Emergency Communication System and Facilities Program Advisory Board

Meeting Minutes

January 9, 2020 at 10:00 am

Members Present:
Adam Fortney – Chair
Chris Alexander
Jon Nehring
Susan Neely
Bob Colinas
Dan Templeman
George Hurst

Others:
Terry Peterson
Brad Steiner
Kurt Mills
James Martin
Brian Haseleu
Jill Iversen

Sheriff Fortney Call to Order 10:10 am

Meeting Minute Approval

September 9, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Motion for Approval

2nd

Jon Nehring

All Approved

Sheriff Adam Fortney Introduction

Update on August 1, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Meeting minutes missing – Voted on Recommending Radio Executive Budget to Counsel – Board Approved.

Brad Steiner will provide budget.

Project Schedule Update (Steiner)

- The Radio Replacement Team went Schaumburg (Elgin, IL). We saw a Radio System Demo, we tested the major features and the new features, data, GPS reporting, and validate that it all worked. We did have some Issues leaving staging, as in equipment is going to be re-racked and some programing will be cleaned up but the end result was that the equipment was accepted by us and has now been shipped to Marysville.

- Activities Since Last Meeting
  - Staging of current radio system successful
  - Shipped and received in Marysville
    - Reminder, we have multiple systems, radio, microwave, paging and DC power.
    - We’ve received the radio system first but the goal behind that is to get the subscribers to the users as quickly as possible.
  - Coverage concerns and design concerns.
    - Motorola has validated our concerns but, in parallel, we have been escalating the lack of progress and speedy engagement by Motorola.
      - SNO911 Board has been brought up to speed and the Future Technology Committee is engaged.
      - Motorola has also escalated – multiple meetings with two Vice Presidents as well as more upper-level engagement.
      - Replaced Motorola Project Manager
• Equipment Performance and Disclosure
  o Motorola confirmed performance of redesigned tri-band antenna
  o System performance degraded beyond acceptable levels with tri-band antenna as well as Fire “HazLoc” radios.
    ▪ Approximately six months to obtain this confirmation from SNO911 request.
    ▪ Unclear if Motorola would have disclosed “Hazloc” degradation. SNO911 discovered it through alternate means.
  o SNO911 forced to be precise in information requests and has increased its documentation discipline with Motorola.

• Design Review Status
  o Design Review activities essentially stopped in early September.
    ▪ Replacement of Motorola PM/Senior Management “on-boarding” taking a significant amount of time to become knowledgeable for negotiations.
    ▪ Engagement with six other discipline managers within the company.
      • Slow down due to everybody coming up to speed.
  o Coverage/Performance confirmation creates serious financial and technical concern for both parties.
    ▪ Motorola must provide all information and has been slow/limited in its responses.
  o Motorola now cautious on all aspects of project, and has initially requested cost relief for even the smallest of clarifications.

• Performance is Paramount
  o SNO911 must ensure:
    ▪ Upgraded system will be different, but is expected to be equal to a better overall.
    ▪ Have a strong and clear contractual obligation from its vendor regarding:
      • System performance and validation of performance.
      • Radio/Device performance and validation of performance.
      • Scope of services for entire solution.
  o Based on Motorola communications and performance to date, SNO911 is demanding a revisit of all systems design parameters and assumptions.
    ▪ Understand the impacts of single-/dual-/tri-band operations and models.
    ▪ Clearly document equipment performance for all aspects of mobile and portable radios.

• Next Steps
  o Coverage “revisit” will allow full understanding of multi-band performance trade-off.

Colinas – Multi-band seems to be creating a huge bump in the road for us. Can we do away with the tri-band and, for those who really need another band, we have that discussion instead?

Mills – We made the decision on multi-band thinking the only cost would only be for the software. What we’re trying to do now at the Senior Tech Group next week is find the true cost not just financially but
operationally. Then when we revisit the decision on how important is multi-band functionality, which antenna, which radio, we can have a more thorough understanding of what the impacts are. I’m very concerned if we make the wrong decision there’s going to be somebody out there that keys up their radio and can’t get out on our 800 system. To me, that needs to be our main focus but we aren’t the responders so we need to run it through the PPC, TACs and the Board.

