



COLUMBIA COUNTY

Board of Supervisors

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Ad Hoc 911 Radio Upgrade Committee Minutes April 16, 2019

Members present: Dan F. Drew, James E. Foley, Bob Koch, Barry Pufahl, Mike Weyh, JoAnn Wingers

Also in attendance during all or portions of the meeting: Vern E. Gove, Nancy Long, Greg Bisch, Dave Drews, Sue Moll, Joe Ruf, Lois Schepp, Liz Schutz, Jim Stilson

The meeting of the Ad Hoc 911 Radio Upgrade Committee was called to order by Chair Foley at 10:46 a.m. The meeting was properly noticed as required by the Wisconsin Open Meetings Law. The meeting was held at the Administration Building, Meeting Room 113, 112 E. Edgewater Street, Portage, WI.

Approve Agenda

Motion by Koch to approve the agenda as published. Second by Wingers. Motion carried.

Welcome and Introductions

Committee Chair Foley welcomed all in attendance and introductions were made.

Elect Committee Vice Chair

Weyh nominated Pufahl, who declined.

Motion by Wingers to nominate Dan Drew as Vice Chair. Second by Koch. Motion carried.

Elect Committee Secretary

Motion by Foley to nominate JoAnn Wingers as Secretary. Second by Koch. Motion carried.

Organizational Meeting to Establish Goals

Foley stated the objective of the Committee is to gather information regarding the 911 Radio Upgrade project and make a final recommendation to the full County Board. All decisions regarding the 911 Radio Upgrade will need to go through the Ad Hoc 911 Radio Upgrade Committee.

Schepp distributed a packet of historical information on Columbia County's Radio Upgrade/911 System. She also distributed a financial record of the 911 Outlay 2018-2019 expenditures to date.

Schepp stated their office is currently working on a debt restructure for bonding. If the 911 Radio Upgrade would require bonding, it would be a cost benefit to the County to combine both projects as a single bond. The timeframe for the current bond project is as follows:

May – Consideration by the Finance Committee

June – Market the Bond

July – Consideration by the County Board

August – Bond is due

To combine both projects for bonding, the Finance Committee would need to consider the 911 Radio project bonding in May, or June at the latest.

Schepp reported the State has not released grant funding guidelines, so it will be hard to determine if grant funds would be available or if the County would qualify, especially if funds are already expended on the project. She also mentioned the 911 surcharge on phone bills has been going to the State General Fund for the past 8 years. The most pressing issue on the 911 Radio Project is financing.

It was clarified there are two parts to the project: the radio tower and radio upgrades; and the software program upgrades.

Sheriff's Office representatives gave an overview of the current system and proposed system, stating there are currently 3 different software programs being used between the Jail, Record Management System (RMS), and Dispatch. The programs are reaching end of life service. The benefit of the new software upgrade is that it will be one software program used by all departments, including the District Attorney's Office, and other counties. The Spillman software is a work in progress with a tentative "Go Live" date of May 7, 2019. There are several modules to the program, the most important modules are working very well. Other modules are being worked on, if the County decides not to use the modules (i.e. Evidence, Property), options could be to receive credit from the vendor or sell to another municipality.

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting of the Ad Hoc 911 Radio Upgrade Committee was scheduled for May 1, 2019 at 1 p.m. in Meeting Room #115 at the Administration building. NOTE: Following adjournment, the location of the meeting was changed to the Law Enforcement Center, John Roche Community Room, and may include a tour of the Dispatch Center.

Motion by Koch to adjourn the meeting. Second by Wingers. The meeting adjourned 11:28 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



JoAnn Wingers

Ad Hoc 911 Radio Update Committee Secretary