

Seward County Communications Board
September 24, 2020 7:00 PM
Municipal Building 142 N 7th St., Seward, NE 68434

The Seward County Communications Board held a regular meeting on Thursday, September 24, 2020 at the Municipal Building at 142 N 7th St., Seward, NE 68434. Notice of this meeting and the corresponding agenda were posted on the public bulletin boards at the Seward, NE County Courthouse, the Seward, NE City Hall and the Milford, NE City Hall and were duly transmitted to all members of the Communications Board. These items are also listed on the Seward County website.

CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/ANNOUNCE LOCATION OF COPY OF OPEN MEETINGS LAW

A quorum was achieved at 7:00 pm and at that time Chm. John P. Singleton called the meeting to order and asked all members present to rise for recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance and announces that the copy of the Open Meetings Law is posted on the north wall of this building for everyone's reference.

ROLL CALL of Members Present

Chm. John P. Singleton asked for roll call of member present. The following Communications Board members were present: John P. Singleton, Curtis Deremer, Jessica Kolterman, Mike Mundhenke, Mike Vance, Brian Peters, Forrest Siebken. Members absent: John Culver.

Also, in attendance were: Communications Director Andrew Matney and Board Secretary Chelsea Smith. The audience included the following: Dispatch employees, Dave Doeden, Nancy Kavulak, Kate Beard, Shannon Arena, Renee Dinkleman, Anna Thomas. Also, in attendance were representatives with Utica Fire, Commissioner Becky Paulsen and citizen Mrs. Mundhenke.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Vance made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 20, 2020 meeting. Siebken second the motion; voting aye: Vance, Peters, Siebken, Singleton, and Deremer; nay: none; absent: Culver; abstained: Mundhenke and Kolterman; motion carried.

ACT ON BILLS/BUDGET REPORT

Director Matney provided the board members with the bills. Explanation ensued by Matney on the current bills. Kolterman asked for clarification on how the Windstream bill is broke down. Matney explained that there are four lines, two of the four are eligible for 911 funds. No further questions, Kolterman made a motion to approve the bills. Mundhenke second the motion; voting aye: Kolterman, Mundhenke, Siebken, Peters, Vance, Singleton, and Deremer; nay: none; absent: Culver; motion carried.

Budget report given by Matney. Matney informed that previous admin did not pay 2019 Motorola costs of \$3,000. This agreement was never taken to the County Attorney or Board for approval. Matney has requested Motorola draws up a new agreement that can be approved properly. 2020 contract price was not added in this budget. Vance asked what the total is. Matney responded with \$34,407.94 for total and \$31,194 for 2020. 2021 service agreement goes up to \$32,000. Matney informed that the total agreement was made for just over \$190,000, this was signed by previous leadership. This was signed in 2018 and over half of the cost has been paid. Discussion regarding funding from 911 fund and what has been covered in the service agreement. Matney informed that there is only one console that is able to patch. Discussion ensued on the importance of getting this up and running, this is highest priority for Matney. Motorola is working to fix this. This has been this way since moving into the Justice Center. Kolterman asked to go back to the budget discussion, to clarify that from 2018-2023 we already owe \$3,500 for 2019 and \$32,000 for 2020. Singleton stated that due to liability the patch system needs to be addressed immediately. Discussion ensued regarding the importance of this patch working correctly. Singleton asked the County Commissioners what their plan would be regarding the Communications budget. Commissioner Paulsen stated that the county is in the process of looking at their options. Matney informed the board that there was another bill he found that was not budgeted properly and

911 funds were used that are not permissible. It is estimated that in the 4th quarter the budget line will run out and the budget will be approximately \$5,000 short. Singleton, the budget is approximately \$40,000 over budget right away. Matney explained how 911 funds can be spent. He added that he also needs to purchase many supplies. Vance has offered to purchase wireless mics via drug fund. No further budget discussion.

COMMUNICATIONS AND FACILITY PLANNING

- A. Update of Zuercher System –Matney reported that his staff has been working diligently on Zuercher. Himself and Operations Manager Anna Thomas are attending many trainings. Operations Manager Thomas informed the board that they will be ready by the go live date. Vance reported that Detention Center Director Hatfield has assisted York County and they will be ready. Sheriff’s Office Operations Manager Chelsea Smith also reported that she has worked with Butler County and they are in good shape. Matney and Operations Manager explained that there will be a soft go live with Seward County and Saline County. Peters brought up that there was an unknown cost that was sent to agencies. Matney explained the NCIC charges that would be extra to interface with Zuercher. Discussion regarding the need for NCIC in vehicles on Zuercher. No further discussion on Zuercher.
- B. Dispatcher performance –Matney reported that one staff member resigned recently. Interviews have been lined up for this position. County Board approved a part time position. This position will be paid out of the current budget using funds from previous salaries. This position will also help with coverage as most dispatchers are maxed on comp or vacation. Singleton asked for clarification on the County policy on comp and vacation time. Discussion ensued on ways that comp, and vacation can be brought down for current dispatchers.
- C. Approval of NRIN dish on Erickson Tower –Matney emailed members regarding this topic. A 20-minute discussion ensued regarding the dish and what it would mean for the County. The County does not have any direct benefit from the dish. Siebken suggested that this item be moved to the first of the year, Matney will request NRIN representatives to be present and give full explanation of the benefits.

Director’s Report

- A. Introduction of Operations Manager – Matney introduced the new Operations Manager as Anna Thomas and detailed her qualifications.

Added by Matney – Gave overview of some of the meetings he has been attending. He did report that there will be a NCIC sub-board created, this will be made up of law enforcement. Update on Auto Return, the contract has been sent to the CA, awaiting approval.

User Board Report

Deremer reported they will be revisiting the fire district maps. The maps are extremely outdated. Discussion ensued on current issues departments have had with the maps. Singleton started discussion on service for calls in small areas, numbers are low and there is difficulty responding to calls. Matney gave report on Star Care responses that have improved immensely. Deremer reported that most members would like to get rid of the 10 code. He also reported that he is working with Matney on an AVL system where dispatch would be able to see all of the rescue vehicles, very similar to MACH. Matney also added that he has worked with Vance on getting AED’s in the cruisers. No further discussion.

General Discussion – and – Set Date and Agenda for next Meeting

Next meeting will be October 22, 2020 and will be held at the Municipal Building in Seward, NE. Regular agenda items apply; and items A., B. will remain under Communications and Facility Planning item C. will be moved to the beginning of the year. Item A. will be removed from Director’s Report.

Adjournment

Vance made a motion for adjournment at 8:20 pm which was second by Kolterman and carried unanimously with one absent.

Submitted by: _____ Chelsea M. Smith, Board Secretary