

Regular Meeting Minutes
Spokane Regional Emergency Communications Governing Board
June 17, 2021

1. Call to Order and Roll Call 7:30 a.m.

Chief Bryan Collins called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m. The following Board members were in attendance:

Board Members – via Zoom

Chief Bryan Collins – Spokane Valley Fire Department (Chair)
Sheriff Ozzie Knezovich – Spokane County Sheriff's Office (Vice Chair)
Chief Randy Johnson – Spokane County Fire District 4
Chief Cody Rohrbach – Spokane County Fire District 3
Chief Brad Richmond – Airway Heights Police Department
Chief Dave Ellis – Spokane Valley Police Department
Scott Simmons – Spokane County

Staff – via Zoom

Lori Markham, Executive Director
Kim Arredondo, Deputy Director
Tim Henry, Finance Manager
Bob Schwent, Technical Services Manager
Brad Kane, Dispatch Operations Manager
Heather Wood, 911 Operations Manager
Jon Adams – Training Manager
Patrick Erickson, Communication and Media Manager
Cherell Yates, Office Manager
Jenni Folden, Finance Analyst

Auxiliary Partners / Guests – via Zoom

Assistant Chief Howard Johnson, SCFD4
Lt. Alan Arnzen, SPD
Laura McAloon, McAloon Law Offices
Chief Brian Schaeffer, City of Spokane
Chief Lonnie Rash, SCFD 8
Chief Tom Williams, City of Spokane

2. Consent Agenda

Randy Johnson motioned to approve the minutes from the May 20, 2021 regular meeting minutes. Brad Richmond seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

3. Action Items

a. SREC Strategic Plan

Lori Markham presented the Strategic Plan and explained the final draft was sent out late last night. The information is the same as seen in previous presentations with the addition of an introduction letter from Lori. She asked the Board for approval of the Strategic Plan, but stated since the final version was just provided last night the Board may need some more time to review. Bryan Collins asked the Board if anyone was opposed to waiting and adding this as an agenda item to next month's Board meeting. Dave Ellis stated if the information is the same he is okay taking a vote today. Brian Schaeffer commented that from a citizen's viewpoint the Strategic Plan is spot on, very professional and well done. Bryan Collins asked, if there were no objections, the Board wanted to make a motion to approve the Strategic Plan. Ozzie Knezovich motioned to approve the Strategic Plan. Brad Richmond seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Bryan Collins thanked everyone for their work on the plan and all the hours that went into it. The plan lays out great goals for SREC for the next few years and accomplishing those goals will put SREC in a good place.

4. New Business

a. Portable Radio Purchase

Bob Schwent stated the request is to begin the phased portable replacement project that has been budgeted for. The amount is roughly \$801,000 and the quote includes; 50 radios for law enforcement and 50 radios for fire personnel, and end of quarter discounts. Ozzie Knezovich motioned to approve the radio purchase. Brad Richmond seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

5. Old Business

a. SREC Policy 104-1 POL Membership

Lori Markham explained this is the policy that has been worked on with BDS, and the Board had a first look at it during the May meeting. This version includes the feedback and suggestions she received, including clearly spelling out crime check as one of the services provided by SREC. Lori asked the Board to have an in-depth conversation before formalizing this policy as it is important to have details clearly lined out and consistent for those wanting to join SREC in any capacity. One of the main issues is seats on the Governing Board as that is something determined by the BoCC. Bryan Collins suggested taking the policy to the BoCC before adopting. Randy Johnson agreed to bringing the policy to the BoCC for review and weighing in on how long an agency would need to be with SREC before receiving a seat on the Governing Board. Bryan added he would also like to hear different perspectives on the timing issue and would like a parallel document of the rate formula to accompany the policy for easy reference.

Randy asked if there was further discussion/decision on if a new agency coming in would have buy-in since they were not a part of building SREC from startup. Bryan added this would be addressed during the cost analysis phase when an agency requests to join SREC. Lori stated those capital concerns can be defined and laid out under the terms of the cost analysis. Laura McAloon added the policy currently states only agencies outside of Spokane County are subject to the cost analysis, so that would have to be redefined to include all agencies under section 2a. Scott Simmons stated he believes it is a good strategy to bring to the BoCC for review and input, it does not need to be a deep dive into the policy, but an overview. He reiterated the importance of making the edit and capturing not just out of County entities regarding the cost analysis. Ozzie Knezovich stated the 1/10th of 1% sales tax has been paid by all of Spokane County residents with regard to a potential buy-in amount and to be careful not to ask them to pay twice. Lori explained further discussion will be needed around this when in the actual cost analysis phase.

