

Rock Springs, Green River, Sweetwater County Combined Communications

Joint Powers Board

Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, July 12, 2021

The Rock Springs, Green River, Sweetwater County Combined Communications Joint Powers Board held its regular meeting on Monday, July 12, 2021 at 5 Shoshone Avenue, Green River, Wyoming. Board members present included: Jim Wamsley and Mera Souare via teleconference; Tom Jarvie, Clark Allred, Alex Visser, and John Grossnickle. Board members absent were: Dwane Pacheco, Shaun Sturlaugson, and Bill Erspamer. Also in attendance were: George Lemich, attorney, via teleconference; Rick Hawkins, executive director; David Halter, IT director; Drew Varley, accountant; Becca Thornock; Cheryl Johnson; and Commissioner Roy Lloyd.

Call to Order

Chairman Tom Jarvie called the meeting to order at 2:30p.m.

Public Hearing to Approve FY2021-2022 Budget

Jarvie opened the public hearing to conclude the FY2021-2022 budget at 2:30p.m. Hearing no discussion, the hearing was closed at 2:31p.m.

Agenda for Regular Meeting

Jarvie entertained a motion to approve the agenda as presented. A motion was made by Wamsley and seconded by Allred. Motion carried unanimously by board members.

Minutes from Regular Meeting

Jarvie entertained a motion to approve the minutes from regular meeting June 28, 2021. A motion was made by Allred and seconded by Visser. Motion carried unanimously by board members.

Financial Report

Varley stated overall the budget for fiscal year 2021 tracked as expected. 911 funding came in at \$420,000 with the budgeted amount being \$400,000. Jarvie entertained a motion to approve the June financial report. A motion was made by Wamsley and seconded by Allred. Motion carried unanimously by board members.

Comments from Floor

Commissioner Lloyd asked if the Board was seeing the financial efficiencies of having a Combined Center that were included in the original goals. Hawkins stated when the Center was first combined, there wasn't a baseline on what each individual agency was spending on dispatch expenses alone. The individual agencies had the costs for dispatch positions with wages and the benefit package but all other operational expenses were dispersed throughout government. When the combined center was first started, there were 7 dispatchers per shift. The Center is now run with 5 dispatchers per shift. While there isn't an actual dollar figure that could be connected to efficiencies, there are operational efficiencies that have been noticed. Wamsley stated in 2011 the total cost for the County dispatch center was \$682,167 while in fiscal year 2021, the County's contribution to the combined center was \$708,366.66. However, the inflation amount for the \$682,167 figure would have made the County's contribution \$710,135.85. Looking at the current system as a whole, combining dispatch centers has saved money in the local governmental economy. This has also consolidated the management of the jail system, the booking system, and consolidated infrastructure. Visser stated it's hard to get a true comparison as the costs of equipment has increased as a whole over the years. Hawkins also stated since combining dispatch centers, only one of something is now being bought instead of three of something to service all three funding entities. Souare stated the Finance Committee has been looking into ways to help reduce costs as well. Comparing fiscal year 2020 to fiscal year 2021, the Center's net income increased by \$20,000. Jarvie cautioned that in order to avoid increasing the funding entity requests, the Center had to use a lot of the reserves.

Executive Director Report

Hawkins stated on July 4, 2021, there were seven total fire calls with several fireworks related calls and the Center increased shift staffing from 7pm and 12am. There are currently three dispatchers attending the Priority Dispatch Navigator conference in Las Vegas, Nevada. Spillman and APCO conferences will also be occurring later this year. Regarding the fiscal year 2022 budget, Hawkins stated overall there was a 15% cut made which included one staff position being eliminated through a retirement and removing any new capital purchases. Under New Business is a request to approve the Peer Support policy. The Peer Support will be in addition to the Employee Assistance Program the Center already has in place. There are six employees who are qualified to be peer support team members at this time.

IT Director Report

Halter stated the 14-mile WyoLink site is currently being built and at the Blairtown site, the tower is being stacked and there are power poles installed leading to the site. The Center does not have any investment into the 14-mile site at the moment and at the Blairtown site, the Center will have microwave equipment and consolette radios that were previously at the C street building. Regarding the

planned power outage over the past weekend in Green River, there were no issues with connectivity at the Center. Halter will be working with the Sheriff's Office on their fleet map as they program their new PMs for radios.

Committee Reports

None noted.

Bills & Claims

Jarvie entertained a motion to accept the bills and claims as presented. A motion was made by Wamsley and seconded by Grossnickle. Motion carried unanimously by board members.

Correspondence

Jarvie stated it was not included in the meeting packet but a notice was received from Sweetwater Federal Credit Union that a fee will be charged on the Center's credit card for inactivity on the card. There is an authorization form provided by the credit union to cancel the credit card. The account with Sweetwater Federal Credit Union will remain open. Jarvie entertained a motion to authorize him to sign the authorization form to cancel the Center's credit card with Sweetwater Federal Credit Union. A motion was made by Allred and seconded by Visser. Motion carried unanimously by board members.

New Business

FY2021-2022 Budget Approval

Hearing no comments from those in attendance, Jarvie entertained a motion to approve Resolution 2021-02 regarding fiscal year 2021-2022 budget. A motion was made by Allred and seconded by Souare. Motion carried unanimously by board members.

Board Elections

Jarvie opened up nominations for the board positions. Wamsley nominated Jarvie to remain the Board Chair. Nomination was seconded by Grossnickle. Wamsley then made a nomination to keep the current individuals in their respective position. Nomination was seconded by Allred. Hearing no other nominations, Jarvie entertained a motion to close the nominations. A motion was made by Allred and seconded by Wamsley. Motion carried unanimously by board members. Through affirmation from board members, the following individuals will continue in their respective positions: Tom Jarvie as Chairman, John Grossnickle as Vice-Chair, Clark Allred as Secretary, and Mera Souare as Treasurer.

Approval of Peer Support Policy

Jarvie entertained a motion to approve the peer support policy as presented. A motion was made by Grossnickle and seconded by Allred. Motion carried unanimously by board members.

Comments from the Chairman and Board

Jarvie thanked everyone for their support and teamwork during recent events.

Wamsley thanked dispatch for the work they do each day and for always having the backs of first responders.

Grossnickle echoed Jarvie's sentiments as well.

Old Business

None noted.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the board was scheduled for Monday, August 23, 2021 at 5 Shoshone Avenue in Green River, WY.

Adjournment

Jarvie entertained a motion for adjournment. A motion was made by Grossnickle and seconded by Wamsley. Motion carried unanimously by board members. Meeting was adjourned at 3:12p.m.

Clark Allred
Secretary

Date: 8/23/2021

John M. Grossnickle
Chairman Vice-Chair

Date: 08/23/2021