

MOBILE COUNTY COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Minutes of April 11, 2019

Commissioners Attending:

Roy Hodge

Glenn Hodge

Chris McLean

Jeff Reeves

Staff Attending:

Charlie McNichol, Director

Hayley Clough, Administrative Assistant

The REGULAR board meeting of the Board of Commissioners was held April 11, 2019 at the Mobile County Communications Center.

Call to Order – Commissioner R. Hodge called the meeting to order at 8:05 A.M.

Approval of Minutes – Commissioner McLean made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 14, 2019 meeting, seconded by Commissioner G. Hodge, all approved.

Treasurer Report – – Commissioner G. Hodge made a motion to approve the March Claims list, seconded by Commissioner Reeves, all approved. Commissioner McLean made a motion to authorize the transfer of \$533,748 from the Operating Account to the Debt Service Account for the month of April, seconded by Commissioner G. Hodge, all approved

Personnel – No Report

Planning – No Report

Communications – Director McNichol presented to the board the option of expanding the P-25 radio system. He spoke with Chairman Bowden earlier in the morning and stated he was in agreeance with the rest of the board on the decision they make. Director McNichol has been in discussion Robert Jackson and Harris about expanding the P-25 radio system to improve coverage. There is property in Washington County owned by the City of Chatom that can be made available to MCCD to build a tower site. The other P25 antennas (Citronelle and MOWA) can then be turned up and with an additional tower site the entire area will realize improved coverage. Director McNichol has spoken with the bond issue holder and the excess funding from the initial radio system project can be used to fund the expansion. Director McNichol asked the board if they would like him to continue to explore options for expanding the radio system. Commissioner Reeves stated this will be very beneficial to volunteer fire departments when working in mutual aide. Director McNichol stated the byproduct of this project is Washington County may want to get on our radio system, but that can be discussed at the proper time. Commissioner R. Hodge asked if our radio system would interfere with Washington County's if they decide to upgrade to which Robert Jackson responded no because they would have their own licenses and frequencies. Commissioner R. Hodge then asked if expanding would interfere with Mississippi to which Robert Jackson replied everyone would have to be in agreeance, but the spectrum analyst see no reason for it to be a problem. Harris now has the radio system contract for Jackson County, Mississippi and have already started looking into making Mobile's and theirs interoperable. Dirk Young stated that this type of expansion is already happening in Montgomery with hopes to have the whole state interoperable on P-25 in the future. Commissioner Reeves made a motion to allow Director McNichol to continue to explore the expansion, seconded by Commissioner G. Hodge, all approved.

Commissioner Reeves stated he is gathering information to present to the board about headsets for the volunteer fire departments. There are 18 departments in the County, and he is working to get the actual number of

headsets needed for each department. The headsets are needed because the radios can be hard to hear when in the loud trucks. Funding for the headsets would come from some of the excess radio system project bond.

Emergency Medical – No Report

Building/Configuration – The multi-purpose building is underway and should have the slab poured next week.

Board Attorney – In Mr. Hartley's absence, Director McNichol advised the Board there is a court date set for March 22 regarding the litigation case. Director McNichol also stated that Mr. Hartley is onboard with the radio system expansion.

Director – Director McNichol presented to the board the FY2018 audit from Russell, Thompson, Butler, & Houston.

Director McNichol presented to the board the amended budget for this year. State law mandates an adjustment to the 9-1-1 fee every five years. That adjustment has been made, which increased MCCD's revenues this year. Director McNichol would like to use some of that money to upgrade the county wide recording system. Some of the revenues will also be applied to attorney fees, vehicle costs, and building costs. Commissioner R. Hodge asked what the cost of the recording system upgrade will be to which Director McNichol replied somewhere between \$200,000-\$225,000 and will come from a certified purchase list.

Director McNichol presented to the board a payment to Reed-Hays Construction, LLC for work on the multi-purpose building. Any amount over \$50,000 must be presented to the board. Commissioner McLean made a motion to approve the payment, seconded by Commissioner G. Hodge, all approved

Old Business – No Report

New Business – No Report

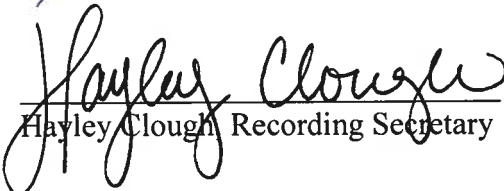
Announcement – Next board meeting to be held May 9, 2019. Director McNichol announced to the board that next week is National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week. MCCD has some meals planned as well as tokens of appreciation.

Adjournment – Commissioner Reeves made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner McLean, all approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:35 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted:



Stephen Bowden, Chairman



Hayley Clough, Recording Secretary