

MOBILE COUNTY COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Minutes of January 14, 2021

Commissioners Attending:

Roy Hodge	Cynthia Coleman	Jeff Reeves
Chris McLean	Stephen Bowden	Glenn Hodge
Robert Adams		

Staff Attending:

Charlie McNichol, Director	Jeffery Hartley, Attorney
Hayley Clough, Recording Secretary	Ruben Robinson, IT Director
Ashley Carlisle, Comptroller	Katrina Brewer, Communications Center Manager

The REGULAR board meeting of the Board of Commissioners was held on January 14, 2021 at the Mobile County Communications Center.

Call to Order – Chairman R. Hodge called the meeting to order at 8:04 A.M.

Approval of Minutes – Commissioner McLean made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 10, 2020 meeting, seconded by Commissioner Adams, all approved.

Commissioner McLean made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 8, 2021 special called meeting, seconded by Commissioner Reeves, all approved.

Treasurer Report – Commissioner Reeves made a motion to approve the December claims list, seconded by Commissioner Adams, all approved.

Personnel – No Report

Planning – No Report

Communications – Robert Jackson reported that the Washington County tower site project is moving forward.

Emergency Medical – No Report.

Building/Configuration – No Report

Board Attorney – Mr. Hartley stated that deposition was taken in the Newman's case. Newman's took Mark Turner's and Mobile County EMS took Kenny Newman's. The reason we are involved is because Newman's feels like MCCD violated the bid laws by awarding the contract to MCEMS but there actually is no contract between us. Mr. Hartley reported that the courts are not really functioning due to COVID. Director McNichol stated that one good thing about the delay is that it has allowed everyone to become overly educated on the case. Mr. Hartley stated that he does not think we will have a hearing by February but possibly by March.

Director – Director McNichol discussed with the board the OTM Cyber Security contract. The vetting OTM, Andrew Slaughter has come across another cyber security company and has been researching the topic altogether. We are now looking at the other company and possibly next month will have a recommendation.

Director McNichol stated he has an email into MCSO to set up some planning to move forward with the sheriff's office MDT project.

Director McNichol stated that the land is cleared and will be moving forward with the warehouse soon.

Director McNichol stated that he would like to meet individually with the board regarding a high-level call once he has more information.

Old Business – Commissioner McLean asked about the progress of the Pursuit Alert project to which Chairman R. Hodge stated there has been a significant delay in assembly due to COVID. We are looking at the first week of February for the first units to be delivered. He has spoken with Director McNichol about some additional supplies that will be needed as well as the install of the equipment. Commissioner McLean asked if there would be training to which Chairman R. Hodge answered yes, there will be training and MPD will be changing their policies.

New Business – Commissioner Reeves brought before the board an issue with agencies in the county misplacing radios and MDT's. He stated MCCD has spent and continues to spend a lot of money to ensure everyone in the county has seamless communication, but we need to hold these agencies accountable for the equipment. Every agency has received radios from MCCD, and the radio department has given out even more radios to agencies as replacements. Commissioner Reeves stated he has no problem giving out equipment but there needs to be some accountability. One agency received around 50 radios initially and has already asked for approximately 10 more not too long ago, and now they are asking for more. Robert Jackson has an inventory list ready to compare to the agencies to see where the discrepancies are. One of the police chiefs is supposed to meet with Ruben Robinson next week regarding this matter as well. Robert stated that an audit was completed at another agency and there was a large percentage of missing equipment and shut down anything that could not be accounted for. Commissioner McLean stated that MCCD may want to audit every agency in Mobile to see if there are any other issues. Director McNichol stated that we have a list of serial numbers and asset tags that can be compared to the equipment each agency has. He stated that the new year is a good time to create a new policy and he will be working with Mr. Hartley to create an MOU and audit process.

Chairman R. Hodge stated that there was an incident this week where MPD was trying to track down a suspect and a manhunt ensued. It started on Monday night and carried into Tuesday. He stated that it came to his attention that we need a command post and he called upon Director McNichol to deploy the mobile command truck. The truck was deployed and set up with an hour but luckily the guy was captured before it was utilized. He stated it was nice to see the truck that the board built being used in a time of need.

Another nice asset he brought before the board was the Rave Alert System. During the same manhunt, MCCD was able to send out an alert to a geo-fenced area to inform the public of the situation. Andrew was able to send the alert of almost immediately after it was requested by the police department.

Commissioner Reeves wanted to thank Ashley Carlisle and Ruben for doing a great job while Director McNichol was out.

Guy Stevens with Communications International introduced himself to the board as Hurricane Electronics has been acquired by CI.

Announcement – Next board meeting to be held February 11, 2021.

Adjournment – Commissioner Reeves made a motion to adjourn. Meeting adjourned by 8:52 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted:



Roy Hodge, Chairman



Hayley Clough, Recording Secretary