Executive Board

City of Bellevue City of Kirkland City of Redmond City of Mercer Island City of Issaquah



# Eastside Public Safety

# **Communications Agency**

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#### OPERATIONS COMMITTEE SUMMARY OF MINUTES

Agenda Item 4a

May 22, 2014 1:30 p.m. Redmond Public Safety Building Media Conference Room Redmond, Washington

- <u>PRESENT:</u> Mark Hagreen, Nick Seibert, Ed Carolan, Dave Jokinen, Steve Cozart, Micki Singer
- <u>ALTERNATES:</u> Mark Moulton (Mike Eisner), Pat Arpin (Mike Johnson), Helen Ahrens-Byington (Joe Sanford)
- ABSENT: Wes Collins, Rich Rathvon, Sean Chesterfield

OTHERS PRESENT: Scott Hatfield, Kale Fong

- <u>Call to Order</u> The meeting was called to order at 1:37 p.m. by Mark Hagreen, who presided.
- 2. <u>Roll Call</u> Steve Cozart arrived at 1:39 p.m.
- 3. Approve Agenda

Nick Seibert motioned to approve the agenda, it was seconded by Ed Carolan and carried 8-0.

4. Consent Agenda

#### a) Approval of Minutes of October 24, 2013

Nick Seibert motioned to approve the consent agenda, it was seconded by Mark Moulton and carried 8-0.

5. <u>Reports</u>

## a) RFP Update

Scott Hatfield reports that the scoring categories for the RFP were company strength, terms & conditions and a technical evaluation. It was expected to be a price battle between Harris and Motorola but in reality, all categories were a wash except for the technical category. Scott was not able to disclose the chosen vendor at this time, but a vendor has been chosen through a very regionally collaborative effort. The due diligence in this process has definitely been performed to its fullest. The negotiations process is expected to take 2-6 months and although negotiations have begun, the other vendor is not to be ruled out. The chosen vendor will make the smoothest transition to the new system, especially for the end user experience and provide a higher level of interoperability with neighboring regions. Every precaution was taken so that the process will not be challenged by outsiders. The chosen preliminary design consists of 46 tower sites. We anticipate a 6-7 year build out process. By year three, subscribers will begin to notice changes as dispatch consoles and radios are replaced. Funding is slated for the April 2015 ballot. The ballpark cost for the overall project that was presented to King County Council is \$245 million which also includes the cost of the bonds as well.

## b) Rebanding Update

Scott Hatfield reports that Rebanding has been at a standstill for the last 2 months. Almost all subscriber radios have been replaced. Work has been halted due to recording radio replacements. An issue was discovered regarding the recording radios. The radios need to affiliate to the system in order to ensure that they can record. We proposed to Sprint/Nextel to add control station combiners which allow multiple radios to work through a single antenna. Without the control station combiners, a radio would backfeed and destroy all the other radios in the chain when it keys up. Sprint/Nextel has balked at this \$75K remedy and has offered replacement recording radios instead. This replacement radio is no longer supported by the manufacturer, nor do we have maintenance records regarding these replacement radios. In similar cases, other entities have not been successful in arbitration against Sprint/Nextel. We came to an agreement that certain testing requirements had to be met by each of the replacement radios. Most of the replacement radios have failed the tests and we are now going to go to mediation. Going to mediation will delay Rebanding work for the infrastructure but will not affect our services. At the beginning of mediation, Sprint/Nextel submitted a proposal to use control station combiners to remedy the problem. Scott Hatfield believes EPSCA will be successful in obtaining the control station combiners from Sprint/Nextel.

## c) 2015/2016 Budget/Access Fee Discussion

Scott Hatfield presents a PowerPoint presentation regarding the 2015/2016 Budget/Access fee discussion. EPSCA's budgetary goals continue to be providing the highest level of service, cost effective support and stable transition to the NextGen system. The 2013 budget review shows EPSCA being below budget in almost every maintenance and operations category with revenue slightly higher than budgeted. This was due to an increase in the number of subscriber radios on the EPSCA system. In 2014, EPSCA was able to maintain the \$33.01 subscriber fee from 2013 instead of the automatic increase to \$33.48. Scott Hatfield then presented the 2015/2016 draft maintenance and operations budget as well as revenue forecasts and was pleased to recommend the 2015/2016 user rate at \$30.07 and \$30.54, respectively.

#### 6. Action Items

## a) Election of Officers for 2014/2015 Term

Scott Hatfield reports that it is time once again for open elections for Chair and Vice Chair of the Operations Committee.

Steve Cozart nominated Mark Hagreen for Operations Committee Chair, it was seconded by Mark Moulton and carried 9-0.

Steve Cozart nominated Dave Jokinen as Operations Committee Vice Chair, it was seconded by Pat Arpin and carried 9-0.

# 7. Other Information

- 8. <u>Executive Session</u> None
- 9. <u>Adjourn</u>

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:58 pm.

Next Meeting

June 26, 2014

1:30 p.m.