

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE 9-1-1 EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT BOARD OF MANAGERS HELD ON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 25, 2004 IN THE BASEMENT CONFERENCE ROOM OF CITY HALL, 555 WALNUT, ABILENE, TEXAS.

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Public notice having been duly given, the 9-1-1 Board met at 3:00 p.m. in the Basement Conference Room of City Hall.

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Board Members Present: Dr. Alan Stafford, President, County Representative
John Bogart, Vice President, Volunteer Fire Department Representative
Jo Moore, Secretary, Cities Representative
Don Russom, County Representative
Jeff Wyatt, Cities Representative

President Alan Stafford called the meeting to order and noted for the record that all board members were present.

The Board considered the minutes of the June 30, 2004 meeting. Mr. Bogart noted on page 4 of the minutes, 8th paragraph, that his motion was recorded incorrectly. Ms. Moore stated the minutes have been corrected to accurately reflect Mr. Bogart's motion. Ms. Moore distributed the corrected pg. 4 of the minutes to the Board, which reflected Mr. Bogart's motion as follows: "Following Board and staff discussion Mr. Bogart made a motion to direct staff, if determined to not be prohibited by law, to **not** separate wireless and wireline costs and expenditures on the proposed budgets. Mr. Wyatt seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously". Mr. Russom made a motion to approve the June 30, 2004 minutes with the noted correction. Mr. Wyatt seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Mark Hoover, Assistant Director of Administrative Services, briefed the Board on staff's research concerning the resolution the Board tabled at the June 20, 2004 meeting on the Commission on State Emergency Communications decision to declare that all of the expenses incurred by the Tier 1 carriers in implementing Phase II technology are unreasonable and thus not subject to reimbursement. The Board and staff discussed the CSEC decision. The Board took no position on the CSEC decision and on the recommendation of City Attorney Sharon Hicks took no action on the CSEC Resolution.

Mr. Kidd stated with Ms. Hicks and the Board's approval agenda item 4 "Discussion and action pertaining to the 9-1-1 service fee", item 5 "Revised FY04 Budget Approval", and item 6 "Proposed FY05 Budget Approval", would be discussed together and then separate action on each item would be taken. There were no objections made to combining discussion on the three items.

Mr. Kidd and Mr. Hoover briefed the Board on the 9-1-1 surcharge rates and the effect increasing those rates would have. Mr. Hoover noted in reading the statutory language the practice should be for the fee to be adopted by the Board on an annual basis, whether it is changed or not, and at what level and also how it pertains to the budget.

Mr. Kidd then reviewed the FY2000, FY2003 and the current 9-1-1 rate schedule and the approximate annualization fees associated with the 3.0% current surcharge and also in increments of a half percentage up to 6.0%.

Mr. Hoover reviewed with the Board staff's findings on statutory requirements concerning all expenditures being charged against wireline and/or wireless revenues, and what other Districts are doing in this regard. The Board discussed their preference being, as was decided by the Board at the June Board meeting, that "if determined to not be prohibited by law, to not separate wireless and wireline costs and expenditures on the proposed budgets".

Mr. Kidd distributed to and briefed the Board on the Abilene/Taylor County 9-1-1 District Budget Strategies/Additional Requests for Consideration, which included: 1) Upgrade to e-9-1-1 core operating system; 2) Emergency Operations Center alternate PSAP; 3) Communications Gateway; 4) City of Abilene Public Safety Communications Project, and; 5) Two additional dispatch positions at Sheriff's Office (which Mr. Kidd noted has been included in the Proposed Budget). Mr. Kidd stated concerning the District participating or not participating in the Public Safety Communications Project that until the responses for the RFP's are received (that deadline is Oct. 27th), his recommendation is that a survey be conducted to see how other districts have or have not participated in a similar projects and then for the Board to schedule a worksession to discuss the surveys and the RFP results. Mr. Kidd noted cost estimates have to be validated through the RFP process and also noted possible funding options.

The Board and staff discussed various aspects of the proposed budgets including the proposed potential recovery payments and noted that that budgeted line item is an estimated amount and is not to be exceeded. The Board also discussed possible future action that may be needed by the Board concerning those recovery payments. The Board noted the three additional requests for consideration are the upgrade to e-9-1-1 core operating system, the emergency operations center alternate PSAP and the two additional dispatch positions at the Sheriff's Office (which have been included in the proposed budget).

The Board and staff then discussed various elements of the 9-1-1 surcharge fee. Following discussion Dr. Stafford made a motion to increase the 9-1-1 surcharge to 4.5%. Ms. Moore seconded the motion and the motion carried:

AYES: Dr. Stafford
Mr. Wyatt
Ms. Moore

NAYS: Mr. Bogart

ABSTAIN: Mr. Russom

Mr. Bogart made a motion to approve the Abilene/Taylor County 9-1-1 District Proposed 2004 Revised Budget. Mr. Russom seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Kidd stated the Proposed 2005 Budget as discussed by the Board would include the Strategies as discussed, reflecting the projected ending balance of \$168,315 (which will be corrected to reflect the surcharge revenue increase as a result of the approved rate change).

Ms. Hicks clarified for the Board staff's understanding that if the Proposed 2005 Budget is approved it will be with the following stipulations: 1) the estimated Potential Recovery Payment line item in the budget is not to be exceeded, and when bids are opened if they exceed the approved budgeted line item then a special meeting of the Board will be called to address that item, and; 2) staff will instruct the Alliance to try to limit the Potential Recovery Payment to a lower amount than the \$470,000 and that, if possible, the District would support a payout over a term period versus a lump sum.

Mr. Russom made a motion to approve the Abilene/Taylor County 9-1-1 District Proposed 2005 Budget as clarified by Ms. Hicks. Mr. Wyatt seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Staff noted a workshop of the Board will be needed after October 27, 2004 and that the Board may at a later date want to discuss having more frequent meetings.

Mr. Kidd reminded the Board of, and invited those that can to attend, the Executive Briefing to be held in Austin on September 1st. from 2:00 p.m. till 4:30 p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

ATTEST:

Jo Moore, Secretary

Alan Stafford, President