

**Rock Springs, Green River, Sweetwater County Combined Communications  
Joint Powers Board  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
Monday, October 28, 2024**

The Rock Springs, Green River, Sweetwater County Combined Communications Joint Powers Board held its regular meeting on Monday, September 30, 2024 at 5 Shoshone Avenue, Green River, Wyoming. Board members present included: Jim Wamsley, Mera Square, and Alex Visser via teleconference; John Grossnickle, Cindy Johnson, Bill Erspamer, Shaun Sturlaugson, and Clark Allred. Board members absent were: Brad Halter. Also in attendance were: Rick Hawkins, executive director, and George Lemich, attorney, via teleconference; David Halter, IT director; Drew Varley, accountant; Becca Thornock; Rock Springs Councilman David Thompson; and County Commissioner Island Richards.

**Call to Order**

Chairman John Grossnickle called the meeting to order at 2:31p.m.

**Agenda for Regular Meeting**

Wamsley made a motion to amend the agenda to include a discussion of the Executive Director job description under New Business. Motion was seconded by Allred and carried unanimously by board members. Grossnickle entertained a motion to accept the amended agenda. A motion was made by Allred and seconded by Wamsley. Motion carried unanimously by board members.

**Minutes from Regular Meeting**

Grossnickle entertained a motion to approve the minutes from regular meeting August 26, 2024. A motion was made by Allred and seconded by Sturlaugson. Motion carried unanimously by board members.

**Financial Report**

Varley stated all necessary items have been submitted to the Wyoming Department of Audit. Varley spoke with the auditors last week and everything is underway. Second quarter funding invoices have been sent to the three funding entities. Grossnickle entertained a motion to approve the August financial report. A motion was made by Wamsley and seconded by Allred. Motion carried unanimously by board members.

### **Comments from Floor**

Commissioner Richards stated the MOU meeting has been conducted and an agreement was reached for a \$34.89 million request. A cut was made to the Joint Powers request to about a fourth of the original request. The cut was justified with the formulas the cities use for the total cost of government which would include the distributions to Joint Powers Communications, so only Sweetwater County's share of the projected impact costs were included.

### **Executive Director Report**

A copy of the director's report was included in the meeting packet and went as follows: "We held our Multi-Agency Shift Supervisor meeting on Wednesday, August 28, 2024 and our Shift Supervisor meeting Thursday, August 29, 2024 to discuss any operational updates, questions, or concerns. Dispatcher Anji Hook attended the Wyoming Peace Officers Association conference August 27-29, 2024. This is typically an annual conference held in Casper, WY. She reported that next year, they are looking at bringing in more dispatch directed classes to the conference. On September 11, 2024, David reached out to Eric Bingham, Sweetwater County planner, about our request to be included with the industrial siting request for the Dry Creek Project. David provided our funding impact numbers to Eric for inclusion in the industrial siting request. We are waiting to hear back about any additional information that may be needed. On Wednesday, September 18 and Thursday, September 19, 2024, we hosted Brower Psychological who conducted wellness visits for all of our employees. This provided each employee with a 30-minute session with one of Brower's psychologists. These sessions are part of the peer support and mental wellness program. Dispatcher Kenzee Mullins had her 6-year work anniversary on Tuesday, September 24, 2024. Congratulations to Kenzee. We held another Shift Supervisor meeting on Wednesday, September 25, 2024. These will now be conducted monthly until a new director is hired. Our newest Communicator, Bailee Pitt, is nearing completion of the training program and is on schedule to be assigned to regular shift duties within the next few weeks. We have completed backgrounds and have extended a Conditional Offer of Employment to Kaitlyn Girgen. She will be starting Thursday, October 17, 2024 and she has previous dispatch experience from Riverton, WY. We have received notice of one dispatcher retirement and will be extending a Conditional Offer of Employment to the second applicant we have completed a background on."

### **IT Director Report**

Halter stated he attended the Dry Creek Industrial Siting MOU meeting. Halter and Brey Edwards attended the THIRA meeting on August 27, 2024 and Halter will be attending the follow-up meeting on October 2, 2024. Halter met with Lumen/CenturyLink to discuss service issues that have taken place and moving some of the current admin lines from analog to IP based. Halter attended the education session for NextGen911 for legislatures on September 20, 2024. Halter met with WYDOT on September 3, 2024

to discuss the 4.9 gigahertz band, which is a public safety band for network communications. An interface has been implemented into CAD for WatchGuard for Green River Police Department and Halter is working with Rock Springs Police Department to do the same for them. There is also a new Guardian interface for the jail that was recently deployed. Command Post upgrades are being conducted for the networking equipment.

### **Committee Reports**

None noted.

### **Bills & Claims**

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

### **Correspondence**

Halter stated the right-of-way application that was submitted to BLM three years ago for the Latham Point communications site has been granted. Board approval was made in a previous meeting so Grossnickle did sign the necessary paperwork which was sent back to BLM and we are now waiting for the fully executed copies. The granted right-of-way is for the communications site itself and there is another right-of-way needed for the access road which we are still waiting to hear on whether or not that will be granted as well. Grossnickle entertained a motion to place the correspondence on file. A motion was made by Allred and seconded by Wamsley. Motion carried unanimously by board members.

### **New Business**

Wamsley stated the Personnel Committee reviewed the Executive Director job description. The question was asked of Wyoming Retirement if the executive director could be enrolled in the Law Enforcement plan, with the answer being yes. The committee also agreed that the Personal Time Off benefit can be a part of negotiations. Wamsley has emailed ESCI to schedule a meeting.

### **Comments from the Chairman and Board**

Wamsley thanked the dispatchers for the continuing great work they do. Grossnickle also thanked the admin staff for the work being done transitioning forward.

### **Old Business**

None noted.

**Next Meeting**


The next regular meeting of the board was scheduled for Monday, October 28, 2024 at 5 Shoshone Avenue in Green River, WY.

**Adjournment**

Grossnickle entertained a motion for adjournment. A motion was made by Allred and seconded by Wamsley. Motion carried unanimously by board members. Meeting was adjourned at 2:54p.m.

  
Secretary

Date: 10/29/2024

  
William Erspamer (Oct 29, 2024 09:28 HDT)  
Vice-Chairman

Date: 10/29/2024