

**Dakota Communications Center
Executive Committee
Meeting Minutes: 08/07/2019**

Members Present: Tom Lawell – Apple Valley; Melanie Mesko-Lee – Burnsville; Matt Smith – Dakota County; Dave Osberg – Eagan; David McKnight – Farmington; Julie Flaten – Hastings
Justin Miller – Lakeville; Mark McNeill – Mendota Heights; Logan Martin – Rosemount; Ryan Schroeder – West St. Paul

Members Absent: Joe Lynch – Inver Grove Heights; Joel Hanson – South St. Paul

Alternates Present: BJ Battig – Dakota County

Others Present: Tom Folie, Cheryl Pritzlaff, Jen Hildebrandt – DCC; Lakeville Fire Chief Mike Meyer – Fire/EMS Chair

1. Call the Meeting to Order

Recognizing a quorum, Chair McNeill called the meeting to order at 3:00pm.

2. Roll Call

Members in attendance are noted above.

3. Approve Agenda

Discussion:

No Discussion.

Action: Motion by McKnight (Farmington) to approve the agenda. Second by Martin (Rosemount). Motion passed unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

4.

- a. **Approve minutes from the May 8th, 2019 Executive Committee meeting.**
- b. **Approve paid claims.**
 - **April 1st – 30th, 2019**
 - **May 1st – 31st, 2019**
 - **June 1st – 30th, 2019**
- c. **Receive Unaudited Financial Reports**
 - **May, 2019**
 - **June, 2019**
- d. **Receive Executed Contracts & Agreements**
- e. **Receive Operations Committee Meeting Minutes**
- f. **Recommend authorization of Executive Director to approve ancillary benefits**

Discussion:

None

Action: Motion by Osberg (Eagan) to approve the consent agenda. Second by Miller (Lakeville). Motion passed unanimously.

REGULAR AGENDA

Action Items

- 5. LELS 336 – Dispatchers Collective Bargaining Agreement**

Discussion:

Folie (DCC) noted that while items 5 & 6 should be voted on separately, he would like to address them at the same time.

Folie noted that negotiations went smoothly, taking only 2 – 3 meetings with each group. Folie reviewed the terms tentatively agreed to with each union.

Lawell (Apple Valley) inquired if the cost of the agreed changes was evaluated, and what that meant to the budget. Folie (DCC) confirmed that the 2020 budget was approved considering potential union negotiation impacts and all items tentatively agreed to should be covered by the approved budget with no additional impact.

Miller (Lakeville) asked if the DCC got what it wanted. Folie (DCC) confirmed stating that some of the DCC desires were control-related and contract clarification on some items that were interpreted one way by administration and another way by the unions.

Additional questions focused on clarification about the differentials.

Action: Motion by Miller (Lakeville) to recommend approval of LELS 336 Dispatchers 2020-2021 Collective Bargaining Agreement. Second by Martin (Rosemount). Motion passed unanimously.

6. LELS 368 – Supervisors Collective Bargaining Agreement**Discussion:**

Action: Motion by McKnight (Farmington) to recommend approval of LELS 368 Supervisors 2020 – 2021 Collective Bargaining Agreement. Second by Smith (Dakota County). Motion passed unanimously.

7. Non-union 2020 Medical Insurance Premium Split**Discussion:**

Folie (DCC) reported that the proposed 2020 medical insurance premium split for non-union staff mirrored what was just approved for the union-represented personnel. The DCC would pay 90% of the single premium increase and 75% of the plus and family premium increases.

Lawell (Apple Valley) asked how this compared with 2019. Folie (DCC) noted that it was the same as was done for 2019.

Mesko-Lee (Burnsville) inquired what percentage and budget increases looked like. Hildebrandt (DCC) responded that the Premium increase was 13.5%. This included an 11% rate cap guarantee and an additional 2.4% PCORI Fee increase. Hildebrandt added that based on current enrollment, the proposal for all staff would come in under the approved budget of \$749,313. Hildebrandt also added that the approved 2020 budget reflected an increase of 12.3% with contingent funds available to cover any additional costs due to PCORI or other fees put into place after budget adoption.

Action: Motion by Mesko-Lee (Burnsville) to recommend approval of the non-union 2020 medical insurance premium split as presented. Second by Miller (Lakeville). Motion passed unanimously.

Information Updates/Discussion Items**8. Governance Report****Discussion:**

McNeill (Mendota Heights) reminded members that as recommended by the Executive Committee, the DCC Board of Directors approved a resolution developed on behalf of the DCC consortium requesting Dakota County consideration of taking over control and funding of Dakota Communications Center. McNeill (Mendota Heights) reported that the County Board of

Commissioners met on Tuesday, August 6th to consider the resolution. In attendance from the DCC consortium were Executive Director Tom Folie and Executive Committee members Mark McNeill, Matt Smith and Justin Miller.

McNeill noted that all seven commissioners expressed concerns with the resolution, specifically two points. The first was that the consortium didn't first consider restructuring governance within the JPA structure before pushing for County takeover. The second was the desire for the County to take over the costs associated with the DCC organization.

Battig (Dakota County) noted that he understood the discussion to be concerns related to why the County would want to take over DCC operations. They questioned if there were any efficiencies that the County would benefit from, or was it simply member desires to have the County cover the costs. Battig speculated that the Board seemed to be open to visiting further, but they hadn't received anything that supported total County take-over of operations or costs.

Miller (Lakeville) commented that the Board of Commissioners made it very clear that the main issue was money and that under no terms were they willing to take on the cost of the DCC operations. Miller admitted that it was not an unexpected response.

