



METCOM 9-1-1

Governing Board Meeting Minutes

March 19, 2024

Members in Attendance:

Jay Alley
Jim Anglemier
Joe Budge
Jack Carriger
Mark Daniel
Jordan Donat
Levi Eckhardt
Todd Engstrom
Daniam Flowers
Gwen Johns
Bill Miles
Don Parise
Don Taylor
Keith Veit

Other in Attendance

Jake Cox – Day Wireless
Patrick Hoover – MC Radio Project Manager
Nick Hunter - MCSO

METCOM

Wendy Patterson
Mark Spross

In Attendance via Zoom:

Sherry Bensema
Brandon Hamilton
Alan Hume
Michael Kahrmann

Bryan Lee
Dan Mullen
William Nightingale
Martin Pilcher
Jim Trierweiler

METCOM regular Governing Board meeting called to order at 10:00 AM with a quorum met by members present, absentee ballot and via Zoom.

The Board meeting was opened by Chief Mark Daniel.

The February 13, 2024, Board meeting minutes were provided to Board members via email and available in hard copy form or by request at the meeting. Members asked if there were any changes to the minutes provided. None were voiced. The motion to accept the minutes were made as follows:

- Don Taylor made a motion to accept the February 13, 2024, Board Meeting minutes.
- Second by James Anglemier
- Discussion: None. Motion passed, no opposition.

Radio Project update:

Patrick Hoover, Marion County Radio Project Coordinator, attended via zoom. Patrick advised an extension to the RFP due date was granted to Friday, March 22nd, 2024. Mark Spross advised that the County has been asking people to join a selection committee. Mark Spross is unable to participate due to significant conflicts on committee meeting dates. Sherry Bensema will represent METCOM on the Selection Committee. Selection Committee meetings are anticipated to run through the first week of May.

METCOM is still in the same position with the County Commissioners regarding joining the radio project as we have been in the past. The County believes the \$950k received via ARPA funds from the Senator's office is theirs regardless of if we come onto the system, however if we do, these funds will be earmarked for our user radios.

First Net:

Mark has received communication from agencies about their interest in some of the technology that is provided by First Net that could enhance radio communications. First Net should be at the June Board meeting to provide a presentation walk through the technology and tools they have available. This works through the AT&T cell system. A guess is initial equipment would cost between \$40 - \$60k; per device monthly fees are believed to be between \$40 and \$50 dollars.

2024-25 Budget:

Michael Kahrmann was available to answer questions the Board may have regarding the 2024/25 budget proposed and discussed at the February meeting. If no questions, entertain a motion. No questions were presented.

Joe Budge – Motioned to approve the budget as presented.

Damian Flowers – seconded the motion.

Opened for additional discussion. None presented.

Motion passed, all in attendance approved. Supermajority accounted for.

No opposition.

Absentee ballots provided: William Nightingale, Dan Mullen, Fred Patterson.

User Fee Formula:

At the time NORCOM and SCCC consolidated to form METCOM, it appears the user fees were based on calls for service for both police and fire. In addition, there was some cost "smoothing" performed for some agencies due to the cost of the fees. This was voted on and approved by the Board with a note (in 2013) that this would be readdressed by the Board at a later date. There has been great conversation regarding user fees. However, a new formula has not yet been designated. Mark Spross would like to form a committee who would continue to work through this year to bring back a formula to the Board to vote on. It is anticipated that the committee will meet once or twice per month. The following Board members volunteered to work on the User Fee Committee:

Damian Flowers - Police
Michael Kahrmann - Fire
Martin Pilcher - Police
Alan Hume - Fire

Levi Eckhardt - Fire
Mark Daniel - Police
Joe Budge - Fire

Recruitment Updates:

Mark Spross provided the following recruitment updates for METCOM.

As of January 2024; 174 Critical links were sent to potential applicants, 53 Critical assessments were completed, 43 moved forward and completed the ECOMM testing, 22 applicants moved forward to the interview process.

There has been a higher failure rate in the backgrounds and pre-employment psych process than we have experienced in the past. Currently we have 4 actively in the background process and 4 more getting ready to advance to backgrounds.

House Mountain Update:

Last fall, in September 2023, a fire occurred at the house mountain site. This was due to the faulty installation of the generator. METCOM, Stayton Fire and Santiam Hospital experienced equipment losses and have submitted claims to Marion County. These agencies did not receive communication from the county in response to these claims. METCOM reached out to the County and was advised that the claim will be denied because METCOM did not have a lease agreement with the County to have the equipment at the location. However, Mark Schumacher with Complete Wireless, advised METCOM that the County has ordered a

combiner as a replacement for the one destroyed in the fire. The original combiner was owned by METCOM. METCOM has submitted a claim through our insurance company for this loss.

Q: Is it true that METCOM did not have a lease?

A: Yes

Q: Will METCOM have a lease in the future?

A: Most sites we have with the County do not have a lease agreement, so this was unexpected.

Q: Is this the type of communication we can expect if we partner with the County with the radio project?

A: The County can be a difficult political partnership, but fiscally it may be good for us. We will need to see how communication and opportunities for partnership are as we move forward.

CAD Maintenance:

On June 12, 2024, METCOM will have a large version update. CAD will be down for several hours starting at 0300 hours. The update will allow for police to have more capabilities to enter information into different fields, particularly the person's side.

Q: There were some issues with the ESO connection after the last update. Is there anything we can do to be proactive to head this off this time?

A: Mark Spross will follow up on this. *Follow up – After the meeting it was learned from Woodburn IT that there is not expected to be any impact to ESO.*

Q: Can we check with IT to schedule a time for them to work on any computers that may need to have updates performed "hands on?"

A: Mark will check with IT. Mark Spross asked if agencies had any other questions regarding the update to send them to him. *Follow up – After the meeting Woodburn IT advised that in most cases computers should update once the officers respond to the update message they will receive. If a computer does not update, they will need to contact Woodburn IT for assistance.*

Legislative Updates:

HB 4115: 911 was never talked to about this House Bill. This bill would allow supervisors to become part of bargaining units. METCOM supervisors are not eligible due to their ability to hand down economic sanctions.

HB 4045: This bill is to try and allow 911 into a separate retirement that is similar to police and fire for PERS. If this passes, it would look back to 2019, with a start date of 2030. This would adjust the retirement age from 65 years to 60. This has not yet been signed by the governor.

Open Discussion:

- Telcomm week is the week of April 14th, 2024.
- Sheriff Hunter: Hopes to have the CAD connection between WVCC and METCOM working by the end of April, however no hard date has been established.
- The June 4th, 2024, Board Meeting requires a Supermajority as we will be voting to adopt the 2024/25 FY budget.

Future Meeting Dates:

All meetings will start at 1000 hours.

June 4, 2024 (Supermajority vote for Budget adoption– Mt. Angel Fire)

September 17, 2024 @ METCOM

November 19, 2024 @ TBA

Chair Mark Daniel Closed the meeting and adjourned @ 1057.