

Policy Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: April 26, 2017
Meeting Time: 9:00am
Meeting Place: Lakewood City Hall, Council Chambers

I. Chair Joe Lonergan called the meeting to order at 9:13am.

II. Roll Call -

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| 1. Joe Lonergan, City of Tacoma Councilmember | present |
| 2. Tim Curtis, City of Fife Councilmember | present |
| 3. Doug Richardson, Pierce County Councilmember | present |
| 4. Bruce Dammeier, Pierce County Executive | present |
| 5. Paul Pastor, Pierce County Sheriff | present |
| 6. Robert Thoms, City of Tacoma Councilmember | present |
| 7. Michael Brandstetter, City of Lakewood Councilmember | present |
| 8. Grant Erb, West Pierce Fire & Rescue Commissioner | present |
| 9. Julie Door, City of Puyallup Councilmember | present |
| 10. Dave Enslow, City of Sumner Mayor | present |

III. Public Comment

- Mark Lauzier, Tacoma Assistant City Manager, addressed the Board in support of the memorandum of understanding for radio fees. Mr. Lauzier also expressed the City’s interest in putting all resources in the region on the table and to bring them to together. Mr. Lauzier questioned why South Sound 911 doesn’t operate the radio systems.
- John Burgess, Gig Harbor Fire Chief, addressed the Board on behalf of Gig Harbor Fire, but also representing the Pierce County Fire Chiefs Association. Chief Burgess is the chair of the committee working on radio issues with the Combined Communications Network (CCN). The committee has been working for nearly two years in an attempt to resolve issues related to costs, in-building coverage, and customer service. Chief Burgess referenced a recent statement about Gig Harbor Police and Fire having concerns about South Sound 911. Gig Harbor Police Chief Busey could not attend today’s meeting and asked Chief Burgess to advise the Board that statement is not accurate. The concerns are not with South Sound 911, but rather with the CCN. Chief Burgess reported that the Pierce County Fire Chiefs are in support of South Sound 911, believes the agency is well run, and has effective leadership. Chief Burgess expressed appreciation for the Pierce County’s Executive’s new leadership and the willingness to study the radio issues.

IV. Consent Agenda

1. A motion was made to approve the consent agenda as presented (Curtis); 2nd (Erb), **passed – unanimously.**

V. Old Business

VI. Staff Updates

1. Executive Director Briefing

- Executive Director Neiditz proposed a study session to discuss substantive issues on the agenda.
- Tacoma Fire successfully cutover to the new CAD system two weeks ago, resulting in all 22 fire department and 19 law enforcement agencies being on same CAD platform.
- Saturday permitting hours started last month, with the first five Saturdays averaging 38 people served.
- The transition of the Eastside law enforcement dispatch to 35th St. is on track for May 16th. Upon that transition, all law enforcement dispatch will be consolidated. After May 16th, the South Sound 911 Fire Communications will move to the Eastside facilities.

VII. Operations Board Briefing

- Chief Sharp reported that the Operations Board recommends moving forward with the strategic plan and the construction of the facility. The Operations Board does not want to see further delays on the project.

VIII. New Business

- Chair Lonergan advised the Board that the evaluation of the executive director was completed earlier this week.

IX. Action Items

1. A motion was made (Curtis); 2nd (Thoms) to approve Motion 2017-15 to authorize executive director to enter into a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the City of Tacoma for Radio System Access Fees for 2017 in an amount not to exceed \$413,702
 - Tim Hannah, Assistant Director of Communications Systems, briefed the Board on the MOU which is in line with the 10 point plan. Staff did receive last minute edits late last night from Tacoma Legal, which did not change the substantive radio provisions. The updated MOU is in the packet provided today. The MOU approved by the CCN was also provided in the agenda packet. However, the approved MOU removed provisions that are important to the police and fire chiefs.
 - Boardmember Brandstetter asked if the primary purposes of executing the MOU is to put in place the mechanism to reimburse the entities so they can ensure predictability on costs to their agencies for radio fees, why does MOU have to contain all the strategic plan info, etc. Executive Director Neiditz explained that both radio system owners need to be fully cooperative with study. Further, the South Sound 911 revenue is restricted and needs to be on public safety. More transparency is needed to determine how the restricted funds can be spent. Mr. Neiditz reminded the Board that there was a previous MOU to subsidize radio fees in 2016. 2017 is intended to be an interim plan, as there remains the question of sustainability with no clear direction. The 10 point plan clearly specified the

provisions of a strategic plan and the implementation of the ISSI. Boardmember Brandstetter would like the CCN MOU brought back expeditiously so that users of 700 system have certainty for their budgets. Chair Lonergan is hesitant to approve any MOU with CCN that doesn't include language of a strategic plan and ISSI, as they are both critically important issues. South Sound 911 does not have any control over the radio systems, yet is taking the criticism for radio costs. South Sound 911 is putting up South Sound 911 money and needs consideration for the funding. Chair Lonergan encouraged the Board to not look to be expeditious at the cost of being effective in the long term.