Smith (Dakota County) commented that while the message was clear that they had no interest in taking over total cost or control of the DCC, the Board of Commissioners didn't say they were not willing to consider financial changes. Smith added that there may need to be some research done into per capita costs under different organizational formats. Smith acknowledged that would not be easy.

Miller (Lakeville) suggested maybe it was time to revisit discussions about restructuring and streamlining of the current DCC Governance. Miller added that he was still intrigued by the idea of the Anoka County funding model where there was a county-wide levy that was spelled out separately on tax statements. Miller opined that the cost would be very transparent and clear. Miller reminded that the County share of the costs were currently levied dollars so city residents were covering both the city's and county's portion.

Smith (Dakota County) acknowledged and suggested there were numerous different ways of spreading the costs out more accurately, including paying the county share of costs via non-levy revenue opposed to tax levy dollars and then billing townships for their share. Smith suggested this would be minimally disruptive to all parties. Smith suggested that another option would be to "carve out" a tax district.

Miller (Lakeville) commented that he felt there were dual tracks that needed to be run at this point. The first track would be to work internally on the restructuring of governance. The second track would be to consider different funding options like what Smith had suggested. Smith (Dakota County) agreed.

Battig (Dakota County) reminded the group that the workgroup originally tasked with review of the governance restructuring was:

Executive Committee: Justin Miller, Steve King, BJ Battig
Law Enforcement: Brian Lindquist, Jeff Long, Bryan Schafer
Fire/EMS: BJ Jungmann, Mike Meyer, Mike Scott
DCC: Tom Folie

McNeill (Mendota Heights) commented that a report should be ready for the Board of Directors at their August 15th meeting. Folie (DCC) acknowledged and reminded members that the financial piece was supposed to be reviewed every 5 years and had been put on hold for the governance discussion. Folie asked if that should proceed or if it should stay "as is" until the

governance restructuring progresses. Smith (Dakota County) suggested that while efforts can be made behind the scenes to consider acceptable financial options, nothing should be done until the restructuring progressed. Miller (Lakeville) agreed.

Recognizing the appetite of the DCC elected officials to push for County control of the DCC operations, Martin (Rosemount) questioned if members felt the reaction from the Board would be met with any adverse response from the DCC Board of Directors. Mesko-Lee (Burnsville) responded stating she was going to be visiting with her councilmember about this.

Osberg (Eagan) commented that he was perplexed on the County Board direction to revisit the hybrid DCC committee. Osberg questioned if the suggestion was that the new hybrid committee become the new governance structure. Smith (Dakota County) responded that he didn't think the message from the County Board was "No" to everything desired. Smith clarified that his understanding was that the county was not willing to take over 100% control of the center. As such, the suggestion was to revisit the streamlining of DCC governance, and as a consortium, the finance piece could be further discussed. Smith suggested that if the county were to eventually take over management of the center, the streamlined governance could become an advisory committee.

McNeill (Mendota Heights) commented that until such time the county did take over control of the center, there was a need to continue having member elected officials involved. Lawell (Apple Valley) referred to the handout that identified two separate committee structures. The first included elected officials and the second did not. Lawell commented that he seemed to recall the DCC attorney stating that the Board of Directors needed to remain in place and that should be verified.

Battig (Dakota County) referred to workgroup meeting minutes from September 6th, 2017 and noted that a proposal was made to focus on governance first and engage legal counsel to revise the bylaws based on a 6/3/3 split. Six administrators/managers, three fire representatives and three law representatives, but retaining the Board of Directors as the governing body. That direction was then tabled to address the Executive Director replacement effort.

McNeill (Mendota Heights) suggested the hybrid reconvene, focusing on the 6/3/3 structure and how to implement it. Miller (Lakeville) acknowledged and added that the group would have to consider if that restructuring would solve the identified issues. Miller commented that the Board should receive a report, and be asked what they think about reconvening the workgroup in an effort to streamline governance.

Smith (Dakota County) added that the Board should also be asked if they want to charge someone to look at formula allocation modifications or some kind of financing short of full county funding. Lawell (Apple Valley) agreed noting that seemed to be the opening the County Board left on the table, so it should certainly be explored.

McNeill (Mendota Heights) reminded members that the Board of Directors would be meeting at 8:00am on August 15th if anyone wanted to attend.

Action: No action. Direction provided.

9. Executive Director Report

Discussion:

Goals – Folie provided a mid-year update on goals. Battig (Dakota County) referred to the desire to get another COML on staff and clarified that current supervisors Doris Lake and Troy Ruby were COMLs. Folie confirmed, stating that Dakota County Radio Services personnel Ron Jansen was a COMT.

Mesko-Lee (Burnsville) referred to the addition of another dispatch supervisor for 2020 and the plan to assign a dispatch supervisor to quality assurance. Mesko-Lee also recognized that Folie noted that this was a partial response to the Winbourne study done previously. Mesko-Lee asked if there was any sort of matrix or plan to implement some of the recommendations. Folie (DCC) explained that a number of the items had already been addressed and/or determined to be recommendations that could not be acted on due to other factors. Folie agreed to provide an update at the September Executive Committee meeting.

Folie (DCC) provided a brief update on a number of other items that were either finishing up or were currently underway including:

- ASAP to PSAP
- Floor Remodel Budget Recap
- Guardian Tracking Performance Management
- Employee Recognition
- Scheduling Software
- Back-up Dispatch Facility
- CAD to CAD capability through CentralSquare

Action: No action. Update only.

OTHER BUSINESS

Flaten (Hastings) reported that Hastings had recently filled their city administrator position and the new administrator would be in place early October, 2019.

ADJOURN

Action: Hearing no new business, the meeting was adjourned by chair declaration at 4:02pm.

Next Regular Meeting:

September 4th, 2019
3:00pm
DCC
Training Room