



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: February 21, 2020

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: 11:06 a.m.

Committee Members Present:

M. Casten, Assistant Sheriff, Contra Costa County Sheriff's Office
J. Calabrigo, Town Manager, Town of Danville
D. Twa, County Administrator, County of Contra Costa
S. Perkins, Councilmember, City of San Ramon
L. Smith, City Manager, City of Dublin

Staff:

T. McCarthy, Executive Director
C. Boyer, Alameda County
C. Soto, Administrative Assistant

Public:

N. Ashraf, Chief Innovation Officer, Vallejo
A. Cardwell, Assistant City Manager, Vallejo
T. Brooks, Police Chief, City of Antioch
G. Poole, Motorola

2. Public Comments (Meeting Open to the Public):

No comments were made at this time on items that were not on the agenda.

3. Approve the Minutes of the November 8, 2019, Regular Finance Committee Meeting

On motion of Bm. Twa, seconded by Bm. Calabrigo and by unanimous vote, the Finance Committee approved the minutes of the November 8, 2019 Regular Finance Committee meeting.

4. Provide Direction regarding the City of Vallejo Request to Join EBRCSA Made at the December 4, 2019, Board of Directors Meeting

Director McCarthy presented the Staff Report and advised the City of Vallejo was requesting to join the East Bay Regional Communications System Authority (EBRCSA) as a user. Its current radio system was not functioning properly and had not been maintained. Director McCarthy had met with City of Vallejo staff and had tested EBRCSA System radios for coverage, and the only problem area was Hiddenbrooke, in Vallejo. There was a clear understanding of where there was coverage and where there were problems with coverage in Vallejo. Vallejo was working to build its system. The Sheriff and Police Chiefs of Solano County have agreed to hire an engineering consultant to work on the Solano County JPA for its radio system. The JPA might take six months to a year to get drafted and approved. The City was looking to build its sites. It was made clear to the City of Vallejo that the Authority would not build any new sites or attain any new frequencies to bring them on the System. The Solano County radio shop manager stated he would acquire any new frequencies needed so when they moved to the Solano County radio system, they would take all their assets with them. They were looking at all the costs necessary to becoming an EBRCSA System user and had not yet purchased equipment until this request was considered and considered by the full EBRCSA Board.

Bm. Calabrigo asked if the Operations Committee had discussed the issue.

Director McCarthy stated the Operations Committee had discussed this item and expressed concerns that Vallejo's use of the System should not negatively impact the current member agencies' reception, and how long would the City of Vallejo need to be on the System.

Director McCarty stated the Cities of Fairfield and Vacaville had their own Smart Net System. The City of Suisun was contracting with Solano County right now. The issue was how old was their radio system and was it maintained. Benicia's costs to join EBRCSA as radio users was a one-time charge of \$4,000 for administrative costs, \$45 per-month, per-radio, and a one-time cost of \$200 per radio, as all other member agencies had paid.

The Boardmembers and Director McCarthy discussed the conditions of an agreement with Vallejo, including, administrative costs, per-radio charges, a defined number of years to be on the System, and a need to be able to rescind the agreement if the Authority experienced any coverage issues for its current member agencies. They should also require the City to purchase dual band radios in case it needed to revert back to its old radio system.

Director McCarthy stated the City of Vallejo would be connected to the Turquoise and Contra Costa County Central sites. Vallejo was going to build its own infrastructure to add to the Solano County radio system once it was built. The City of Vallejo was asking for approximately 300 Authority radios.

Bm. Twa stated the Authority needed an out of 60 or 90 days. He saw this lasting more than two years.

Director McCarthy stated the City of Vallejo was probably not coming on the System before the completion of the TDMA upgrade.

Bm. Perkins stated the agreement should require the City to purchase dual band radios and also use the same cost terms as used with Benicia.

Director McCarthy stated they could also request radio system updates from both Benicia and Vallejo.

Bm. Casten stated the two sites in questions, were the two that everyone rolled into when going to the jail.

Bm. Smith asked what role was Vallejo taking in moving the Solano County JPA forward.

Naveed Ashraf, Chief Innovation Officer, Vallejo, provided public comment and stated the City of Vallejo would take the lead in moving the Solano County radio system JPA forward. The City presently had an aging radio system and they would be investing in its current system that would ultimately be used for its Public Works and Water departments. This system could be a fall back radio system if they needed to leave the Authority's radio system.

Bm Calabrigo asked Mr. Ashraf what would be a reasonable timeframe to have this back-up radio system in place.

Mr. Ashraf stated they could get it done quickly. Previously, there was not a radio fund, but the City would start one. He believed it could be done by summer. There would be a contract done shortly with Mera Consulting to start the JPA. He confirmed that they would be purchasing dual band radios.

