



McLean County 911 Communications Center

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Metcom Operations Board Meeting

December 8, 2017

Attendees: Chairman Bill Wasson, Rick Bleichner, Dustin Carter, Dylan Ferguson, Mick Humer, Eric Klingele, Mark Peterson, Dennis Powell, Tom Willan, Tony Cannon

Others: Dave Warner, Lisa Martin, Eric Hodges

The meeting was called to order at 9:02 a.m. by Chairman Bill Wasson.

Opening Remarks – Chairman Wasson welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Approval of Minutes – Chairman Wasson asked if there were any questions on the minutes of the last meeting of October 13, 2017. Having no questions, Dennis Powell motioned to approve the minutes, and Dylan Ferguson seconded the motion. All were in favor, the motion was carried.

Expenditures – The October and November 2017 expenses were reviewed. Director Cannon reported there were no unusual expenses. Mark Peterson motioned to approve the expenses, and Dustin Carter seconded the motion. All were in favor, the expenditures were approved.

Director's Report

Items for Information:

Problem Reports – Director Cannon reported we received one problem report since the last meeting. It was investigated, handled, and returned the results to the department, with no further questions on it.

Staffing – Director Cannon reported on the current staffing level. He reported we have 19 fully trained telecommunicators. Lisa Martin and the supervisors have completed testing and created an eligibility list. We have revamped the training program, so that has delayed our hiring a bit, along with upcoming holidays. We plan to hire two or three that have experience in January, with others to follow at a later time.

Other – Nothing further to report.

Chairman's Report

Items for Action:

Approval to waive the formal bid process and utilize the Government Services Agreement for the procurement of dispatch chairs:

Director Cannon stated we have a desperate need to replace the current dispatch chairs. They are used 24/7. We do have the money approved in the budget. But due to the cost of the chairs, they are supposed to go through a bid process. We have had summer interns assigned to review options for us, and found the ones we wanted through the GSA agreement. We all agreed this is the best way to go for us. Chairman Wasson asked for a motion to approve this option. Dustin Carter motioned to approve the purchase, and Dylan Ferguson seconded the motion. All were in favor, the motion was carried.

Approval of the proposed 2018 Meeting Schedule:

There were no questions on the proposed meeting schedule. Dennis Powell motioned to approve the schedule, and Rick Bleichner seconded the motion. All were in favor, the motion was carried.

Items for Information:

Announcement of the next meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for February 9, 2018.

Other General Business and Communication:

Eric Hodges, the EMA from ISU, came to talk about the StarCom and Interoperability, focusing on Watterson tower site. He stated they have spoken with Motorola and are working on solutions. He stated we are very reliant on the Watterson as key site, and if we were to lose that there would be problems. If we lost that site the portable coverage would be tough. Bloomington has noted interior coverage on the south side is poor, and general coverage in the south-west part of the county has poor coverage as well. Motorola has offered options for second site that would address those issues, and are focusing on the Cumulus Tower on Veteran's Parkway in south Bloomington. They had put together a proposal that was discussed at the last Metcom board meeting. Those were discussed briefly again. Director Cannon stated he would work those into the next budget for 2019.

Having nothing further to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 9:26 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Patsy Mayer, Recording Secretary
February 9, 2018

Bill Wasson, Chairman