

Regular Meeting Minutes  
Spokane Regional Emergency Communications Governing Board  
January 16, 2025

**1. Call to Order and Roll Call**

Chief Cody Rohrbach called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. The following Board members were in attendance:

Board Members

Chief Cody Rohrbach – Spokane County Fire District 3 (Chair)  
Chief Brad Richmond – Airway Heights Police Department (Vice Chair)  
Undersheriff Michael Kittilstved – Spokane County Sheriff's Department  
Assistant Chief Sean Walter – Spokane Valley Police Department  
Assistant Chief Tom Williams – Spokane Fire Department  
Chief Frank Soto, Jr. – Spokane Valley Fire Department  
Assistant Chief Howard Johnson – Spokane County Fire District 4  
Scott Simmons – Spokane County  
Maggie Yates – City of Spokane  
Gayne Sears – Citizen Representative

Staff

Lori Markham, Executive Director  
Kim Arredondo, Deputy Director  
Dusty Patrick, Technical Services Director  
Brandon Childs, Project Manager  
Tim Henry, Finance Manager  
Jeff Tower, HR Manager

Auxiliary Partners

Brian Werst, WBM  
Jeff Galloway, WBM  
Lonnie Rash, SCFD 8

**2. Consent Agenda**

John Nowels motioned to approve the minutes from the December 19, 2024, regular meeting. Dave Ellis seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**3. Action Items**

a. New Facility Design Build Recommendation

Lonnie Rash presented the building subcommittee's recommendation to enter the validation phase for the progressive design build for the new facility with Bouten/ALSC. Scott Simmons motioned to approve the recommendation and enter into the validation phase with Bouten/ALSC. John Nowels seconded. All were in favor. Maggie Yates and Tom Williams abstained. Motion carried.

b. City of Spokane Update

Cody Rohrbach summarized the following since the last Board meeting:

- December 17, 2024, received letter from the City of Spokane to join the regional CAD system.
- SREC transition team responded back that clarification was needed; are they joining CAD as a regional partner or a separate entity? Included a January 10, 2025, deadline and desire to see their dispatch costs.

- City responded on January 10, 2025, asking why the accelerated timeline on CAD system, new facility and phone system and asked to remain status quo for 2025 with the City joining the new CAD system.
- On January 10, 2025, House Bill 1258 was filed with the House of Representatives for the apportionment of 911 tax dollars to the City of Spokane.

Each Board member spoke to their perspectives most were in agreement that the last response from the City and the introduction of the house bill and its new language around call volume is a sign of bad faith and the City has no intentions of joining the regional system and this cannot continue status quo. Frank Soto motioned to have the SREC Board make a recommendation to the BoCC that the City of Spokane separate from SREC and become their own PSAP by January 1, 2026. John Nowels seconded. There was continued discussion. Cody Rohrbach, Brad Richmond, Scott Simmons, John Nowels, Dave Ellis, Frank Soto and Howard Johnson were in favor. Maggie Yates and Tom Willimas were opposed. Motion carried.

Frank Soto made a motion to have the SREC Board recommend to the BoCC to that the City of Spokane's City Administrator and Fire Chief positions be removed from the SREC Governing Board as soon as feasible. John Nowels seconded with discussion. The discussion surrounded the intent behind 'as soon as feasible', is that when SREC is no longer providing services to the City of Spokane? There was also discussion that the Board's is willing to apportion tax dollars fairly, but the way the current house bill is written as based on call volume, it is not equitable. Cody Rohrbach restated the motion. Frank Soto said 'aye', the rest of the Board was opposed. Motion does not carry.

Cody Rohrbach stated that there still needs to be a response back to the City of Spokane from their January 10<sup>th</sup> email. Cody stated that previous action has empowered the Executive team to respond to the City and asked if that was still the intent of the Board. The group agreed. Cody summarized the action items are to send a recommendation to the BoCC that reflects the first motion and respond to the City's January 10<sup>th</sup> email.

The group agreed to also revisit the motion to remove the City positions from the SREC Board as the process moves further along and the City works towards standing up their own PSAP.

#### **4. New Business**

No new business.

#### **5. Old Business**

##### **a. CAD Update**

Brandon Childs explained core workshops have wrapped up and next month will begin the mobile build workshop. Dusty Patrick will be taking over the CAD project. Go live still projected for October 2025. Maggie Yates clarified the City of Spokane will still be joining the new CAD system.

##### **b. Facility Update**

Lori Markham updated the Board that the building did close at the end of 2024 and SREC is in possession of the keys. There will be a couple open houses for employees in the next few weeks. If you'd like a tour of the building let Lori know. Scott Simmons explained the design build process and validation phase.

## 6. Staff Reports

### a. Operations

Kim Arredondo presented the operations report. There was a substantial increase in crime check reports which is hopefully correlated to the public education being pushed out. ACE accreditation paperwork has been submitted. Next academy is scheduled for January 27, 2025. The CAD group is working on QR codes for these reports for member agencies to share out to their Boards.

### b. Technical

Dusty Patrick explained the radio shop has completed installing the second helicopter radio.

### c. Finance

Tim Henry explained work continues on closing out 2024 and setting up 2025.

### d. Human Resources

Jeff Tower stated as of December 27, 2024, the new facility is insured. WCIA quarterly meeting is scheduled for tomorrow. Negotiations continue, two groups are voting in the next week and the supervisors group voted down their contract.

### e. Administration

Lori Markham stated focus remains on the new facility and the City of Spokane.

## 7. Open/Public Comment

Scott Tschirgi presented his statement, see attached.

Lonnie Rash stated he understands the Board's decision today and asked that as operational transitions are assigned to be mindful as there are operational issues needed to be addressed when discussing auto and mutual aid which does impact citizens. This is a request and reminder to engage those agencies when having operational changes relative to the radio systems and continuity of operations.

## 8. Executive Session

No executive session.

## 9. Adjourn

Adjourned at 9:10 a.m.

The next Regular Governing Board meeting is scheduled for, February 20, 2025, at 8:00 a.m.



Board Member  
Governing Board



Board Member  
Governing Board