



JOINT POWERS AGENCY COMMISSION MEETING

MINUTES

May 7, 2009

1:00 p.m.

City-County Administration Building
1010 Tenth Street, Board Chambers
Modesto, CA 95354

Commission members present: Chairman Will O'Bryant; Fire Warden, Gary Hinshaw; Fire Chief Jim Miguel (Alternate); Vice-Chairman, Bill O'Brien; Judith Ray (Alternate); County Counsel, John Doering; City Attorney, Rolly Stevens

Absent: Chief of Police, Roy Wasden; C.E.O., Rick Robinson; (City of Newman) Chief of Police, Adam McGill (Alternate for Mayor, City of Newman)

Chairman Will O'Bryant called the meeting to order at 1:06 p.m.

Miguel/O'Brien Unan Approved minutes for March 5, 2009 meeting.

V. Regular Calendar

Miguel/O'Brien Unan **A-1** SR 9-1-1 Director Lucian Thomas presented and reviewed the City of Oakdale Greger Road Communications Site agreement. Director Thomas updated the Commission regarding the progress of the county wide interoperability project with the update that Homeland Security Funds would be used in Oakdale to build the tower, equipment shelter, and radio equipment. As is typical with Homeland Security Grants, once the Grant period is expired the ownership of the tower will transfer to the City of Oakdale. This is a common practice as Stanislaus Regional 9-1-1 partners with the cities they are working with. The agreement stipulates that Stanislaus Regional 9-1-1 will never be charged for rent for use of the site once the ownership is transferred to the City of Oakdale. The commission granted permission for Director Thomas to sign and enter into the agreement.

O'Bryant/Miguel Unan **A-2** Director Thomas presented the finalized budget for the 2009-2010 Fiscal year for the Stanislaus Regional 9-1-1 Dispatch Center. Director Thomas updated the Commission that we are a bit earlier in comparison to other departments, so as cap charges come through from the County, it can change the budget in it's final presentation. There was an additional \$200,000 in savings upon final review of expenses and adjustments. This was realized through lowering the Vacation/Holiday cash-out by approx. \$90,000, there is an additional \$32,000 savings for Worker's Compensation, as the County is not charging the agency for that. There were some additional savings in the Maintenance and Equipment account as it was combined with a similar account and that released those funds to be considered as an additional \$5,000 savings. There was a savings in Professional & Special Services and Radio Maintenance. There's also a savings with retirement, however the exact figures are not yet available, other than we expect additional savings that will therefore not be billed out to our users.

Fire Warden Hinshaw complimented Director Thomas and the entire SR911 staff for their efforts. Referring back there was an initial projection of \$76,000 savings, and the final budget has presented will below that. Fire Warden Hinshaw feels this should be attributed to the leadership at SR911, and wanted to appreciate them for those efforts. Chairman O'Bryant also shared his appreciation considering the state of the overall economy in a year like this; the department has done a 'good job'.

Ray/Hinshaw Unan **A-3** Director Thomas explained that because Stanislaus Regional 9-1-1 is not a police department the agency does not have permission from the Dept. of Justice to keep the information in house for agency vendors and potential employees, rather the fingerprint results are returned to the Police Dept. for record keeping. This has not really been a problem in the past; however with times as they are regarding security sensitivity, the agency has learned that with authorization the fingerprints requested can be retained within the department in confidential files. This will relieve the Police Department of the responsibility to track and maintain those records for people doing business with Stanislaus Regional 9-1-1, and allow the agency itself to oversee its own record keeping. Director Thomas indicated that this item is more of a housekeeping issue.

Hinshaw/O'Bryant Unan **A-4** Sheriff Adam Christianson presented the background to the Commission regarding Director Thomas's upcoming retirement. He asked to add an echo to Fire Warden Hinshaw's comments regarding the leadership at SR911. Things are getting accomplished and projects are moving forward, and it's nice not having to worry about the overall operation, and the standard has been set of getting things right the first time. Director Thomas and Deputy Director Parker have both done a terrific job and Sheriff Christianson commented that he could not thank them both enough for their service.

Director Thomas's impending retirement has raised concern with the user agencies regarding continuity of leadership and the completion of critical projects such as the CAD system. Sheriff Christianson expressed the desire of the user agencies to 'keep Lucian around for a little bit longer.'

Sheriff Christianson requested the Commission to facilitate this request by approving the Personal Services Contract, which results in some salary savings and keeps the leadership in place with the management oversight supervision for the agency's day to day operations. The Personal Services Contract is for a one year period, but it is anticipated that the agency will move back to the model of having a full time employee from the Modesto Police Dept., after completion of CAD project

Assistant Police Chief Mike Harden added to recognize and comment on Captain Thomas's retirement after 30 full years of service with the Modesto Police Department. Assistant Chief Harden said; "I've know Captain Thomas for 30 years, and I've never known anyone to be more dedicated to public safety and law enforcement in this county, and I just want to recognize him for his tireless devoted service to the City of Modesto and to all law enforcement public safety, so congratulations Lucian."

Chairman Will O'Bryant sought clarification that eventually the agency would again have a full time employee from the Modesto Police Dept.

Sheriff Christianson emphasized that with the current budget constraints it is more prudent to retain Director Thomas to oversee the critical projects, at least through their completion. After that time decisions will be made regarding the future leadership model for SR911.

Chairman O'Bryant commented in recognition for the work Director Thomas has done. He also asked to recognize the Sheriff's Dept. and the Police Dept. He remarked that he has "seen some fantastic changes occurring over the past seven years of sitting on the Commission. The agency has gone from an 'o.k.' working environment, and getting along, to what he feels is a fantastic dispatch center. Everyone works hard, they're dedicated, and it's an example of good work by the agency employees as well as the Police and Sheriff's Depts." Chairman O'Bryant commended everyone that works at SR911 for doing a great job and was especially happy that the Agency would not be losing Director Thomas.

Adjourned at 1:16 a.m.

ATTESTED: Kaye-Marie Newell, Joint Powers Agency Commission Clerk. The above is a summary of the minutes of the Governing Board of the Consolidated Emergency Dispatch Agency. Complete audio-taped minutes are available from the Stanislaus Regional 9-1-1 Administration office.