

STATE OF VERMONT
ENHANCED 9-1-1 BOARD
General Meeting #2
22 October 2014
Capitol Plaza Hotel
(Rm #338 – Montpelier, VT)

FINAL – approved (as
written) at 12/10/14 meeting

10:00 AM – Call to Order

Chair Roger Marcoux brought the meeting to order. The following were in attendance:

Board Members Present

Roger Marcoux, Chair
Jerome Pettinga, Vice-Chair
Heather Dale Porter

Via conference bridge: Chief Gary Taylor
Steve Gold
Chief Bob Schlachter (joined after roll call)

Staff Members Present

David Tucker, Executive Director
Soni Johnson, Board Clerk

Public Members Present

Jaye Johnson, Attorney General's Office
(arrived after roll call)

Approval of Minutes

- July 16, 2014. Motion: Jerome Pettinga made a motion to accept the minutes as written; 2nd by Dale Porter. There was no discussion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Old Business

Update on School Compliance Project:

- As of September 17, 2014 there are 47 VT schools in compliance or working towards compliance;
- That number encompasses roughly 13 supervisory unions (in whole or in part);
- Six of the supervisory unions have come on board in the last six months.
- Exact number of schools to join since the start of the project – exact number not available, but probably less than twenty;
- Due to lack of participation, some of the funds originally made part of E9-1-1's budget have been returned to the general fund.
- Dept. of Education is holding a school safety seminar. Originally the Board was contacted to participate (be present to answer questions & provide information); Education then modified that request to have Board staff only participate in a PowerPoint presentation.

Director Tucker expressed frustration that schools and their supervising agencies aren't doing more about compliance. Discussion ensued concerning reasons why:

- Attorney General's decision concerning the ambiguity of the compliance language in our legislation;
- Lack of support from the Administration & the Department of Education;
- School funding issues;
- Lack of public awareness.

Chair Marcoux suggested that Director Tucker provide hard figures to the Board and/or write a letter (on behalf of the Board) to the Secretary of Education & the Executive Director of the Superintendents Association; Steve Gold suggested that the letter also be sent to the School Boards Association & the Principals Association. Instead of detailing "compliance", the letter should spell out our position, the information that 9-1-1 needs to receive in the case of an emergency and the success we have had so far with VT schools. Dale Porter suggested that the E9-1-1 Board & staff document all their ongoing efforts on the school compliance project.

Status of Restructuring Study:

- Committee was formed and has met to discuss the issue.
- Report has been drafted on the pros & cons of this proposal; once finalized it will be sent to the Secretary of Administration.
- Secretary of Administration will review the report and will then start scheduling meetings with stakeholders.

Discussion ensued concerning:

- Continued lack of documentation showing how restructuring will benefit the State (what problem will this fix?);
- Budget concerns (proper use of USF, 9-1-1 funds possibly "raided" for other programs);
- USF program health;
- Possible politicization of the program.

Chair Marcoux asked board members how they & their constituents feel about possible restructuring:

- Gary Taylor (Police) – remain independent – it is good that the Board is autonomous and not under the umbrella of another agency;
- Bob Schlachter (Fire) – remain independent – the system & the Board work well as it is;
- Dale Porter (EMS) – system is working fine, why change it? Is it possible that the system could be degraded (decrease in service or poor performance) once absorbed by another agency. Is it possible that a new agency would be required to absorb our budget and not get any money from the USF?
- Steve Gold (public member), Jerome Pettinga (public member) – remain independent. How would the 9-1-1 system & program be administered under a different agency? The current program works to save part of our budget each year for upcoming system upgrades (new system every 5 years). Would another agency protect those funds or look at them as "extra money" to be used for programs other than 9-1-1?

Dale Porter asked if the legislature will have to vote on this proposal. Specifics of the restructuring process haven't been confirmed, but the feeling is that it will have to go before other legislative committees before a final determination is made.

New Business

Contract Status: Director Tucker suggested that this agenda item would best be discussed in an executive session; Chair Marcoux concurred.

- *Motion:* Jerome Pettinga moved to enter into executive session; 2nd by Bob Schlachter. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously by voice vote. Soni Johnson left the meeting room and executive session was entered at 10:42 AM.
- *Motion:* Jerome Pettinga moved to exit from executive session; 2nd by Dale Porter. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously by voice vote. Executive session ended at 11:10 AM. Soni Johnson re-entered the meeting at this time.

Back in regular session, Chair Marcoux presented Jaye Johnson with a proclamation thanking her for all of her assistance with the new system contract.

Discussion of Role of Medical Director: The E9-1-1 Board has a new medical director to help oversee EMD protocols & medical call-handling questions. Director Tucker thanked Dale Porter for her assistance in bringing Dr. Daniel Wolfson on board. He has been a tremendous help to E9-1-1 staff; he is very accessible and open to communication. The Board asked Dale Porter to extend an invitation to Dr. Wolfson to the next meeting.

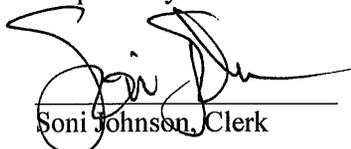
Expenses: Chair Marcoux reminded board members that they can get reimbursed for their attendance & mileage for meetings. It was determined that the Board Clerk will have expense forms ready at each meeting for any board members who want them.

Next Meeting Date & Adjournment – Chair Marcoux

It was determined that the next Board meeting would be held on Wednesday, December 10, 2014 at the Capital Plaza Hotel (Montpelier, VT).

Motion: There being no further business, Gary Taylor made a motion to adjourn; 2nd by Jerome Pettinga. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously by voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 11:31 AM.

Respectfully submitted:


Soni Johnson, Clerk

10/27/14
Date