

MOBILE COUNTY COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Minutes of June 10, 2021

Commissioners Attending:

Roy Hodge
Stephen Bowden
Chris McLean

Cynthia Coleman
Jeff Reeves

Glenn Hodge
Robert Adams

Staff Attending:

Charlie McNichol, Director
Hayley Clough, Recording Secretary
Ruben Robinson, IT Director

Jeffery Hartley, Attorney
Ashley Carlisle, Comptroller
Katrina Brewer, Communications Center Manager

The REGULAR board meeting of the Board of Commissioners was held on June 10, 2021 at the Mobile County Communications Center.

Call to Order – Chairman R. Hodge called the meeting to order at 8:02 A.M.

Approval of Minutes – Commissioner McLean made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 13, 2021 meeting, seconded by Commissioner Coleman, all approved.

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

Commissioner McLean made a motion to approve the MCCD Budget-To-Actual, seconded by Commissioner Reeves, all approved.

Personnel – Director McNichol stated that he sent an email to the board last week regarding post-retirement benefits for employees. He and Ashley Carlisle did some research with other agencies about the matter as well. The plan would be to offer employees that have 25 years of service or have reached the age of 60, with 10 years of service, insurance covered by the district. The insurance would cost roughly \$1,000 a month until the retiree reaches 65, then it would be \$199 a month for Medicare. Commissioner Bowden stated that he is all in favor of the plan but would like an actuary study done on the costs before adopting it. Commissioner G. Hodge asked if this is for family coverage to which Director McNichol stated that this would be for the retiree only.

Commissioner McLean brought up the Operations Manager position to the board. Director McNichol sent out a job description and sample advertisement to the board this morning and Commissioner McLean advised he would like to see it go out. Director McNichol stated that he would like to go ahead and advertise the position, so we are ready to go on October 1, 2021. Commissioner G. Hodge asked if the position requires GIS experience to which Director McNichol responded to him that the position does not require GIS experience, but it is desired. Commissioner McLean made a motion to approve the position and advertisement, seconded by Commissioner Reeves, all approved.

Planning – No Report

Communications – Robert Jackson reported on the tower construction project at MOWA. He stated that the tower is designed to cover a large area and they have obtained the license to cover it from the FCC.

He also reported on the Hobson tower site project and stated that the tower should be functional by the end of summer.

Chairman R. Hodge stated that the Oak Hill renderings have been sent to Councilman Richardson.

Chairman R. Hodge asked if MCCD had any involvement with the accident with Deputy Smith to which Robert responded no, we do not have the ISSI gateway completed yet.

Director McNichol stated that across the state, there is a huge effort to move towards interoperability. Robert was appointed to the state-wide radio commission to help with this. Mobile is a significant player in the state-wide project.

Emergency Medical – No Report.

Building/Configuration – No Report

Board Attorney – Mr. Hartley reported that the Newman’s litigation is being dismissed and they will be refile. MCCC will be excluded when it is refiled. Mr. Hartley stated that he does not want a judgement to be rendered that involves MCCC that we do not have a say in. If that happens, there are practices in place to insert ourselves if needed.

Mr. Hartley brought up the board meetings being held via Zoom. We went to Zoom due to COVID but there is the question of when do we go back to strictly in-person meetings? Mr. Hartley stated that if we offer Zoom to anyone, we have to offer it to everyone.

Director – Director McNichol stated that the advertisement for the down-stacking on the EDACS tower is going out next week. When we acquired the EDACS system from the County Commission, we also acquired the tower sites, and they need to be taken down. Some of the towers are too close to the new towers and if a storm comes and knocks it over, it could cause major damage to the new Harris system. Director McNichol stated that the bid will not be awarded until the board has a chance to review it.

Director McNichol stated that the advertisement for the COW is currently out. The COW is a portable tower site and if any of the tower sites go down, this COW would be used to assist. This bid will also not be awarded until the board has a chance to review it. Chairman R. Hodge asked if the tower site is self-contained or if we would need a truck to pull it with to which Director McNichol stated that we will be getting a truck to pull it with, but it will be a used truck to save on the cost. Commissioner Bowden asked if MCCC purchased a portable tower site a few years back to which Robert responded that we received one when we acquired the EDACS system, but it is not suitable for what we need it for now.

Director McNichol stated that we are deploying the mobile command truck to an event in Marshall County in two weeks. As part of the state deployment team, we will be putting up a radio system for 5 days during the event. All operations for the event will be run out of the mobile command truck. Robert stated that the truck has been used for multiple events including Fat Tuesday, an event in Grand Bay, and in Baldwin County after Hurricane Sally.

Director McNichol spoke on the in-service training MCCC will be having this month. A doctor from Alta Pointe will be coming to discuss calls from the mentally ill. Commissioner McLean asked if we could open the training up to the outlying agencies to which Director McNichol responded yes, we can and we will have another training for the outlying agencies right after MCCC’s in-service training.

Director McNichol presented to the board a change order from Harris for \$10,000. The change order is for the increase in steel prices for the Hobson Tower Site. Director McNichol also presented to the board payments to Burkholder Insurance and BCM Moring Company. Any amount over \$50,000 must be approved the board. Commissioner Adams made a motion to approve the change order to Harris and the payments to Burkholder Insurance and BCM Moring Company, seconded by Commissioner G. Hodge, all approved.

Director McNichol stated that there is a building on the MOWA tower site property that is 25-30 years old, and we do not want to maintain it. He would like the board to declare the building as surplus property so that we can sell it. The gentleman that owns LandSea wireless, approached Robert about acquiring the building to put his equipment in. Director McNichol stated that MCCC would like to sell the building to him for \$1,000. Chairman R. Hodge asked if there was a risk to having his equipment in the building under our tower to which Robert responded that it would be a very low risk. Commissioner Bowden asked if this complicates things with the MOWA tribe because we do not

actually own the property? Mr. Hartley responded that we could add some language to an agreement that protects us. Commissioner McLean made a motion to declare the building as surplus, seconded by Commissioner Reeves, all approved.

Director McNichol asked the board to text "MOBILEALERT" to 226787. This is the new text number to sign up for alerts from Mobile County Communications District. Once you have texted the number, you will receive a message back asking you to sign up for Smart 9-1-1.

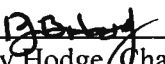
Old Business – Commissioner McLean asked how the install of Pursuit Alert is going to which Director McNichol responded that the Mobile County Sheriff's Office picked theirs up the week before last and the installation should be complete soon. Once the installation is complete, we will be having a press conference about Pursuit Alert and will be encouraging the public to download the app.

New Business – No Report

Announcement – Next board meeting to be held July 8, 2021.

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

Respectfully Submitted:



Roy Hodge, Chairman



Hayley Clough, Recording Secretary