



East Bay Regional Communications System Authority



Participating agencies include Alameda and Contra Costa Counties and the following cities and special districts: Alameda, Albany, Antioch, Berkeley, 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, Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority, Moraga-Orinda Fire District, Rodeo-Hercules Fire District, San Ramon Valley Fire District, California Department of Transportation, Ohlone Community College District, Contra Costa Community College District, Dublin-San Ramon Services District and University of California, Berkeley

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

REGULAR MEETING

DATE: November 8, 2019

TIME: 11:00 a.m.

PLACE: Alameda County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Services,
Room 1013
4985 Broder Blvd., Dublin, CA 94568

MINUTES

1. Call to Order/Roll Call: 11:00 a.m.

Committee Members Present:

M. Casten, Undersheriff, Contra Costa County Sheriff's Office
J. Calabrigo, Town Manager, Town of Danville
D. Twa, County Administrator, Contra Costa County
T. Dupuis, Chief Information Officer, Alameda County
S. Perkins, Councilmember, City of San Ramon
C. Silva, Councilmember, City of Walnut Creek
L. Smith, Assistant City Manager, City of Dublin

Staff:

T. McCarthy, Executive Director

Public:

S. Frew, Manager of Security and Emergency Preparedness, East Bay Municipal Utility District

2. Public Comments (Meeting Open to the Public): None.

3. Approval of Minutes of the September 13, 2019, Finance Committee Meeting

On motion of Bm. Perkins, seconded by Bm. Silva and by unanimous vote, the Finance Committee approved the minutes of the September 13, 2019 Regular Finance Committee meeting.

Bm. Calabrigo arrived at 11:01 a.m.

4. Provide Direction regarding East Bay Municipal Utility District Request to Join EBRCSA

Directed McCarthy presented the Staff Report and advised that S. Frew, Manager of Security and Emergency Preparedness at East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD), had enquired about EBMUD joining as a user of the System. The Operations Committee has agreed to discuss EBMUD coming on the System in terms of having the connectivity to public safety. They did not discuss fees or rates. EBMUD works on occasion with public safety, mainly fire departments. Current communications with those departments are relayed through a dispatch center. EBMUD is requesting to bring on 45 radios to be used day-to-day and in emergencies when they have to work with public safety. Because of the past conversations with EBMUD about lease agreements, it was not only necessary, but prudent to discuss this request with the Finance Committee. There are other similar agency users that are part of the Authority, such as Zone 7, Public Works agencies through member cities, and two sanitary districts, Ora Loma and Union City. Protocols, policies and procedures would have to be determined. Rates for a non-public safety agency would have to be determined. Currently, rates were \$45 a month per radio. Benicia had been charged an additional fee, as per the JPA, but were paying the same \$45 monthly rate as other Authority members.

The Boardmembers and Director McCarthy discussed pursuant to the JPA, that new parties may become members on any conditions prescribed by the Board including payment of special fees and charges. The same applied to the subscriber rates. The Authority was currently paying EBMUD lease payments of \$15,000 per site, plus annual increases. A comparable lease agreement with Alameda County StopWaste had a cost of \$2,987.24 a year. So, for EBMUD, a subscriber fee for 45 radios, equivalent to what the Authority was paying for the leases would be \$111.11 a month, per radio, to recover the cost of the leases. This did not include the \$45 cost per radio, per month all other member agencies pay. When the Authority was established, member agencies allowed the Authority use of their radios, equipment and infrastructure at no cost.

On motion of Bm. Perkins, seconded by Bm. Silva and by unanimous vote, the Finance Committee directed the Executive Director to negotiate with EBMUD to eliminate the current leases with EBMUD, or have a per radio cost to recover the lease costs, plus operating costs, in order for EBMUD to become users of the System.

5. Provide Direction on Request from AT&T to Lease Space on the Patterson Pass Tower

Director McCarthy presented the Staff Report and advised that AT&T was asking to collocate equipment at the Authority's Patterson Pass site in Livermore. The Authority currently leases this site from StopWaste, and Stopwaste included the Authority in its conversations with AT&T. The footprint of the site cannot be enlarged to accommodate AT&T's proposed equipment and AT&T had not provided a dollar amount for consideration. There could be an issue with allowing AT&T to collocate equipment at the site as it might hinder growth of the Authority's coverage and equipment, if needed in the future. He was going to get a quote from CSI to evaluate the space at the site. This cost would then be passed on to AT&T. He had asked AT&T for a list of their sites in Antioch as this might assist the Authority with possible equipment location to improve coverage in parts of Antioch. He still had not received that information from AT&T.

The Boardmembers discussed how this might become precedent for other entities to ask to collocate equipment on other Authority sites. Coupled with structural analysis of the tower, wind loads and other operational issues entities encountered AT&T, it was not recommend to move forward with this request.

