

**New River Valley Emergency Communications Regional Authority**

**Board Meeting**

**March 22, 2016 4:00 PM**

**Montgomery County Public Safety Building – 4th Floor Training Room**

**Minutes**

**Attendees:**

**Members:** Sherwood Wilson, Chair, *Vice President for Administration, Virginia Tech*; Barry Helms, *Christiansburg Town Manager*; Craig Meadows, *Montgomery County Administrator*; Alan Fabian, *Joint Member*

**Staff:** Donna Brown, *Executive Director*; Deborah Stump, *Operations Manager*; Karri Cridlin, *Executive Assistant*; Derek Rogers, *Communications Systems Manager*

**Guests:** Chief Kevin Foust, *Virginia Tech Police Department*; Chief Mark Sisson, *Christiansburg Police Department*; Captain Steve Taylor, *Blacksburg Police Department*; Sheriff Hank Partin, *Montgomery County Sheriff's Department*; Chief Deputy Robert Hall, *Montgomery County Sheriff's Department*

**Absent:** Marc Verniel, *Vice Chair, Blacksburg Town Manager*

**Recorder:** Karri Cridlin, *Executive Assistant*

**1. Call to Order**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:10 PM.

**2. Approval of the Agenda**

The Chair requested changes to the agenda, and upon receiving none, assumed approval as presented.

**3. Secretary/Treasurer's Report**

**a. Approval of the Minutes**

The Chair presented the minutes from the February 23, 2016 meeting for approval. Mr. Meadows moved to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Helms and passed unanimously.

**b. Budget Report**

An updated summary of the revenues and expenditures was provided to members at the start of the meeting (Attachment A). Mr. Meadows reviewed the current expenditures and balance.

**4. New Business**

None

**5. Old Business**

**a. Radio Equipment-Insurance Coverage**

Ms. Brown stated she did confirm with VML that both ProComm locations are covered while staging radio equipment. Mr. Henderson with ProComm advised he also insures the equipment prior to customer installation.

**b. Regional CAD/RMS Project**

Ms. Brown discussed the concerns expressed during the last month with the LERMS and mobile modules or processes. She advised a meeting was held with the agencies and a New World Regional Vice President and Regional Territory Manager on February 24, 2016 to discuss the issues. Blacksburg and Montgomery County representatives were in attendance and Christiansburg emailed their concerns to be addressed during the meeting. New World advised they would discuss the issues internally and get back with the agencies in approximately 2 ½ weeks regarding next steps toward a resolution.

Ms. Brown advised it was her understanding that Blacksburg Police Department and Montgomery County Sheriff's Office were going back to Southern Software records management system. She also stated that it is not up to Authority staff to tell law enforcement agencies which software they should or should not utilize. While the Authority was the procurement vehicle for a regional system, she respected their issues and concerns. She advised the CAD system was functioning reasonably well with several outstanding bugs or issues, but this was to be expected after transitioning to new software. She advised she wanted this to be an open forum for all agencies to discuss their issues with New World.

The members and attendees began discussing various issues with the New World system. New World did provide a hotfix for the Civil Module, but the Sheriff's Office was already moving back to their legacy system. Chief Deputy Hall advised the Sheriff's Office did not have the manpower to make duplicate entries into Southern and New World. Sheriff Partin also expressed concern of a testing period putting them further behind with their workload. Chief Sisson stated that he completely respects Montgomery County and Blacksburg's decision, and they have do what is best for their organization. From a regional standpoint he wishes it could have worked out better for data sharing. Captain Taylor expressed he did not feel the software is acceptable and they do not feel things are improving. He advised they have no confidence that issues will be fixed, but concluded that he does not feel it is the Authority's fault or anyone in the room.

The Chair inquired about any issues with the CAD system and the agency representatives in attendance agreed there were no major concerns or issues with the regional CAD. The members discussed the New World contract and agreed it would need to be reviewed with legal counsel to determine if deliverables have been met along with any appropriate action moving forward.

**6. Executive Director's Report**

Ms. Brown presented the Executive Director's Report (Attachment B). There was additional discussion on the following topics:

**a. Public Safety Building**

Ms. Brown reviewed the status of the outstanding issues with the Public Safety Building as indicated in her report.

**b. Regional CAD/RMS System Status**

The CAD/RMS project was discussed earlier in the meeting. Ms. Brown advised staff would continue to work with the agencies toward any resolution. She also advised the next three months would be hectic and crucial for the consolidated center.

**c. MEETINGS/ DISCUSSIONS**

Ms. Brown provided a summary of various meeting and discussions during the month as indicated in her report.

**d. Job Postings**

Ms. Brown reviewed the status of the new employees as indicated in her report.

**7. Public Comments**

Sheriff Partin wanted to thank Ms. Brown for letting the Sheriff's Office install a display for their new shot detection system and also allowed modification on an existing contract with ProComm for the new Kenwood radios.

**8. Board Member Comments**

No Board Member comments were received.

**9. Adjourn**

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 5:04 PM