

**Rock Springs, Green River, Sweetwater County Combined Communications  
Joint Powers Board  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
Monday, May 22, 2023**

The Rock Springs, Green River, Sweetwater County Combined Communications Joint Powers Board held its regular meeting on Monday, May 22, 2023 at 5 Shoshone Avenue, Green River, Wyoming. Board members present included: Alex Visser and Mera Souare via teleconference; John Grossnickle, Jim Wamsley, Shaun Sturlaugson, Cindy Johnson, and Bill Erspamer. Board members absent were: Clark Allred. Also in attendance were: George Lemich, attorney, via teleconference; Rick Hawkins, executive director; David Halter, IT director; Drew Varley, accountant; Becca Thornock; and Commissioner Island Richards.

**Call to Order**

Chairman John Grossnickle called the meeting to order at 2:30p.m.

**Agenda for Regular Meeting**

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

**Minutes from Regular Meeting**

Grossnickle entertained a motion to approve the minutes from regular meeting April 17, 2023. A motion was made by Wamsley and seconded by Johnson. Motion carried unanimously by board members.

**Financial Report**

Varley stated the budget is tracking as anticipated. McGee, Hearne, and Piaz will be contacted to see if they are interested in conducting the financial audit again this year. Varley will be working on submitting the FY2024 budget spreadsheet to the Wyoming Department of Audit before the end of May.

Grossnickle entertained a motion to approve the April financial report. A motion was made by Wamsley and seconded by Sturlaugson. Motion carried unanimously by board members.

**Comments from Floor**

No comments were made.

## Executive Director Report

A copy of the Executive Director report was included in the meeting packet. Hawkins presented the report as follows: "On April 19, 2023, we held the Multi-Agency Shift Supervisor meeting and provided operational updates to the group. That same day I met with Jess Flinn with Motorola to discuss child/parent relationships within Flex. That evening I attended the City of Rock Springs' budget workshop. On April 24-28, 2023, dispatchers Mersadee Odom and Val Gelinas attended a Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training put on by Southwest Counseling, Sweetwater County Prevention Coalition, and Rock Springs Police Department. On April 24, 2023, dispatcher Tasha Urbatsch attended the Rock Springs Airport tabletop exercise. This is a regular exercise used to review and maintain the proper level of response to an emergency at the airport. That same day Becca participated in the Conflict Strategies: Navigating Others Through Workplace Difficulties webinar provided by the Employers Council. The webinar discussed different levels of conflict, ways to deal with the conflict and what ways are best for each situation, and how to help facilitate those difficult conversations between others in the workplace. On April 25, 2023, I attended the Stateline and Meeks Cabin Dams EAP Tabletop exercise to discuss what the procedure would be for any incidents involving those dams that would affect Uinta and Sweetwater Counties. This is an annual exercise to maintain the preparedness of the involved agencies for emergencies occurring at the Dams. On April 26, 2023, Becca participated in the Embracing Brave Conversations webinar provided through the National Emergency Number Association (NENA). This was a free webinar and discussed factors that contribute to workplace conflict, the negative side effects that can happen from not having the conversations to resolve conflict, and the conversational steps to help reach a resolution. On April 27, 2023, Becca participated in the Law Enforcement Suicide Data Collection training. The "Law Enforcement Suicide Data Collection Act (LESDDCA)" was created on June 16, 2020 and is a national system to track law enforcement suicides and attempted suicides. The definition of "Law Enforcement Officer", based on the act, includes telecommunicators. This data collection service was launched on January 1, 2022 and is maintained by the Criminal Justice Information Services Division of the FBI. We also had our Shift Supervisor meeting to discuss operational updates and/or concerns. Part of the focus was on the upcoming summer events and scheduling to meet the needs for those events. On May 2, 2023, Becca participated in the Conflict: Self-Management training provided by the Employers Council. This training provided an assessment to determine what your personal style preferences and automatic responses to conflict situations are. It then went through ways to recognize escalation, perception versus fact, and gave a walk-through on how to navigate those conversations when trying to resolve a conflict in which you're personally involved in. Later that afternoon, David and myself provided the PSCC group with a tour of the dispatch center. They also toured the WyoLink Blairtown site. On May 3, 2023, we had our monthly SAA group meeting. This meeting is designed to allow the agency Spillman administrators to share any concerns or issues their agencies are experiencing. This gives us an opportunity to solve software issues as they

