

**MOBILE COUNTY COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
Minutes of April 12, 2016**

***Commissioners Attending:***

Stephen Bowden	Cynthia Coleman	Trey Oliver
Richard Landolt	Jeff Reeves	Robert Adams

***Staff Attending:***

Charlie McNichol, Acting Director	Jeffery Hartley, Attorney
Dana Nelson, Administrative Assistant	

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REGULAR Board Meeting of the Board of Commissioners was held April 12, 2016, at the Mobile County Communications Center.

**Call to Order-** Chairman Bowden called the meeting to order at 08:03 am.

Chairman Bowden turned the floor over to Mr. McNichol. Mr. McNichol acknowledged National Telecommunicators Week. A week set aside by the public safety world to recognize operators and dispatchers for what they do.

Mr. McNichol brought to the front, the officials representing the five agencies which included:

Assistant Chief Battiste, City of Mobile Police Department  
Chief Ballard, Mobile Fire Rescue Department  
Charlie McNichol, Mobile County Communications District  
Cynthia Coleman, Mobile County Sheriff's Office  
Mark Turner, Mobile County Emergency Medical Services

Mr. McNichol introduced the operators/dispatchers from the five agencies listed above:

Latora Tunstall, MCCD 911 – 10 years  
Matt Kelly, MCEMS – 4 years  
Mickey Hollingsworth, MCSO – 20 years  
PSD II Ruth Grant, MPD – 6 years

**Approval of Minutes-** Chairman Bowden asked the Board to bring forth a motion to approve the minutes from the March 10, 2016 regular meeting. Commissioner Reeves offered a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Commissioner Oliver, all approved.

**Chairman Report-** No Report

**Treasurer Report-** Commissioner Coleman brought before the Board a motion for the approval of the claims list for March 2016. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Landolt, all approved.

**Personnel-** Commissioner Oliver offered an update on the search for Director of MCCD. There were 16 resumes received for the position of Director, the applicants were narrowed to 10. These 10 individuals will receive official notification today, April 12, 2016. Commissioner Oliver will get with Commissioner Coleman and Commissioner Reeves in order to schedule/conduct interviews via Skype or in person. Chairman Bowden requested a copy of all resumes be emailed to his attention for review.

**Planning-** No Report

**Communications-** Commissioner Reeves read Tusa Consulting's monthly status report. Each board member was given a copy of the report.

Commissioner Reeves brought up for discussion the need to create a position or a Radio System Administrator at MCCD. Chairman Bowden asked Commissioner Reeves to put together a job description. Commissioner Oliver suggested that Commissioner Reeves meet with Jeya Selvaratnam to put together a job description and requirements.

Commissioner Reeves brought up for discussion the P25, Phase I radio system currently running in Mobile County. This system is not being used by any entity in the county, however MCCD is paying for the monthly maintenance on this system. Commissioner Reeves recommends that it be sold to a smaller county that could use the upgrade.

Chairman Bowden questioned the ownership of this system and whether or not this system is a part of the \$3,000,000.00 grant received. Commissioner Oliver responded saying that we are part owners as we invested \$222,000.00. Commissioner Oliver asked Mr. Hartley to find out how the money was spent and the status of the equipment. We have not received any answers.

Commissioner Reeves responded saying that the system is operating on site and is being maintained monthly by Hurricane Electronics. It's sitting there running, using power, being maintained however no one is using it. Commissioner Reeves informed the Board that MCCD is paying for the maintenance of this system monthly.

Chairman Bowden asked if the system is running at all sites? Dirk Young, Hurricane Electronics confirmed that the system is running at 6 sites.

Commissioner Oliver asked Dirk Young, Hurricane Electronics, if anyone is using the system? Mr. Young responded by saying that no one is using the system.

Commissioner Oliver asked why we are paying for something that's not being used? Commissioner Reeves responded by saying that he would like to shut the system down, sell it to a smaller county and reclaim some money for Mobile County and MCCD.

Commissioner Landolt asked if we could at least turn the system off. Commissioner Reeves responded, you can turn the system off however with electronics sitting and not running this leaves the potential for moisture to build up. When you turn it back on it may or may not work. There's the cost of power, however keeping the system running assures us that it will work.

Chairman Bowden asked if this is a modern technologically capable system. Commissioner Reeves said it is. However we will soon be on the larger P25, Phase II system and we no longer need the Phase I.

Mr. Hartley is coordinating a meeting with Tusa Consulting and Mobile County to discuss the Phase I system.