J. Nehring – Even if everybody made the decision today to stay with single-band, we still have doubts with Motorola’s performance and coverage from their original proposal, so we need to confirm that anyway to make sure that’s right. HazLoc doesn’t change with tri-band or single-band.

Steiner – We’re looking at all our options, not only single, dual and tri but also the various radio models so we can truly understand.

Templeman – Is there a scenario that exists where we move forward with a single ban antenna but make strategic decisions now so once that multi-band antenna or tri-band antenna issue is fixed, there is an option to swap out antennas or upgrade at that point?

Steiner – That is our intention, what we’re working with right now is looking at this is what the system would look like single-band, this is the optimal system if we went tri-band. We look at, are the sights in different places, do they move around and most importantly is there a migration path.

- Change to system design (two major options):
  - Increased sites to allow for tri-band operations and “Hazloc” fire portables (potential cost increase, negotiations), or...
  - Change in subscriber configuration for single-band operation (potential cost reduction)
    - Will include alternate plan for interoperability with Skagit & Island border areas.
- Design Review cannot be completed until coverage is determined.
- RRP governance model (RRP>PPC>TACs>SNO911 Board) will be followed, and increased/special briefings for agency’s will be provided for.
- SNO911 evaluating RRP team and increased staffing demands
  - Implementation resources.
  - Vendor/Contract Management, design, and additional project implementation leadership.
  - Offer extended to candidate currently.

Roundtable

Colinas – Inclusion of agencies i.e. Tulalip, Bothell. Former Sheriff Trenary said he would have County Legal look into this. I have not heard anything back on that. The City of Bothell, partly in King County,
don’t participate in the 911 system. The discussion would be, do they need to be made whole somehow since they’re paying into the tax here.

Iversen – The question went to legal and they are currently still looking into it.

Colinas – The other piece of this was with the tribes. Do we make sure we have funds set aside to take care of those issues?

Neely – It is more of a County issue and we certainly are following and we will be prepared. This is a board to address use of the tax and make recommendations. The County is well aware of what’s in play.

Mills – There was no concerns with us engaging with the Tulalip Police Department and talking about bringing them on board. We did meet with one of their commanders and understand what they’re asking for. We don’t have an answer yet but we think they want to come onboard and we think we can facilitate them coming on board. If they need sixty radios, which is what they estimated, that would be out of scope and ultimately there would be a decision that would need to come here to say is this tax going to pay to facilitate those radios. I would envision more discussion and that progressing here in 2020.

In Bothell we did meet with them, they are under the purview of the Picerne Project which is doing much the same things as we are. We recognize they may want some type of benefit from the tax, the truth is they are receiving some benefit in the work that’s being done to insure interoperability in King County.

Neely – Any entity that is not part of SNOCO911, and we recognize those exist, they’re more than welcome to make a request for budget that could be considered by this body and a recommendation made to the County Council.

Colinas – How is the Radio Tax looking, actuals to prediction?

Haseleu – It’s right in line, marginally above what we originally anticipated. We’ll be able to do a budget vs. actual, we are accruing it back as we do our normal sales tax, so we won’t have a full year’s worth of actuals until the end of February. We’ll have 9 months of actuals for 2019, but we’ll get a full year within 2020.

Proposal for a Vice Chair
Jon Nehring Nominates Mayor Bob Colinas as Vice Chair
George Hurst 2nd
All Approved
Next Emergency Communication System and Facilities Program Advisory Board meeting will be February 6, 2020 at 10:00 am in the Executive Room SXO-Conf, AdmW, 6F02 (025)

Meeting adjourned at 11:15 am
Meeting minutes by:
Jill Iversen
Sheriff’s Administrative Assistant