

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE 9-1-1 EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT BOARD OF MANAGERS HELD ON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16, 2000, IN THE BASEMENT CONFERENCE ROOM OF CITY HALL, 555 WALNUT, ABILENE, TEXAS.

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Public notice having been duly given, the 9-1-1 Board met at 3:00 p.m. in the Basement Conference Room of City Hall.

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Board Members Present:

Roy McDaniel, Cities Representative
Jo Moore, Cities Representative
George Newman, President, County Representative
Don Russom, County Representative
Gary Young, Volunteer Fire Department Rep.

Others Present:

Bob Putnam, Fire Chief
Debbie Hurley, Secretary II
Melvin Martin, Police Chief
Donna Jones, Police 9-1-1 Supervisor
Ed Dye, Deputy Police Chief
Dan Santee, Assistant City Attorney
Jack Dieken, Taylor County Sheriff
Carol Taylor, Taylor County Sheriff's Office
Stan Egger, County Commissioner
Gary Hudson, City Engineering
Tracy Phillips, City Manager's Office
Sarah Hannah, City Manager's Office
Ronnie Kidd, City Technology Manager
Cindy Steele, Southwestern Bell

President George Newman called the meeting to order.

Mr. McDaniel made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 26, 2000 meeting as printed. Mr. Young seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Mr. McDaniel made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 17, 2000 meeting as printed. Mr. Young seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Chief Putnam reviewed the 9-1-1 monthly surcharge, noting that due to the amount of cellular revenue accumulated over the past couple of years, the budget fund balance has raised considerably and is now in excess of \$1 million. Chief Putnam recommended the service rate for Taylor County be reduced from the current rate of 4.5%, the Bell telephone base rate, to 2.5%; and stated there is a possibility of going as low as 2%, but he would be hesitant to

recommend 2% because he feels that 2.5% will bring in enough funds to finance day-to-day operations with a small buffer each year for unexpected expenses. Chief Putnam voiced some concerns with wireless issues because there are still a lot of unknowns regarding policy and cost projections; and mentioned approximate costs of \$200-300,000 for equipment in the backup 911 center in the basement of City Hall.

Mr. McDaniel stated the 911 board set the levy on a percentage basis of Southwestern Bell's base rate at 40 cents and later raised the rate to 41 cents to reflect the increase in the base rate. Mr. McDaniel further stated all cellular phones are required to pay 50 cents a month to the State, who in turn sends it back to the local 911 district; but a part of the 911 law says the board shall not collect more revenue than it needs. Mr. McDaniel suggested the board at least reduce the rate to 2.5%, noting that still leaves basically a million dollars to buy equipment whenever it is needed, and the rate could always be raised at a later date if needed.

Chief Putnam stated the cellular rate is set statewide, varies from month to month, and has fluctuated as much as 50%.

Following discussion among the board, staff and Southwestern Bell representatives, which included the fluctuation in cellular revenues, planning for the GIS mobile positioning system costs, and uncertainties in Phase 1 and 2 compatibilities, Mr. Russom made a motion to reduce the surcharge from 4-½% to 3% of the base rate and set the rate at 3% effective January 1, 2001. The motion was seconded by Mr. McDaniel and the motion carried.

Chief Putnam reviewed with the board the revised 1999/00 and proposed 2000/2001 budgets, which included a rewritable CD drive to transfer large GPS/GIS files to a CD rather than using multiple disks; a printer replacement to color laser to print colored maps; and a contingency account adjusted for unexpected purchases throughout the year.

Discussion among the board members included: Geographic Information System position funding breakdown, the position Linda Gallion now fills being full time rather than part time, and dispatcher salaries.

Following the discussion, President Newman suggested voting on the revised 1999/00 and proposed 2000/2001 budgets separately, and the board concurred.

Mr. Young moved to approve the revised 1999/00 budget. Mr. McDaniel seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Mrs. Moore made a motion to approve the proposed 2000/2001 budget. Mr. McDaniel seconded the motion. Following further discussion among board members, the Sheriff and Sheriff's Department employees, County Commissioners, and City staff which included the replacement of signs in County Commissioner's precincts as per the rural addressing agreement and the authorized number of dispatchers versus the ability to hire what's been authorized, the motion carried.

Mr. Young made a motion to adjourn. Mr. McDaniel seconded the motion and the motion carried.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

ATTEST:

Jo Moore, Secretary

George Newman, President