

Thurston 911 Communications
Operations Board Meeting Minutes
Monday, January 22, 2024 @ 1:00 P.M.

Meeting was held via Zoom and in person.

LAW ENFORCEMENT MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jon Weiks – Chair, Tumwater Police Department
Rob Carlson – Yelm Police Department
Rich Allen – Olympia Police Department
Dave Pearsall - Thurston County Sheriff's Office

FIRE SERVICE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jennifer Schmidt – Lacey Fire District 3
Shawn Crimmins – Tumwater Fire Department

TCOMM STAFF:

Wendy Hill – Executive Director
Jonica Elkins – Deputy Director
Aaron Moe - Human Resources Manager
Tim Klotz – Information Services Manager
Bre Skaggs – Administrative Assistant

GUESTS:

Tillman Atkins – Yelm Police Department
Chris Patti - McLane Black Lake Fire Department
Eric Forsythe – American Medical Response

Call to Order

Operations Chair, Jon Weiks called the meeting to order at 1300 hrs.

Approval of Agenda & Minutes

Approval of January 22, 2024 Agenda. (D. Pearsall)
Approval of the November 20, 2023 Operations meeting minutes M/S/C (D. Pearsall)

Correspondence - None

Public Testimony - None

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

IT. Services – T. Klotz stated that interviews for the Network Security Analyst position will be taking place later this week.

Radio Systems – W. Hill provided a brief update of current TCERN system progress.

Site Work – The Radio Systems team is on site at the Bald Hills location preparing it not only for the new system and the VHF overlay but to work on getting power to the site, including a solar option. There are two sites that have not yet begun construction. The special use permit for Fire Station 82 was acquired in September 2023 and now it's up to Motorola to apply for the actual building permit.

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The DuPont site is being held up at JBLM by the approval process of the site lease. Cutover to the new system is still anticipated for June of this year with the VHF overlay happening by the end of 2024.

Subscriber Equipment – The subscriber “true Up” order placed with Motorola in 2023 should arrive soon. Impacted agencies will be contacted when the equipment is ready for distribution.

Interoperability – Meetings with Pierce County and Washington State Patrol for improved interoperability on the new system have been productive, with discussions around the technical aspects, talk groups, case uses for operations, and operational impacts.

FLAC Subcommittee Report – J. Elkins gave a few highlights from the last FLAC meeting. The HIRL Drill that took place on November 1st went well and a lot of good feedback was received. Agencies stated the live Zoom link was really helpful and asked that the link be shared 24-hours in advance of the drill in Spring 2024 so any technical difficulties can be worked out prior to the drill taking place. The other item discussed was the emergency button use for Fire Agencies which they opted to make changes to. Further discussion from the FLAC and Operations Board is needed before proceeding.

Old Business

Staffing Update – W. Hill stated the January Academy began last week with four new hires. There are four academies scheduled for 2024. Recruitment is in process for the IT Network Security Analyst position, and a Radio Technician recruitment will begin soon.

New Business

TCERN Non-Member Users – W. Hill stated that TCOMM has been approached by other agencies to be a user on the new radio system. A formal policy has been written and approved by the Administration Board to provide guidelines on how to proceed when TCOMM receives these requests.

Meeting adjourned: With no further business or good of the order, the Board meeting adjourned at 1:13 pm.

Next Meeting: February 26, 2024 at 1:00 pm