

MOBILE COUNTY COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Minutes of April 9, 2020 – Virtual

Commissioners Attending:

Stephen Bowden
Chris McLean

Roy Hodge
Glenn Hodge

Cynthia Coleman
Jeff Reeves

Staff Attending:

Charlie McNichol, Director
Hayley Clough, Recording Secretary
Ashley Carlisle, Comptroller

Jeffery Hartley, Attorney
Ruben Robinson, IT Director
Katrina Brewer, Communications Center Manager

The REGULAR board meeting of the Board of Commissioners was held virtually April 9, 2020 at the Mobile County Communications Center.

Call to Order – Chairman Bowden called the meeting to order at 8:01 A.M then read the proclamation designating April 12-18, 2020 as National Public Safety Telecommunications Week. Director McNichol stated he would sign the proclamation.

Approval of Minutes – Commissioner McLean made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 12, 2020 meeting, seconded by Commissioner G. Hodge, all approved.

Treasurer Report – Commissioner Reeves made a motion to approve the amended budget, seconded by Commissioner McLean, all approved. Commissioner Coleman explained to the board that the amended budget includes funds for supplying MDT's for every agency in Mobile County and the air cards for them, the Zeigler land purchase, and the funding for a storage facility on the new property. Director McNichol thanked the board for approving the amended budget and explained how helpful the MDT's will be to the agencies as some of them have never had MDT's before.

Commissioner Reeves made a motion to authorize the transfer of \$317,000 from the Operating Account to the Debt Service Account for the month of April, seconded by Commissioner G. Hodge, all approved.

Personnel – No report on personnel but Commissioner McLean wanted the MCCD employees to know how much the board appreciates everyone's sacrifice during this time and appreciates what they do every day.

Planning – No Report

Communications – No report on communications but Commissioner Reeves wanted the board to know how courteous and professional our 9-1-1 operators are. He received a callback yesterday from a hang up call and wanted to commend the operators for being polite and thorough.

Emergency Medical – No Report

Building/Configuration – Director McNichol stated that construction began this week on the fire line issue with MAWSS.

Board Attorney – Mr. Hartley reported that the Newman's case is on hold for now due to the state courts being closed to non-criminal cases.

Director – Director McNichol presented to the board the change order for the mobile command truck from Excellence. Commissioner R. Hodge made a motion to approve the change order, seconded by Commissioner McLean, all approved.

Director McNichol asked the board to consider an updated holiday calendar. When the holiday calendar from the County Commission was approved in September, one of the holiday dates was listed incorrectly. Commissioner McLean made a motion to approve the updated holiday calendar, seconded by Commissioner Reeves, all approved.

Director McNichol stated that MCCD is under contract with Harris for the tower expansion project. The Washington County Commission gave us some property to build the tower on, but it is too marsh-like and would cost upwards of \$500k to adjust it. The project is currently on hold until another property is found. Director McNichol will then meet with Mr. Hartley to amend the contract with Harris. Public property is difficult to find in Washington County and the board may need to look towards buying or leasing property. Commissioner McLean asked if we have a better idea of what to look for now in the property for the tower site to which Director McNichol responded yes. We started out with this specific property because it was given to us for free, but we will be looking at better properties if we have to purchase. The land will be surveyed before any contracts are signed.

Director McNichol informed the board about some of the steps MCCD has taken to combat COVID-19. We have limited the number of visitors into the building and semi-locked the building down. We have employees working in shifts to disinfect common areas around the building. We have also hired American Environmental to deep clean and disinfect the entire building. Chairman Bowden asked if the center was using PPE to which Director McNichol replied that our employees are doing such a good job keeping up with disinfecting that we do not need to implement PPE. Director McNichol also stated that the Board of Health has started supplying the addresses of confirmed cases to the 9-1-1 centers around the state. The addresses are then entered into CAD so first responders know to take extra precaution.

Director McNichol asked the board to look at the call data sheets in their packets. This data is from the first quarter of 2020 and will be supplied to the board every quarter. There has been an increase in domestic related calls as well as suicides since the onset of COVID-19.

Director McNichol discussed with the board the option of compensating the MCCD employees during this time. He is not looking to do anything now but would like the board to have it on their minds. Commissioner McLean asked if Director McNichol was talking about some type of hazard pay? He stated that he had in mind a possible merit increase once all of this is over or some other type of compensation.

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 Reeves made a motion to approve the payment, seconded by Commissioner McLean, all approved

Old Business – No Report

New Business – Commissioner McLean asked if MCCD had plans in place if we had an outbreak at the center to which Director McNichol stated that the IT Department and the agencies went to the backup center and readied all the equipment in case we need to move there.

Announcement – Next board meeting to be held May 14, 2020.

Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 8:35 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted:

Stephen Bowden, Chairman

Hayley Clough, Recording Secretary