

Regular Meeting Minutes
Spokane Regional Emergency Communications Governing Board
March 17, 2022

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

Sheriff Ozzie Knezovich called the meeting to order at 7:32 a.m. The following Board members were in attendance:

Board Members

Sheriff Ozzie Knezovich – Spokane County Sheriff's Office (Chair)
Chief Cody Rohrbach – Spokane County Fire District 3 (Vice Chair)
Assistant Chief Howard Johnson – Spokane County Fire District 4
Chief Dave Ellis – Spokane Valley Police Department
Chief Brad Richmond – Airway Heights Police Department
Scott Simmons – Spokane County
Gayne Sears – Citizen Representative

Staff

Lori Markham, Executive Director
Kim Arredondo, Deputy Director
Tim Henry, Finance Manager
Bob Schwent, Technical Services Manager
Brad Kane, Dispatch Operations Manager
Heather Thompson, 911 Operations Manager
Jon Adams, Training Manager
Patrick Erickson, Communication and Media Manager
Bryce Leming, IT Manager
Cherell Yates, Office Manager
Jenni Folden, Finance Analyst
Trish Weitz, Communications Officer

Auxiliary Partners / Guests

Laura McAloon, McAloon Law Offices
Chief Lonnie Rash, SCFD 8
Chief Brian Schaffer, SFD
Todd Mielke, SCSO

2. Consent Agenda

Cody Rohrbach motioned to approve the minutes from the February 17, 2022 regular meeting. Howard Johnson seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

3. Action Items

a. Edmo Quote

Bob Schwent stated the quote was included in the Board packet. Bob explained the quote is part of the replacement project for the helicopter radios and has already been budgeted for. Lori Markham reminded the Board the project had already gone through the RFP process last fall. Howard Johnson motioned to approve the purchase. Scott Simmons seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

b. Motorola Quote

Bob Schwent explained the quote was included in the Board packet and is to replace 250 portable radios as part of the budgeted radio replacement plan. The radios include Bluetooth capability and will be primarily used for Fire agencies. Cody Rohrbach explained there was a discussion during the Finance Committee that the radio life

expectancy rate has been better than projected. Bob added they have experienced a low failure rate and will continue to use and support the older radios. Bob anticipates the new radios will be in service for 7-10 years. Cody Rohrbach motioned to approve the purchase. Scott Simmons seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

c. Lumen Quote

Lori Markham stated the quote was included in the Board packet. The quote is for two additional Vesta stations in the dispatch room. Lori reminded the Board the remodel project collocated Fire and Law dispatch into one room, creating a need for two additional stations. Scott Simmons motioned to approve the purchase. Cody Rohrbach seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

d. MCM Technology Quote

Lori Markham explained SREC is in need of a tracking software, mainly for the radio shop in order to track the work and hours the technicians are providing and where, for who, the work is being done. Bob Schwent added the software is a Motorola compatible system and can interface with the radio system, management system, and provide a work order system to see what and where technician time is being spent. The software will also allow data collection on the time and usage of the radio system itself. Ozzie Knezovich asked if it would help in providing data on the Northside bandwidth. Bob explained that it would show what sites are busy, when they are getting busy, etc., and help produce clear and concise data output. Ozzie reminded the Board there has been a decade long conversation surrounding radio capacity on the Northside, the County will continue to grow and radio traffic will only continue to increase. Bob explained it is a capacity issue, not a coverage issue; for example, during the Freeman School shooting the Northside busied out because users were signing on to monitor the traffic. Scott Simmons asked if this software will help assess the needs and determine proper course moving forward. Bob responded that it will provide a lot of data to help determine next steps. Cody Rohrbach motioned to approve the purchase. Howard Johnson seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

4. **New Business**

a. Spokane Valley Fire Department Board Position

Lori Markham explained Chief Bryan Collins' retired earlier this month and thanked him for all his help and support serving as the Chairman of the SREC Governing Board. Chief Collins retirement left the Spokane Valley position on the SREC Board vacant and will now be filled by Chief Frank Soto, Jr. Lori welcomed Chief Soto to the Board.

