

UNAPPROVED MINUTES

Joint Meeting Clark County Law Enforcement/Emergency Management Committee and Finance Committee

The meeting was held on May 24, 2016 in the County Board Room (Room 501) at the Clark County Courthouse in Neillsville.

Finance Chairman Rueth called the meeting to order at 1:07 PM.

Roll Call

Finance Members Present: Roll call taken with the following members present: Wayne Hendrickson, Mark Renderman, Chuck Rueth, Fred Schindler, and Joe Waichulis.

Law Enforcement/Emergency Management Members Present: Roll call taken with the following members present: Doris Bakker, Gordon Haselow, Scott Jalling, and Frieda Rollins.

Finance Members Absent: None.

Law Enforcement/Emergency Management Members Absent: Dale Mitte.

Attendance

Others in attendance some time during the meeting were as follows: Abbotsford Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Chief Nixdorf, Chief Deputy Hirsch, City of Loyal Representative Pieper, Comptroller Domaszek, Clark County Press Representative Curtin, Dorchester Police Chief Leichtman, Emergency Management Director Ross, Greenwood Area Ambulance Director Horn, Neillsville Police Chief Klueckmann, Northway Communications Representative Pagenkopf, Northway Communications Representative Schwede, Owen Community Development Corporation (OCDC) Representative Swiggum, PSC Alliance Representative Pott, PSC Alliance Representative Nelson, RACOM Representative Lane, RACOM Representative Pederson, RACOM Representative Spenle, Thorp Fire and Ambulance Director Ebben, WCCN News Director Hebert, and Withee Village President Lindgren.

Communications System Project

Emergency Management Director Ross updated the committees and other attendees on the timeline of the Communications System project after the last joint meeting as follows:

February 2016: Draft site sketch and proposal submitted to City of Greenwood for review and consideration.

March 2016: Dialogue with City of Greenwood regarding possible land lease at Wastewater Treatment facility. Contact made with Town of Loyal regarding zoning requirements for proposed tower.

March 15, 2016: IES begins installation of E-911 equipment.

March 28, 2016: Emergency Management Director attends United Communities meeting. Provides updates to the group regarding the project.

March 29, 2016: Airbus Field engineer on site to work on installation.

April 5-7, 2016: Training for users and administrators conducted.

April 13-14, 2016: Cutover to new E-911 equipment is completed.

April 21, 2016: City of Greenwood gives preliminary approval to agreement to construct county tower on city owned property.

April 22, 2016: Clark County Law Enforcement/Emergency Management Committee gives conditional approval to land lease and filings of required permits and assessments.

April 30, 2016: Emergency Management Director attends event with United States Senator Ron Johnson in Abbotsford and asks the Senator about potential support and resources for the project.

May 6, 2016: Emergency Management Director meets with Scott Bolstad (Senator Johnson staff) to follow up on potential options. No specific sources identified.

May 2016: Discussions with American Tower and other potential site owners regarding tower space for new system.

PSC Alliance Representative Nelson and Pott informed the committees and the other attendees about their involvement on the planning and the details of the Communications System project highlighting the following items:

- Project Objectives:
 - Upgrade 911 Call Answering System (Complete)
 - Vehicular Radio Repeaters
 - Eight (8) Fixed Site Radio Upgrade
 - New Radio Control Consoles
 - Net approved budget: \$4,648,246
- Site Locations have changed. Instead of the original eight (8) sites, the project has now changed to nine (9) sites at the following areas:
 - Thorp
 - Owen
 - Dorchester
 - National Guard Tower near Rock Dam
 - Colby
 - Greenwood
 - Granton
 - Neillsville
 - Highway 10

- The Abbotsford site, as originally planned, has divided into two (2) sites (Dorchester and Colby) to improve the signal.
- The Greenwood tower agreement has been signed and waiting on zoning to start the process. This tower is a very important site for the system.
- There are potentially three (3) towers sites that could be used for the Owen site:
 - Owen-Withee High School tower
 - Canadian National Railroad tower
 - City of Owen water tower
- Granton's existing tower does not support the new system. The Granton site will have to either build a new tower at the same site or lease an existing tower. Attempts to lease existing space have proven difficult and very expensive.
- The Highway 10 tower is on county land, but is owned by American Tower. The initial quote for the lease on this tower is higher than what the land rental is for the company to have the tower on the land.
- Digital vs. Analog
 - The decision of four (4) analog channels has already been approved by the County Board. If changes are made to the analog configuration or if the project would go over budget then the motion would have to be amended and taken back to County Board.
 - The Law Enforcement/Emergency Management committee will administer the project and come back to the County Board only if budget is exceeded or analog configuration is changed.
 - If wanting to change to one (1) digital channel for Law Enforcement, it would be \$90,000 more and will need to be brought back to County Board to change resolution.
 - With one digital channel for Law Enforcement, a significant number of Emergency Medical Services (EMS)/Fire will not be able to hear the digital channel because they do not have the capability to switch to digital at this time.
 - All infrastructure equipment for this project will have a path to digital capability for the future without having to install all new equipment.

At 2:36 PM, Finance Chairman Rueth and City of Loyal Representative Pieper left the meeting.

At 2:54 PM, PSC Alliance Representative Nelson left the meeting.

At 2:59 PM, PSC Alliance Representative Nelson joined the meeting.

At 3:01 PM, Law Enforcement/Emergency Management Committee Member Rollins left the meeting.

At 3:09 PM, Clark County Press Representative Curtin left the meeting.

At 3:10 PM, Clark County Press Representative Curtin joined the meeting.

At 3:27 PM, Finance Committee Member Waichulis left the meeting.

At 3:28 PM, Finance Committee Member Waichulis joined the meeting.

Public Comment

Finance Committee Member Schindler asked if County Board Chairman and the PSC Alliance Representatives could have a conference call with the owners of the Highway 10 antenna to try to compromise on a rental price.

Adjournment

Voice vote taken with all “aye” to adjourn the Law Enforcement/Emergency Management committee portion of the meeting; motion carried. Voice vote taken with all “aye” to adjourn the Finance committee portion of the meeting; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 3:39 PM.

*Submitted by:
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Clark County Sheriff's Office*