

Thurston 911 Communications
Operations Board Meeting Minutes
Monday, April 20, 2026, 2026 @ 1:00 P.M.

Meeting was held via Zoom and in person.

LAW ENFORCEMENT MEMBERS PRESENT:

Robert Almada –Chair, Lacey Police Department
Rob Carlson – Yelm Police Department
Ruben Mancillas – Thurston County Sheriff's Office
Shelby Parker – Olympia Police Department
Ken Driver – Tumwater Police Department

FIRE SERVICE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jennifer Schmidt – Vice Chair, Lacey Fire District 3
Hillory Flowers – Olympia Fire Department
Ben Miller-Todd – Thurston County Medic One
Brian Hurley –Tumwater Fire Department
Brian Van Camp - Thurston County Fire District 8

TCOMM STAFF:

Wendy Hill – Executive Director
Jonnica Elkins – Deputy Director
Tim Klotz – I.T. Manager
David Taylor – Radio Systems Manager
Bre Skaggs – Admin Assistant

GUESTS:

Shawn Crimmins – FLAC Chair, Tumwater Fire Department
Todd Carson - Lacey Fire District 3
Nathan Drake – West Thurston Fire Authority

Call to Order

Operations Chair, R. Almada called the meeting to order at 1300 hrs.

Approval of Agenda & Minutes

Approval of the April 20, 2026 agenda was approved with the addition of the "HIRL Review" under J. Elkins.
M/S/C (B. Miller-Todd/J. Schmidt).

Approval of the March 16, 2026, minutes were approved with a correction to B. Van Camp's agency, noting he represents South Bay Fire District 8. **M/S/C (J. Schmidt/B. Van Camp).**

Correspondence – None

Public Testimony - None

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

I.T. Services – T. Klotz reported that CentralSquare was finally able to recreate the MobileCom 6 crashing issue after reviewing live system logs. A fix is currently in the vendor's QA process and will move to TCOMM's test environment shortly. A fiber optic repair managed by the City of Olympia was successfully completed on April 4th; TCOMM's systems successfully rolled over to Comcast fiber during the downtime.

Thurston 911 Communications
Operations Board Meeting Minutes
Monday, April 20, 2026, 2026 @ 1:00 P.M.

Radio Systems – D. Taylor noted the Motorola contract extension to June 30th to finalize site projects and close-out documentation. DVRS deployments are expected to begin in May. New ERCES systems have been added at U-Line in Lacey and the Costco Warehouse in Tumwater. Radio Systems staff are also investigating law audio profiles to address inconsistent volume levels and finalizing the decommissioning of five VHF legacy sites. Members discussed radio repair protocols following the end of the White Glove warranty, noting that agencies will likely use Day Wireless for future repairs.

FLAC Subcommittee Report – S. Crimmins reported the group met last week and discussed changes to the Water Comms plan and hospital communications. They addressed a "blind spot" in hospital radio usage during a previous phone line outage and are focusing on education for newer hospital staff.

Old Business

None.

New Business

Automatic Command Channel for WATER – J. Elkins and S. Crimmins proposed adding Water Type Codes (WATERA, WATERB, WATERF, and WATERR), after a recent discussion at FLAC, to the automatic command channel assignments. This ensures large-scale water events have immediate, dedicated communication channels. **M/S/C (J. Schmidt/R. Mancillas).**

HIRL Review – J. Elkins reviewed the High Incident Response Load (HIRL) drill held that morning. It was one of the largest drills to date with high agency participation. Lessons learned included the need for a more experienced dispatcher to pair with newer dispatchers during high-load events. Plans for the Fall drill include integrating hospital radio reports.

Meeting adjourned: With no further business or good of the order, the meeting adjourned at 1:17 pm.

Next Meeting: May 18, 2026 at 1:00 pm