- Boardmember Thoms asked what it means if we don't have the MOU? Executive Director Neiditz advised that in order to pay the system owners money, an MOU is needed. Mr. Thoms is supportive of the Tacoma MOU. He expects South Sound 911 to drive consensus and is hopeful the new County leadership can encourage cooperation. Mr. Thoms suggested a joint study session with the CCN to address their concerns.
 - Chair Lonergan called for a vote on the motion. **Passed unanimously.**
2. A motion was made (Curtis); 2nd (Erb) to approve Motion 2017-16 to authorize executive director to execute a contract with IXP for development of a Strategic Plan to include evaluation of radio systems, dispatch operations and sustainable funding, in collaboration with Pierce County, City of Tacoma and other agency partners in an amount not to exceed \$94,400
 - Executive Director Neiditz recommended proceeding on a strategic plan. The scope of work was presented at last meeting. Since the packet was distributed, Mr. Neiditz met with Boardmember Dammeier who expressed the desire to interview several other consultants before awarding contract. However, the fire dispatch component will move forward under a separate contract with IXP which is within the executive director's contracting authority. Mr. Neiditz proposed not moving forward with the motion today. Boardmember Dammeier encouraged the Policy Board to look at the scope of work, make sure language reflects concerns. Chair Lonergan asked about the timeline and any impact on pre-development. Executive Director Neiditz believes the strategic plan should not hold up pre-development. **Motion tabled.**
 3. A motion was made (Curtis); 2nd (Brandstetter) to approve Motion 2017-17 to request the Pierce County Executive to execute a pre-development agreement with the Trammell Crow Company by June 1, 2017 in order to begin construction of the South Sound 911 Public Safety Communications Center (PSCC) in January 2018.
 - Information in the packet as requested by Board at last meeting. The public-private partnership (PPP) started in mid-2014 with the development team being selected. Design/bid/build would be starting from scratch. If the PPP process moves forward in the next month, the project can be completed by the end of 2019. A change in process will push the timeline back to at least until 2020. Boardmember Door acknowledged the need for expediency; however, would rather delay to have all

agencies have same level of understanding. Boardmember Brandstetter advised he will vote in favor of the action as there has already been a lot of effort by Policy Board which involved the Operations Board. Doesn't see a need to second guess the due diligence of work done years ago. Chair Lonergan expressed concerned over potential cost overruns with traditional projects and believes the guaranteed maximum price is a good idea. Boardmember Dammeier articulated two concerns with the motion. He does not feel the Board has a full understanding of options, and what we need to build will change dramatically based on strategic plan. He doesn't know if Tacoma Fire will be in building or if radio administration and maintenance should be included. Boardmember Thoms –agreed need more information on operations is needed before designing building. Mr. Neiditz advised that even if South Sound 911 takes over radio administration, the actual radio shops aren't envisioned to move, and any administration space needs can be absorbed with current space planning. Mr. Neiditz also clarified that Tacoma Fire is fully on board and have been part of every planning process for building. He has not heard anything that indicates the dispatch for Tacoma Fire will not be part of the new building.

- Chair Lonergan called for a vote. Yays (6 – Erb, Pastor, Curtis, Brandstetter, Richardson, Lonergan), Nays (4 – Enslow, Thoms, Dammeier, Door); **motion passes.**
4. Resolution 2017–01 to amend the 2017 Budget
- Resolution **passed unanimously.**
- X. Other Business / Announcements
- Chair Lonergan would like to add a meeting to learn more about the current issues. Staff will get poll out to members.
 - Board is in consensus about meeting with CCN and delegating to Policy Board leadership.
- XI. Executive Session – Not held.
- XII. A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 11:09am; 2nd, **passed – unanimously.**

Respectfully Submitted
Rebecca Hendricks