5. **Old Business**

a. ADCOMM Update

Lori Markham stated she had no further update. She stated there was a conversation with her, Dave Ellis and ADCOMM in which Dave was able to answer some questions and fill in some gaps. Lori thanked Dave for his time and help and will present the report to the Board once she receives it from ADCOMM. Ozzie Knezovich added they will be breaking ground for the new Sheriff's facility on April 13, 2022.

b. HB1155 Update

Scott Simmons explained he had a meeting with the City of Spokane and a couple Council Members. The conversation was high level, concerning equitable apportionment of the 1/10th of 1% sales tax the bill sets forth. Scott added the bill does not provide a lot of description on how the calculations are to be determined. There are some triggering mechanisms in the bill around population points. One way could be based on population of the County, roughly 43% in the City of Spokane. The City offered a different approach using sales tax origination, according to their numbers, would be

about 48%. Scott encouraged them to reach out to the SREC Board and Management and what it would like for them to receive services and what those costs would be. This way they would have a true understanding on the potential amount of 1/10th monies coming in and the cost of receiving the services SREC provides. Lori added she received a call from the City Administrator yesterday requesting a meeting. Lori stated she would like to have that meeting take place with the Executive Committee, but asked if anyone else wanted to join to please let her know.

6. Staff Reports

a. Operations

Kim Arredondo thanked Bryce Leming and his team for their tremendous work on the remodel project. A video of the progression of the project will be sent to the Board members once compiled. Kim explained crime check reports are caught up and citizens are being called back within about a day. Recruitment is underway for two more report technicians as the number of reports continues to grow. The CopLogic project is finally complete after three years. Kim thanked Heather for all her hard work on getting the online reporting up and running, it is averaging about 700-800 reports a month.

911 has two academies running concurrently, one group at the CCB and the other at the BUC. One of the trainees in Law dispatch is nearing the end of her training and one Law dispatcher lateraled to Spokane City Police Dispatch, creating critical staffing in Law dispatch. Ozzie Knezovich asked why the dispatcher decided to move and work for City Dispatch. Kim explained there were a variety of reasons, one being the money; the City offers significant more pay. Kim explained current staffing levels include; ten vacancies in 911, two report technician vacancies, six vacancies in Law, and fully staffed in Fire. The recruitment push continues and applications are coming in, but the struggle is applicants failing the background and testing phases. The next 911 academy is scheduled for May.

b. Technical

Bob Schwent reiterated the great work done by the team on the remodel project. The radio shop has been addressing recent paging issues in the South County, and working with the CAD vendor as some of the issues stemmed from there, not just the radio side. A working group has started to look at how the radio system is used, discuss training needs, talk groups and capacity questions. The workgroup is primarily made up of representatives from the law agencies, but intended for all users. Bob is continuing to work on policies surrounding requirements for in building coverage for first responders.

c. Finance

Tim Henry stated the team is focused on 2021-year end filing, and a draft report will be brought to the Board next month. Tim explained there has been a delay with the County and questions on what the revenue sources are. Work is continuing on the six-year CIP and radio infrastructure inventory is wrapping up.

d. Human Resources

No report.

e. Administration

Lori Markham explained her team has begun the process of looking at CAD consultants for the RFP development and reminded the Board, SREC is looking to bring in an outside consultant to conduct a needs assessment and once the assessment is complete help with the RFP and selection process. Lori emphasized the need to ensure the process is done right and a CAD system selected that will fit the needs of both Law and Fire agencies.

7. Open/Public Comment

No open/public comment.

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.

Closed Meeting to Discuss Matters Related to Collective Bargaining


As allowed by RCW 42.30.140 (4)(a)

No closed meeting.


9. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 7:58 a.m.

The next Regular Governing Board meeting is scheduled for April 21, 2022 at 7:30 a.m.



Board Member
Governing Board



Board Member
Governing Board