



Central Vermont Public Safety Authority

"Together is Better"



Minutes of Public Hearing January 18, 2018 on proposed FY 2019 Budget
And

Minutes of the CVPSA Board meeting of January 18, 2018

PUBLIC HEARING

A Public Hearing having been duly warned for 6:30 PM January 18, 2018 at the Central Vermont Chamber of Commerce Building in Berlin, VT, regarding the proposed budget for the Authority for FY 2019, the meeting was called to order by Chairman Tom Golonka at 6:33PM

Members of the public present were David Rubalcaba, Laurie Hedin, Caroline Earl, and David Delacore. CVPSA Board members present were: Tomas Golonka, Michael Smith, Kimberly Cheney, Samuel Dworkin, Martin Prevost and Douglas Hoyt.

Executive Director, Paco Aumand presented a "Hearing Document" containing a summary of the Authority budget for information. He stated that the budget for FY 2019 was for \$100,000 made up of a requested contribution by Barre City of \$31,800, Montpelier \$28,200 and \$40,000 from Authority reserve funds. The budget funds the executive director for one year.

The Budget contains performance objectives and "deliverables" to be completed by November 2018:

- Prepare plans for a regional Simulcast Radio System
- Prepare plans for a single center for regional dispatching
- Legislative support of regional dispatching as suggested in S 273 pending Senate Government Operations Committee

- Implement public outreach and information dissemination regarding these projects.
- Prepare an exit strategy for discontinuing operations of the Authority if projects did not meet with public support to continue.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Carolyn Earl supported authority objectives and welcomed objective measures to determine progress on projects.

Mike Smith suggested the Authority Web site, contain links to documents with supporting data.

No further comments. The meeting was declared closed by Chair Golonka at 6:50 PM.

AUTHORITY BOARD MEETING

Agenda moved by Smith, seconded by Dworkin and approved
Invoice for reimbursement of executive director's salary to Montpelier was moved by Smith, seconded by Dworkin and approved.

Minutes of Board Meeting of January 4, 2018 moved by Smith, seconded by Prevost and approved.

Aumand gave the Executive Director's report, summarizing the report prepared for the public hearing. He stressed the need to engage the City Councils in taking part in the planning for projects pointing out the Board could not proceed alone.

S 273 (Senate Gov. Ops hearing) was summarized. There is an acute State wide need to recruit, retaining and sustain Police officers and dispatchers. Montpelier Chief Facos represents the Vermont Police Association in testimony before the legislature. He testified to the need to provide equity in funding dispatch services. Commissioner of Public Safety reversed the position of his predecessor and wants to continue having VSP providing 911 call handling services, and not terminate that function, in contrast to the stated position in

the draft of S 273. VSP provides free dispatching services of 105 separate units producing inequity in services and payments.

Aumand summarized his testimony (1) Data for Vermont Criminal Information Center is not currently collected completely sufficient to provide accurate crime information to the FBI. This needs to be remedied, (2) 911 calls must be handled by a "Public Safety" entity – cannot be ad hoc units. Enhances need for regional services. (3) grants would facilitate regional systems in Central Vermont and Chittenden County.

DISCUSSION

Earl foresaw the need for pertinent committees to be established for the simulcast Radio and single dispatch center projects. Both committees would be enhanced by membership including fire fighters, police dispatchers and public. Urged Capital Fire Mutual Aid System (Cap Fire) be an Authority member rather than merely purchasing dispatch services.

Aumand noted that Simulcast and Single Dispatch Center can be separate projects. He would Notice the At Large Member election.

Golonka initiated discussion of how Cap Fire would be accommodated on the Authority Board of directors, the function of at large members, and the possibility of needing a charter change.

Golonka read an email for City Manager McKenzie reflecting Barre Mayor Lauzon's views that the Authority should recover planning money from any new members of the Authority. Board discussion was not supportive because money spent was hard to recover and will be needed for future projects, no action was taken.

Adjournment moved by Smith seconded by Dworkin and approved at 8:06 PM