Commissioner Oliver inquired on the status of the \$750,000.00. Mr. Hartley said that the \$750,000.00 is a part of the same grant and as such is part of the same discussion. The grant came through ALEA. Spencer Collier was in our previous meetings, however given the current situation, there have been some changes.

**Emergency Medical**- No Report

**Building/Configuration**- Mr. McNichol informed the Board that the bid opening for the fire suppression system will be Wednesday, May 4, 2016.

**Attorney**- No Report

**Acting Director**- Mr. McNichol reported on the meeting, March 30, 2016, with Exacom/Hurricane Electronics regarding the upgrade and maintenance of the recorder. Mr. McNichol described the meeting by saying that we are meeting and making some progress. However the prices are still high. Quite frankly there have been problems with the system, so a line was drawn in the sand until the system is fixed.

Mr. McNichol reported on the meeting with Harris Communications/Hurricane Electronics, April 1, 2016. We had requested some updated pricing and that's what we received. The Board has that information, but it is confidential. We will consider this information as we move forward.

**Old Business**- Mr. McNichol reminded the Board that the ethics forms, SEI forms, are due May 2, 2016. I don't think this applies to the newest board members as this is for calendar year 2015.

Chairman Bowden asked Mr. Hartley if the new members have signed the financial disclosure statements. Mr. Hartley replied that he wasn't sure if that had been done. Mr. Hartley directed Ms. Nelson to get the appropriate forms to the new board members.

Mr. McNichol informed the Board that MCCD had been notified on Friday, April 1, 2016 that the Alabama Department of Examiners would be conducting an audit which would begin the week of April 11, 2016. The audit includes the 2013-2014 and 2014-2015 fiscal years. She expects to be here for approximately 60 days. You are welcome to meet with her after the board meeting.

Commissioner Adams ask the Chairman Bowden if it's 'regular' to audit every 2 years?

Mr. McNichol stated that there is a new 9-1-1 law, 2013, establishing that every 9-1-1 district is to be audited every other year. MCCD was audited in 2014 for 2012-2013. We were due for an audit in 2016. We're cooperating and giving her assistance as needed.

**New Business-** Commissioner Adams made a recommendation to Chairman Bowden that there be an orientation for the new board member. Commissioner Adams recommends that the Board meet, after a board meeting, for breakfast, etc. to discuss the board meeting process. Chairman Bowden agreed that a meeting to discuss board meeting procedures is a good idea.

Mr. McNichol offered to help Commissioner Adams with the process.

Chairman Bowden asked if anyone had heard of an appointment. Mr. Hartley sent a letter to the County Commission inquiring as to the status of the appointment for the last board position.

Commissioner Oliver stated that traditionally this position represents the Mobile County Chiefs of Police Association. Mr. Hartley responded affirmatively.

Commissioner Oliver asked Mr. Ross, attorney for Mobile County, when this position would be appointed.

Mr. Ross said that he expects the item to be on the April 25, 2016 Mobile County Commission meeting agenda.

Commissioner Oliver asked Commissioner Reeves if the P25, Phase I system is more 'up-to-date' than the EDAC system? Commissioner Reeves said that the Phase I system was only 4 years old and it is definitely up to date. Commissioner Oliver suggests that the county purchase the Phase I system to replace the 'end of life' EDAC system so they can maintain their public works infrastructure.

Mr. McNichol said that he would get with Mr. Selvaratnum/Tusa Consulting to see what could be done.

Chairman Bowden noted that their might be a problem with the county's units not being compatible with the Phase I system.

Commissioner Oliver reminded the Board that they have all of our old Phase I units. All of the rebanding units are in the county's warehouse.

Chairman Bowden asked if there was any further business.

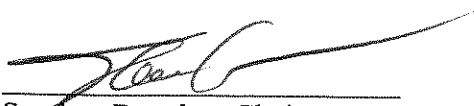
Mr. Dirk Young of Hurricane Electronics extended an invitation to all board members to come by Hurricane Electronics for a tour of the facility and to get to know him and his staff.

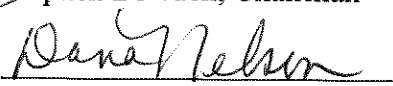
Chairman Bowden brought before the Board a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Landolt seconded, all approved.

**Announcement-** Next board meeting to be held Thursday, May 12, 2016.

**Adjournment-** Meeting adjourned at 8:40 am.

Respectfully Submitted:

  
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Stephen Bowden, Chairman

  
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Dana Nelson, Administrative Assistant