



# **East Bay Regional Communications System Authority**



Participating agencies include Alameda and Contra Costa Counties and the following cities and special districts: Alameda, Albany, Antioch, Brentwood, Clayton, Concord, Danville, Dublin, El Cerrito, Emeryville, Fremont, Hayward, Hercules, Lafayette, Livermore, Martinez, Moraga, Newark, Oakley, Pinole, Pittsburg, Pleasant Hill, Pleasanton, Richmond, San Leandro, San Pablo, San Ramon, Union City, Walnut Creek, East Bay Regional Park District, Kensington Police Community Services District, Rodeo-Hercules Fire Protection District and San Ramon Valley Fire Protection District

## **MINUTES**

### **OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING**

### **REGULAR MEETING – November 6, 2009**



#### **1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL:**

*A regular meeting of the East Bay Regional Communications System Authority Operations Committee was held on November 6, 2009, in Room 1013 at the Alameda County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Services, 4985 Broder Boulevard, Dublin, California. The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Chair Ahern.*

**PRESENT:** *Cms. Ahern, Casten (Alt. for Cm. Rupf), Dunbar, Henderson (Alt. for Cm. Maples), McQuiston, and Roderick Also attending: Alt. Cm. Clancy, Tim Schultz, and Ed Woo*

**ABSENT:** *Cm. Alco Fire Public Safety Rep (TBD)*

#### **Staff Present:**

*Executive Director McCammon, Secretary Lyon*

#### **2. Comments from the Public:**

*No comments were made by any member of the public at this time.*

#### **3. Approval of Meeting Minutes:**

*On motion of Cm. Roderick, seconded by Alt. Cm. Henderson, and by unanimous vote, the Committee approved the minutes of the October 2, 2009, Regular Operations Committee Meeting.*

#### **4. Review Presentation for Member Agency User Meetings:**

*Director McCammon distributed a print out of the slides from the EBRCSA overview presentation that will be given to member agencies in both counties. Committee members reviewed the information contained in the presentation, and provided feedback. Cm. Ahern asked about the status of the spectrum applications. Director McCammon responded that there are some adjacency issues between the EBRCSA and Santa Clara County that are being worked out before the applications are submitted, and expects that the applications can be submitted next week.*

*Other presentation highlights included that the fleetmapping project, where talk groups are identified, has started and that committee members and member agencies will hear more about this project in the coming weeks. Federal Engineering is conducting the project.*

*Director McCammon also noted that the EBRCSA received a 2008 UASI grant allocation in the amount of \$511,000 for Contra Costa County and \$511,000 for Alameda County, which increased the funds/match dedicated to the EBRCSA to a new total of \$35,751,910. MOU's with both counties for the 2008 UASI grant allocation are in place.*

*The presentations to member agencies are planned to occur in early December with one held in Dublin for Alameda County, and another held in Contra Costa County at a location to be determined, possibly at ConFire on Treat Blvd.*

#### *Recommendations:*

*Committee members recommended that the cost for agencies to join the EBRCSA at a later date be identified before the presentations occur. Cm. Roderick also recommended emphasizing that a higher number of agencies that buy in to the system can reduce the cost.*

#### **5. Review of UASI Grant Submittal:**

*Director McCammon overviewed the new UASI grant allocation process for funding. The process is competitive with several levels of advisory group review and authorization, and the total amount available for Interoperability in the Bay Area is 5.7 million dollars. The UASI application was submitted*

on 10/23/09, and strategically targeted a modest request of \$800,000 for two projects: (1) the Cummings Peak Prime Site in Contra Costa County for \$480,000 and (2) a System Logging Recorder for the Master Site in Alameda County for \$400,000. Director McCammon explained that the UASI grant submission subject was not presented to the Operations Committee for approval due to the short time frame for the application.

The EBRCSA grant request presentation to the UASI will occur jointly, and presentations are scheduled on November 16 and 17, 2009. The projects will be scored at that time, and then taken to an advisory committee for review, from which recommendations will be taken to another advisory group for final approval in January 2010.

**6. Receive Update on Financing Efforts:**

Director McCammon summarized that Rob Larkins from Wedbush Morgan Securities provided a presentation to the Finance Committee on project financing options. The options include a “wholesale” approach where one or both counties would be the obligor and the “retail” approach where each member agency would be proportionally responsible.” In the more complex “retail” approach, agencies could have different bond rating status, and bond insurance would be required. At the meeting, finance committee members recommended that the “wholesale” approach with both counties as obligor be considered, and that a meeting be set up to review the options. In the wholesale approach, member agencies would pay the two counties by a certain date. There are protections that could be set up, such as authorizing the county to withhold property tax from member agency cities that do not pay on time. Director McCammon said that he has written a briefing paper, and is following up to set up a meeting with both county administrators to discuss the subject in more detail.

Director McCammon also said that he is looking into a Build America Bonds funding program as recommended, and that he directed a bond underwriter to review and compare this option. The Build America Bonds program provides a Federal subsidy through Federal tax credits to investors in the bonds in an amount equal to 35 percent of the total coupon interest payable by the issuer on the taxable governmental bonds.

**7. Receive Verbal Update for Grant Status (PSIC, COPS, UASI):**

*Director McCammon reported that the EBRCSA received a 2008 UASI grant allocation in the amount of \$511,000 for Contra Costa County and \$511,000 for Alameda County.*

*PSIC and COPS grant projects are moving forward. A sole source letter was received from the State.*

**8. Receive Verbal Update on the Status of the Various EBRCSA Projects:**

*Director McCammon provided updates on various projects. The Fleetmapping project is moving forward with representatives from both counties acting as a steering committee to contact and receive input from representatives from each agency.*

*The 700/800 spectrum applications are ready to be submitted.*

*KPA architects are under contract with Alameda County to perform site development work for non county owned sites. The plans and specifications are required before bids can be submitted for work to begin on the sites.*

*Clearance has finally been given to enter the Livermore site. The generator was delivered yesterday, and LMR equipment is now going into Doolan.*

*The environmental review for the Altamont site is about 2/3 complete.*

*Ed Woo provided an update on the status of the West cell that is over 80% completed.*

**9. Agenda Items for Next Meeting:**

*Designate an Alameda County Fire Public Safety Representative to replace retired Cm. Bill Cody.*

*Receive update on CTA presentation to Oakland and their status.*

**10. ADJOURNMENT:**

*The meeting was adjourned at 10:25 a.m.*

*The next meeting date for the Operational Committee is December 4, 2009 at 9:30 a.m., in Room 1013 at the Alameda County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Services, 4985 Broder Boulevard, Dublin, California.*

APPROVED BY A MOTION OF THE EAST BAY REGIONAL COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM AUTHORITY THIS 4<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF DECEMBER, 2009.

Respectfully submitted,



Susan Lyon  
Secretary