arise. On May 9, 2023, we had a Spillman Flex upgrade. David will most likely have a comment but the update generally went well. On May 11, 2023, we held the DRC Group meeting to discuss any updates to Priority Dispatch. The updated information in the Fire and EMS protocols were discussed. On May 16, 2023, myself and David attended the County Commission budget workshop. Thank you to Board member and interim police Chief Shaun Sturlaugson for attending with us. We answered a few questions from the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC). BOCC Chair West advised we would be contacted if any additional information was needed. On May 17, 2023, David and I attended a Fire Cooperator meeting held at Fire District 1 station number 2. The meeting provided the opportunity for information sharing, agency updates, and introductions of all the different fire agency personnel that will be involved in wildland fire suppression throughout the County in the upcoming fire season. On May 18, 2023, our Peer Support Group attended a workshop for first responders on how to be proactive with things relating to our health. This was provided by Elements in Rock Springs and dispatchers Andrew Lessard, Val Gelinas, Jen Buller, and Kenzee Mullins are who attended. On May 18, 2023, David and I attended a virtual meeting of the NG911 technology group. We discussed the results of a technology survey completed by the 911 centers throughout the Wyoming. Not all agencies participated in the survey and arrangements will be made to contact those agencies and encourage participation so we can gather accurate information about the current capabilities of each 911 center. We also set regular meeting dates for the committee to continue work on a technology plan for NG911. Milestones: On May 21, 2023, dispatcher Kolten Wall had his 4-year work anniversary with us. Kolten came to us with 7 years of dispatch experience in Fremont County.”

### **IT Director Report**

Halter attended the PSCC meeting at WYDOT. Microwave link maintenance will begin May 23, 2023 starting at the Blairtown site. WyoLink is in the process of upgrading their microwave links in Wyoming. Halter and Hawkins will be participating in the State’s interoperable communications plan which is renewed every five years. Nine talk-groups have been added to the FirstNet push-to-talk system.

### **Committee Reports**

None noted.

### **Bills & Claims**

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

### Correspondence

A WyoLink informational invoice was received. It was noted that this will be the last informational invoice received as the State will be covering the cost.

The annual renewal was received from WAM-JPIC for health insurance. There will be a little over 1% increase, however the Center did budget for a 3% increase.

Grossnickle entertained a motion to accept the correspondence and place it on file for the purpose of the minutes. A motion was made by Wamsley and seconded by Erspamer. Motion carried unanimously by board members.

### New Business

#### **FY2024 Preliminary Budget Submission to WY Dept. of Audit**

A copy of the FY2024 preliminary budget was included in the meeting packet. Wamsley made a motion to accept the FY2024 preliminary budget and submit it to the Wyoming Department of Audit. Motion was seconded by Sturlaugson and carried unanimously by board members.

#### **Barracuda Backup Renewal**

Halter stated a barracuda backup was purchased three years ago. At that time, the Board was able to split the cost of that barracuda over three years directly through Barracuda. A new barracuda is needed to be purchased as the current one is at 84% usage used and will be placing the current equipment in its entirety. Another three-year cost split can be done through the company DDI. The agreement was sent to Lemich for review and was approved. The first payment will be due August 2023. Wamsley made a motion to approve the Barracuda backup renewal lease and authorize the IT Director to sign. Motion was seconded by Johnson and carried unanimously by board members.

### Comments from the Chairman and Board

Wamsley thanked the dispatchers for everything they do. Grossnickle echoed that thanks.

### Old Business

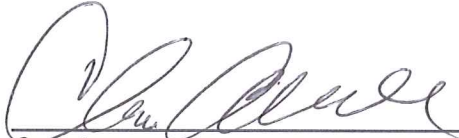
None noted.

### Next Meeting


The next meeting of the board was scheduled for June 26, 2023 at 5 Shoshone Avenue in Green River, WY. The July meeting was scheduled for July 17, 2023 at 5 Shoshone Avenue in Green River, WY.

Adjournment

Grossnickle entertained a motion for adjournment. A motion was made by Wamsley and seconded by Erspamer. Motion carried unanimously by board members. Meeting was adjourned at 3:03p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

Date: 6.26.23

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Vice-Chair

Date: 6/26/23