On motion of Bm. Twa, seconded by Bm. Silva, the Finance Committee agreed to not recommend to the full Board, AT&T's request to lease space at the Authority's Patterson Pass site.

6. 2020 EBRCSA Draft Calendar Committee and Board Meetings

On motion of Bm Silva, seconded by Bm. Smith and by unanimous vote, the Finance Committee approved the 2020 EBRCSA Calendar of Committee and Board meetings, with the correction of the March Board meeting date to March 6, 2020.

7. Discussion of Nominations for the Board of Directors Chair and Vice Chair to be Voted on and Take Effect at the Close of the Meeting on December 6, 2019

Director McCarthy presented the Staff Report and advised that this item was to discuss nominations for and election of the Chair and Vice Chair, to take place at the December 6, 2019 Board meeting. Bm. Ahern had submitted his name as a nominee for Chair, as had Bm. Casten for Vice Chair.

The Boardmembers discussed the need to rotate between the Counties, the offices of Chair and Vice Chair; would this need a revision to the by-laws, or could there be an understood practice of predetermined rotations.

By consensus, the Finance Committee agreed to the election of Chair and Vice Chair at the December 6, 2019 Board meeting, and discuss the rotation between the Counties for the offices of Chair and Vice Chair.

8. Receive Information on Public Safety Power Shutdowns and Impact to EBRCSA

Director McCarthy stated the Authority had done well during the two recent Public Safety Power Shutdowns (PSPS). During the second shut down, three generators did not work. Replacements were later found from different sources. Although the Systems lost sites, it never lost functionality.

Boardmembers discussed the need for the Authority to acquire backup generators. Not all generators used by the System are owned by the Authority. The generators owned by the Authority were all of common manufacturer and size.

Executive Director McCarthy stated he was going to have a follow-up meeting regarding an after action plan and would return with recommendations for consideration in terms of generators and backup generators.

9. Update on the Faria Preserve Project, City of San Ramon

Executive Director McCarthy stated Faria One Preserve Project in San Ramon radio coverage was working but now they needed to check Faria Two, Three, Four and Five.

He met with San Ramon Building Division personnel and they felt that Faria Two and Three would require a new site, for which the developer would have to pay. A new site at Faria could help with Bollinger Canyon.

Bm. Calabrigo stated the bottom line was that Executive Director McCarthy was working to ensure that there would be coverage at Faria. How it was funded was between the City of San Ramon and the developer.

The Boardmembers discussed the possibility of recommending to member Cities a need for review of radio coverage when approving future developments.

10. Update of Capitol Replacement Project Proposal

Executive Director McCarthy stated he would be meeting with CSI to discuss further details to provide the information requested by the Finance Committee. He had received an example from Bm. Silva.

11. Update on Discussion of EBRCSA Microwave Upgrade and Transition to Multiprotocol Label Switching (MPLS)

Executive Director McCarthy stated in regard to the Microwave Upgrade and Transition to Multiprotocol Label Switching (MPLS), Motorola gave a quote and he had also received a quote from Aviat. He would be utilizing CSI to evaluate the quotes.

Bm. Perkins stated he had recommended the Executive Director create a consulting agreement with 1-3 consultants that could provide him with technical assistance. He was handling the management portion, but was not an electrical or radio engineer and there would be times when having that would be helpful.

Director McCarthy stated he was speaking to a firm in Seattle. There were not many around. He would be setting aside, in the budget, a not-to-exceed amount for assistance from contractors. CSI was bringing two engineers Monday that were subcontractors to them to help with the evaluation of the quotes.

12. Receive Information on City of Vallejo Speaking to EBRCSA Executive Director

Executive Director McCarthy stated he had been approached by the City of Vallejo to become a user of the System. He advised them they could provide public comment at the upcoming Board meeting and the Board could provide the Executive Director direction on a future agenda items.


The Boardmembers and Executive Director McCarthy discussed the System's coverage, and that it reached Solano County. Benicia was already using the System on a temporary basis. Very rough estimates could be anywhere from \$6-8 million for infrastructure, one or two sites, dispatch consoles, and swapping out of radios for City of Vallejo coverage. They would need to build at least one tower to access the System, a microwave for a dispatch center, radios and consoles. Solano County had been an original member of the three County analysis of EBRCSA. They did not have money at the time so they did not join. Benicia had reached its two year temporary deadline. What did the Authority want to do now about Benicia? This might impede Solano County's radio project.

13. Agenda Items for Next Meeting

Discussion on Benicia's Two Year Temporary Use of the System

14. Adjournment

With no further business coming before the Finance Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 12:13 p.m.



Caroline P. Soto
Authority Secretary