On motion of Bm. Calabrigo, seconded by Bm. Smith and by unanimous vote, the Finance Committee agreed to move forward to the full Board for consideration, an agreement with the City of Vallejo to be a user of the EBRCSA radio system for a period of two years, and at two-years, see if there had been substantial progress made on the Solano County radio system, with a hard stop of four years; with a cost of \$4,000 for administrative costs, \$45 per-month per radio, and a one-time fee of \$200 per-radio, the City of Vallejo must agree to purchase dual band radios; the number would be plus or minus 300 radios; the Authority would receive semi-annual reports on the status of the Solano County radio system, and Authority's radio system coverage. If there are any issues with the Authority's coverage, the Authority will have a 60-day period to rescind the agreement, at any time during the agreement. The agreement would also include any rate increases other member agencies were paying, would also apply to the City of Vallejo.

5. Provide Direction on Contract with CSI for Capitol Replacement Project

Director McCarthy presented the Staff Report and advised that this item would consider selecting a contractor to provide the Authority a 10-Year Capital Replacement Plan. He had received a quote for \$600,000 from IdeasInspired, and a quote of \$133,740 from CSI.

The Boardmembers and Director McCarthy discussed what the Plan format should look like; the assets should be field verified and assess the life and remaining life of component pieces, and a replacement schedule. They wanted to receive a living document they could work with and not have to hire a consultant to work with it.

On motion by Bm. Perkins, seconded by Bm. Twa and by unanimous vote, the Finance Committee agreed to move forward to the full Board for approval, the selection of CSI as the vendor to provide a 10-Year Capital Replacement Plan, for a cost of \$133,740.

6. Provide Direction on Simulcast Site Addition to Walton Lane

Director McCarthy presented the Staff Report and advised that Walton Lane was an area in Antioch that did not have full coverage. The Board had directed Executive Director McCarthy to find a solution for the lack of coverage. Alternatives he had looked at interfered with other cities' coverage. The Walton Lane site was the best alternative to provide coverage to the James Donlon area in the City of Antioch. Working with Motorola, they came up with what equipment would be needed. This fill in will help Contra Costa Fire, Sheriff, EMS, and East Bay Regional Parks in that area. The equipment cost would be \$1,065,845, and did not include PG&E costs. The suggested solution would be to place a trailer with outriggers at the site and place all the equipment in it. Antioch would be the only city with two sites on EBRCSA. He was asking what EBRCSA was willing to put toward the site, as well as discussing with Antioch, what was it willing to pay. What were the other member agencies that would benefit from the site going to pay?

The Boardmembers and Director McCarthy discussed what the JPA said about situations like this; when the System was built, they knew there were some coverage issues; how would they get power to the site, and how much would that cost. What did the Finance Committee support in terms of costs? There should be cost sharing on this site but to what extent by all parties.

Chief Tawnee Brooks, Chief of Antioch Police, provided public comment in favor of the Walton Lane site.

On motion of Bm. Twa, seconded by Bm. Perkins and by unanimous vote, the Finance Committee agreed to recommend to the full Board for consideration, that the Executive Director discuss with the City of Antioch a cost sharing plan for the Walton Lane site in Antioch as follows:

- EBRCSA will be responsible for the purchase of the necessary equipment and installation for the Simulcast Cell at Walton Lane, \$1,065,845, and be responsible for the FCC licensing and maintaining the Licenses.
- The City of Antioch will be responsible for any necessary permits, i.e.; building permits; the negotiation and lease of the tower space; the cost to connect to PG&E and ongoing cost, and of service; and, will provide the land and shelter or cabinets for the equipment.

7. Provide Direction on Purchase of Consoles for Alameda and Contra Costa Radio Shops

On motion of Bm. Calabrigo, seconded by Bm. Perkins and by unanimous vote, the Finance Committee agreed to move forward for approval to the full Board, the purchase of one Dispatch Console each for the Alameda County and Contra County Radio Shops.

8. Provide Direction on Changing the Meeting Start Time of the Operations Committee Meeting

The Finance Committee acknowledged this was an informational item only.

9. Receive an Update on EBRCSA Microwave Upgrade and Transition to Multiprotocol Label Switching (MPLS)

Bms. Calabrigo and Twa left at 12:38 p.m.

Director McCarthy stated he had met with Motorola and Aviat and had been given secondary questions to the proposal for the MPLS ethernet. Motorola had responded to CSI and Aviate would provide their response next week.

10. Receive an Update on the City of Benicia and Joint Powers Agreement

Director McCarthy stated they did not have a JPA yet, but were awarding a contract to a consultant to assist in getting it done.

11. Discussion on New Police Building for the City of Newark


Director McCarthy stated he had discussed with the City of Newark that it would have to pay the cost of moving its dispatch center and tower to its new police building. The Authority would not pay.

12. Agenda Items for Next Meeting:

Vice Chair Casten requested Finance and Operations Committee draft minutes be made available prior to the upcoming Board meeting.

13. Adjournment

With no further business coming before the Finance Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 12:41 p.m.



Caroline P. Soto
Authority Secretary