

Thurston 911 Communications
Joint Operations Board & FLAC Meeting Minutes
Monday, September 21, 2020 @ 1:00 P.M.

The meeting was held via teleconference call.

Members Present:

Operations Board:

Steve Brooks – Lacey Fire District 3
John Weiks – Tumwater Police Department
Mike Buchanan – Olympia Fire Department
Kurt Hardin – Thurston County Medic One
Brian Hurley – Tumwater Fire Department
Aaron Jelcick – Olympia Police Department
Robert Almada – Lacey Police Department
Brian VanCamp - TC Fire Chiefs Association (South Bay Fire Department)

FLAC Members:

Gordon Phillips – Thurston County Sheriff's Office
Mark Nelson – East Olympia Fire Department
Chris Patti – McLane/Black Lake Fire Department
Ben Miller-Todd – Thurston County Medic One
Jim Mack – Lacey Police Department
Jen Schmidt – Lacey Fire District 3
Rich Allen – Olympia Police Department

TCOMM staff:

Keith Flewelling – Executive Director
Wendy Hill – Deputy Director
Bré Skaggs – Administrative Assistant
David Taylor – Radio Systems Manager
Landon Hansen – Radio Systems Technician
Jeremy Prine – Radio Systems Technician
Dana Spivey – Radio Systems Assistant
Jonica Elkins – Operations Supervisor
Susan Ronning – ADCOMM Engineering LLC, Owner & Principal Consultant
Scott Peabody - ADCOMM Engineering LLC, Sr. Consultant

Guests:

Scott Brownell – Thurston County Medic One
Ryan Cox – Lacey Fire District 3
Gary Phillips – Thurston County Sheriff's Office

Call to Order

M. Buchanan called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Review of Agenda & Minutes

M/S/C approval of the September 21, 2020 agenda (J. Weiks/R. Almada)

Thurston 911 Communications
Joint Operations Board & FLAC Meeting Minutes
Monday, September 21, 2020 @ 1:00 P.M.

M/S/C approval of August 17, 2020 Joint Ops/FLAC meeting minutes (J. Weiks/B. Hurley)

Correspondence – None

Public Testimony – None

Directors Update: K. Flewelling introduced the new Radio Systems department employees: Landon Hansen- Radio Systems Technician and Dana Spivey – Radio Systems Assistant.

Fleet mapping and radio template design are well underway, and internal meetings with dispatch staff are in progress. Once those meetings are complete the draft radio templates will be shared with Fire/EMS and Law agencies for further review and design. There will be one bank of channels dedicated to each agency for their own specific design and use.

A large part of the template will be interoperability channels. There will be talk groups that are specifically dedicated to interoperable communications with Pierce County and Washington State Patrol.

Encrypted talk groups will be available and more geared towards law enforcement specialty units. TCERN has gotten feedback from Seattle on the number of available interop channels during the riots, and they provided their recommendations on the amount that should be available so there will be enough encrypted channels for use when needed.

K. Flewelling stated he was unsure if there will be a large set of tactical talk groups for on-demand access or specific to each branch of public safety.

TCERN Radio Inventory and Needs Assessment

S. Peabody updated the group that he has completed about half of the agencies (in process or completed) to date. He anticipates the process will be completed in the next 3-4 weeks.

Operations:

None

FLAC:

Officer Initiated Calls Update: J. Elkins spoke about a few concerns from the dispatch perspective regarding self-dispatching. When officers add themselves to calls, it takes away an overall picture for the dispatcher in understanding the call and who is on it, making sure the type codes are correct, etc. Furthermore, a trial test with Olympia PD where they are entering their own dispo codes is in progress, and has resulted in calls being closed out by officers without dispatcher knowledge or the associated data work being completed. Discussion took place and was decided more research and work would be done offline.

Next meeting: November 16, 2020, at 1:00 pm