

The METCAD Policy Board convened for meeting on Thursday, August 5, 2021, with the following in attendance:

MEMBERS MPB:

Chief Alice Cary, University of Illinois Public Safety
Chief Anthony Cobb, City of Champaign Police Department
Chief Paul Cundiff, Rural Fire Chief's Association
Mike DeLorenzo, University of Illinois
Scott Eisenhauer, Village of Rantoul (proxy Assistant Chief Bouse)
Sheriff Dustin Heurman, Champaign County Sheriff's Office
Chief Chuck Lauss, City of Urbana Fire Department
Joan Walls, City of Champaign

ABSENT:

Chief Tony Brown, Village of Rantoul Police Department
County Executive Darlene Kloeppe, Champaign County
Mayor Diane Marlin, City of Urbana
Chief Mike Metzler, Rural Police Chief's Association

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF:

Ralph Caldwell, Director
Jeff Wooten, Deputy Director
Betsy Smith, Operations Manager
Karen Clevenger, Telecommunicator Supervisor
Jennifer Frost, Telecommunicator Supervisor
Dave Miller, Network Administrator
Kristin Wright, Administrative Assistant

OTHERS:

Chief Bryant Seraphin, City of Urbana Police Department
Tom Yu, City of Champaign Legal Department

Vice-Chair Chuck Lauss called the METCAD Policy Board meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. Roll call was taken. There were 8 members present and 4 absent.

Vice-Chair Lauss asked if there were any electronic communications. Director Ralph Caldwell indicated that one proxy had been received and was noted in the attendance list. Vice-Chair Lauss asked if there was any audience participation. There was no audience participation. Approval of the joint METCAD-RMS meeting minutes from March 4, 2021, was postponed until the next joint METCAD-RMS meeting.

Vice-Chair Lauss asked for presentation of Resolution 21-02 - Purchase of VHF Radio Equipment and Associated Installation Costs with Motorola, Inc. Director Caldwell asked Deputy Director Jeff Wooten to present the information. Deputy Director Wooten reviewed the report to the Board including the associated cost of \$154,265.03. He reviewed a picture of the tower that would need to be removed which was built in 1980. The equipment purchase will

replace radio transmitters that are at the end of their life. Phase 2 of the project will include the removal of the old tower and phase 3 would include the removal of the concrete anchors attached to the old tower. The purchase of the equipment is utilizing the State Bid joint purchasing program. A roll call vote was taken; motion carried with 8 yes votes and 4 members being absent.

Vice-Chair Lauss asked for discussion items. Director Caldwell provided a legislative update. He reported that the 9-1-1 bill (House Bill 3743) passed and included a sunset of December 31, 2023. Telecommunicator certification will be required which will include an online course and a test. If the employee is already a telecommunicator, they will be able to just test rather than taking the course. He also discussed House Bill 2784 which is the Mental Health Bill. Included in the bill is onsite care which would require mobile crisis units. They are trying to pull law enforcement out of the response as much as possible. The primary goal is to divert individuals from being brought to a medical facility or jail. Onsite care is a goal. They want mobile crisis units which would include social workers or psychologists sent rather than ambulances. Units will need to be available to be dispatched. Transportations will need to be provided, they do not want law enforcement providing the transportation. There will be a Board in place to oversee the implementation of the requirements. From the 9-1-1 side, the Statewide 9-1-1 Administrator will be on the Board along with a representative from APCO and NENA. There will be immunity for the telecommunicator if the wrong unit is sent. There are three conditions that have to be met by January 2023: the statewide committee has to be formed, a regional advisory committee has to be formed and it has to be determined whether or not mobile and behavioral health services are available in the county. This hasn't been signed by the Governor to date but as each agency sets up their own protocols, Director Caldwell wanted the Board to be aware of these requirements and that METCAD will have to dispatch per the public act regardless of local direction due to mandates. Next, Director Caldwell reported that the FCC is examining how each State spends or diverts 9-1-1 surcharge. There is a task force formed that is required to report back to the FCC by September 23, 2021, with recommendations of what is allowable and non-allowable to spend surcharge money on. Eventually, Director Caldwell would like to see surcharge cover all costs associated with the dispatch center. However, if they determine salaries to be a non-allowable expense, user fees would still be necessary.

Deputy Director Wooten provided a Technical Services Division update. He mentioned that Mr. Tim Smith had been hired to work on the RMS project. He has been working at METCAD for about a month and a half. There was an initial build session for the RMS project. The CAD system is going well. The functionality continues to be increased. Staff is working with fire agencies so that they can implement proximity dispatch for fire. METCAD completed the ISO reports for this year. Staff continues discussion with Motorola. The discussions include adding two towers in areas that have coverage issues. The two areas are the Mahomet area and the Village of Rantoul area. Motorola is preparing some proposals regarding the two new towers. Motorola is also including information regarding joining Starcom 21. Staff is weighing the two options and will continue discussion and provide updates to the Board. Before any decision is made, discussion will also be had with the public safety chiefs. The fire paging transmitters are budgeted for this fiscal year and staff is looking at how to move forward with that project too which could have an affect on the additional radio towers. Deputy Director Wooten also

mentioned that the 11th console has been installed but not fully functional. The phone equipment and radio equipment still need to be installed.

Operations Manager Betsy Smith provided a personnel update. As of today, authorized strength is 33 telecommunicators and there are currently 28 telecommunicators positions filled. There are three new hires with one being a lateral transfer. Operations Manager Smith plans to pull the test scores in October and begin the next recruitment. She asked that all the user agencies share any social media posts regarding the hiring.

In Director comments, Director Caldwell thanked Chief Anthony Cobb for his years of service and wished him the best of luck in his future endeavors.

In Board member comments, Chief Lauss discussed possibly looking at an automated dispatch system. He spoke regarding the benefits of the system and mentioned that Director Caldwell and Deputy Director Wooten would be researching options at the upcoming APCO conference. When the system had been discussed previously, the cost was around \$300,000.

Vice-Chair Lauss asked for a motion to adjourn the METCAD Policy Board meeting. Chief Cundiff made a motion to adjourn; Ms. Joan Walls seconded the motion. A vote was taken and motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 9:07 a.m.