b. Tyler CAD Upgrade

Lori Markham explained issues are continuing from the upgrade in April. Tyler was on-site the last couple days to sit in and see the issues as they are happening. One of the main issues is a 30 second, to sometimes 3-5-minute delay in getting calls and information out. SREC waited a long time for the upgrade because there were so many issues with the last upgrade, which some of those are still not even resolved. There is always a struggle with Tyler to get issues resolved and with every upgrade it takes several months for SREC to get even some of the issues resolved. SREC included the need for a new CAD system in the Strategic Plan. Ozzie Knezovich reiterated his dissatisfaction with Tyler and stated Spokane Police Department is not happy either and is considering a possible replacement. Lori explained that moving forward she would like to see SREC be the manager of the CAD system and have the ability to focus its

attention on it. New World is such a large product and serves different agencies, getting different requests, navigating multiple networks, etc. This would allow one voice instead of many different voices and one network instead of many different networks CAD is utilizing; it would be stored solely on the SREC network. Bryan Collins asked if the discussion is being generated by, led by, SREC or the Spokane Police Department. He stressed the need to have a CAD system that is compatible with both Law and Fire needs. Ozzie clarified SPD is looking and weighing options, the Sheriff's office is part of those discussions and they are very cognizant of the need to have a system that works for both Law and Fire operations. The discussions are in the very beginning stages and it might be a good idea to put a work group together with the law and fire groups, SREC and records, to address the CAD issue. Dave Ellis commented he believed the Core Team was discussing CAD in its meetings. Lori replied there has been discussion regarding a company specific to body cam footage, but not specifically the CAD component, or that included Fire EMS. Bryan agreed SREC should manage the CAD system so the vendor is dealing with a single entity rather than multiple ones. He suggested moving forward with a workgroup and take a serious look at the future of CAD. Lori stated she will update the Core Team and let them know what the plan is going forward.

Bryan asked if the current delays in CAD since the upgrade are random, or consistent. Kim Arredondo explained they are random occurrences, it does effect chat messaging as well. Kim furthered when contacting County IT regarding the latency issues they are receiving a good response. Scott Simmons added he was glad to hear County IT was being responsive and working to resolve the issues when they arise and stated to reach out to him at any point if that isn't the case, especially given the sensitivity of the systems.

c. CopLogic Update

Heather Wood explained on June 10th there was a kick off meeting for Spokane Valley PD to go-live, go-live should actually happen next week. Next on the agenda is Spokane Police Department, which will take about a month once started and then Liberty Lake which will also take about a month. There have not been a whole lot of reports submitted for the Sheriff's Office yet, but not surprising since majority of the reports come from the City. Lori explained Patrick will do a big media campaign when all the agencies are live. Lori thanked Heather for her amazing work on this project.

6. Staff Reports

a. Operations

Kim Arredondo stated a new 911 class starts next week with three new hires and aiming for a class of four in August. As of last week, Fire is now fully staffed. A trainee did step down in Law dispatch for personal reasons and will move back at a later date. Two other employees are slated to move into law dispatch in August, which will leave staffing at 91% overall in August. After some State E911 meetings it sounds like there are hiring dilemmas across the board, so SREC is in a good place at the moment.

Kim explained Fire stats were able to be pulled and there is a 9 second savings since transitioning fire calls to 911. At the end of fire season there should be good data to show the overall stats. The last report technician position was filled in July, so Report Technicians are fully staffed at eight.

b. Technical

Bob Schwent stated they are still down three positions overall. The GIS Analyst position looks to have a lot of qualified candidates, but it is not the same for the IT and radio positions. IT continues to work on the technology refresh. The radio shop is working on

the jail radio replacement and wrapping up programming for fire. Bob explained he has been working with those who have not been in for reprogramming from the law side. He has a new contact at SPD and is working to get the rest of those individuals in. There will be a brief outage on June 22, 2021, notification was sent out on Monday. It will be a brief outage of the simulcast, not the whole system, the biggest impact will be to the fire station alerting. It is part of the microwave upgrade that was scheduled previously but had to be cancelled due to Motorola issues. This is part of the Geo redundant prime site, which is an integral part of the system.

c. Finance

Tim Henry stated finance is working on current year reporting for the Board and continuing work on the 2022 budget and CIP and making modifications due to revenue potential changes in revenue streams. The team is also taking the time to work on internal controls and self-assessments.

d. Administration

Lori Markham stated now that the Strategic Plan is done we are focusing on the remodel that is needed for the fire and law group. We have received first drawings from Evans Consoles, which are the current consoles in other areas of the building, and preliminary mockups. Based on the drawings we could gain anywhere from 4-7 positions if arranged just right. We had some changes and sent those back to Evans for revision. Once we have received a few good options we will present those to the employees and let them vote on what they believe the best setup would be. SREC was able to present to the fire science classes at Spokane Community College, and let them hear about what we do and how we do, and how it impacts their jobs and if they possibly want to take a different career path. SREC is grateful for the opportunity for that relationship and connection.

Ozzie Knezovich reminded the group that HB1155 takes effect next month and he would like to get a packet together in preparation for having meetings with the City of Spokane in August. He explained SREC is a new entity and this is about joining SREC, not redesigning what has already being done. Scott Simmons stated the bill is effective July 25, 2021 and the Executive Committee will be getting together and scheduling meetings to start gather those documents and data in July.

7. Open/Public Comment

No public comments.

8. Closed Meeting to Discuss Matters with Legal Counsel Related to Potential Litigation


As allowed by RCW 42.30.110 (1)(i)

No closed meeting.

9. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:11 a.m.

The next Regular Governing Board meeting is scheduled for July 15, 2021 at 7:30 a.m.

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Board Member
Governing Board

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