

Rock Springs, Green River, Sweetwater County Combined Communications

Joint Powers Board

Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, October 25, 2021

The Rock Springs, Green River, Sweetwater County Combined Communications Joint Powers Board held its regular meeting on Monday, October 25, 2021 at 5 Shoshone Avenue, Green River, Wyoming.

Board members present included: Mera Souare, Jim Wamsley, and Shaun Sturlaugson via teleconference; Clark Allred, John Grossnickle, and Dwane Pacheco. Board members absent were: Tom Jarvie, Bill Erspamer, and Alex Visser. Also in attendance were: George Lemich, attorney, and Cheryl Johnson via teleconference; Rick Hawkins, executive director; David Halter, IT director; Lauren Reese, accountant; Becca Thornock, Erin McGee; and Commissioner Roy Lloyd.

Call to Order

Vice-Chair John Grossnickle called the meeting to order at 2:31p.m.

Agenda for Regular Meeting

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

Minutes from Regular Meeting

Grossnickle entertained a motion to approve the minutes from regular meeting September 20, 2021. A motion was made by Wamsley and seconded by Allred. Motion carried unanimously by board members.

Financial Report

Hawkins stated the financials are tracking as expected. Included in the meeting packet with the financial report was a list of journal entries as a result of new requirements for financial audits. Grossnickle entertained a motion to approve the September financial report. A motion was made by Wamsley and seconded by Allred. Motion carried unanimously by board members.

Comments from Floor

No comments were made.

Executive Director Report

Hawkins attended the Region 4 Mitigation Planning meeting on September 23, 2021. Legislation is being prepared by Senator Cost to add a 911 representative to the Public Safety Communications Commission. Dispatch attended the Faith in Blue event. The Personnel Committee met on October 20, 2021. On October 21, 2021, Vitalant brought goodies to Dispatch for winning the Battle of the Badges blood drive. On October 20-21, 2021, a Spillman IBR trainer was at dispatch and met with records people for the three law enforcement agencies. On October 24, 2021, dispatch received a "random act of kindness" from Tiffany McMurry. Hawkins and dispatcher Val Gelinias will be attending WY APCO November 1-3, 2021. Hawkins will also be attending the NG911 Stakeholders meeting on November 4, 2021. The Center will be receiving a rebate, in the amount of \$447.31, from using the purchase cards.

IT Director Report

Halter stated the WyoLink Blairtown site is finished and operational. The 14-mile WyoLink site is still under construction and waiting on power and the microwave link to Aspen Mountain. Halter stated out of the PSCC meeting, Nate Smolinski spoke regarding connecting WyoLink and FirstNet push-to-talk systems together and stated that process is being moved forward with testing. Halter and Hawkins met with FirstNet representatives regarding solutions for Sweetwater County on data coverage and demoed a push-to-talk device. There have been some ethernet cabling and radio interference on Wilkins Peak. Halter is working on getting a quote from KNS to replace the current ethernet cabling with armored ethernet cable and fiberoptic cable.

Committee Reports

A copy of the notes from the Personnel Committee meeting on October 20, 2021 was included in the meeting packet.

Bills & Claims

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

Correspondence

Two informational invoices were received from WyoLink. One in the amount of \$49.99 and the other in the amount of \$25.08.

New Business

Continuation of COVID 19 FFCRA 80 hours

Hawkins stated the Families First Coronavirus Response Act established an 80-hour paid leave for those who either did not have paid leave or those who did have paid leave specifically related to Coronavirus. With this Act, the employer could file for reimbursement for those related hours on the payroll taxes. This ended on September 30, 2021 and is being brought forward because the Center had 2 employees still utilizing the 80 hours as the 30th passed. Hawkins spoke with the Board accountant and the Personnel Committee and is requesting that the Board continue the 80-hours for any additional Coronavirus related time-off until the end of 2021. This would only apply to those who have not already taken the initial 80-hours. It was noted that the Center would not be able to file for reimbursement on payroll taxes despite continuing the 80-hours. Pacheco stated that the City of Rock Springs rescinded this option during the first part of January 2021 after the first expiration while Sweetwater County did opt to continue. Employees of the City were then required to use their time-off accrual as they would for any other sick leave. Pacheco suggested that Center employees be required to strictly use their time-off accrual without the Board utilizing the additional 80-hour option. Pacheco made a motion to extend the Families First Coronavirus Response Act through the end of year 2021. Motion was seconded by Allred and passed with a 5 to 1 vote with 3 members absent.

Comments from the Chairman and Board

Grossnickle thanked dispatch for their assistance in helping with moving to single channel dispatching on various calls over the past week.

Wamsley thanked dispatch for everything they do for other first responders.

Pacheco thanked dispatch for participating in the Faith in Blue event and continuing to be part of the first responder family.

Old Business

None noted.

Next Meeting

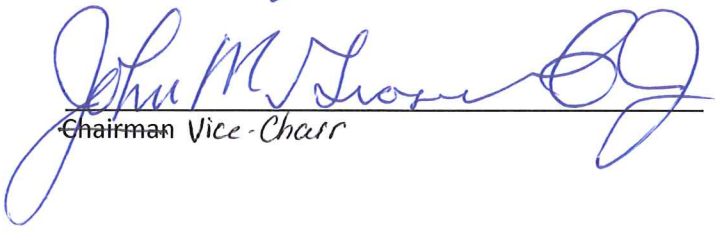
The next meeting of the board was scheduled for Monday, November 22, 2021 at 5 Shoshone Avenue in Green River, WY.

Adjournment

Grossnickle entertained a motion for adjournment. A motion was made by Pacheco and seconded by Sturlaugson. Motion carried unanimously by board members. Meeting was adjourned at 3:07p.m.


Secretary Board member

Date: 11-22-21


Chairman Vice-Chair

Date: 11/22/2021