, what kind of coverage, who will be allowed on the network and the costs at the subscriber level. Once the statewide plan is received, the governor has 90 days to opt in or opt out of the plan. If the state of Washington chooses to opt out, the state is still required to build a “FirstNet like” network that will connect to FirstNet on a nationwide basis while bearing all of the cost, liability, and installation of the required infrastructure. K. Flewelling reported a large number of vendors at the IWCE Conference marketed public safety applications and how it integrates with FirstNet to land mobile radio systems.

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It was conveyed that land mobile radios will be the backbone of public safety for the foreseeable future, but for command and specialized staff it may be just as effective to have push to talk cellular phones as there now exists software that integrates the phone directly into the radio system.

Operations Board Bylaws – K. Flewelling distributed the Operations Board Bylaws for review noting the Fire Liaison Committee and the LERUC Committees were combined on July 12th and approved by the Operations Board on November 22, 2016.

2016 TCOMM Annual Report – The 2016 TCOMM Annual Report was distributed to the board for review and comment.

Meeting adjourned at 1:41 p.m. Next meeting to be held Monday, May 15, 2017 @ 1:00 p.m.