



BLOUNT COUNTY 911

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Minutes of Regular Meeting of the Blount County 911 Board

December 19, 2024

A Regular Meeting of the Blount County 911 Board was held on December 19, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. at the Blount County 911 Center in Oneonta. An announcement of the meeting was posted on the board in the lobby of the Blount County 911 Center, Blount County Courthouse, Blount County 911 Facebook page and Alabama Secretary of State Website one week prior to the meeting.

Board Members Present:

Charles Parsons, Brandon Horton, James Chapman, Scott Payne, Steve Pass, and Commissioner Bradley Harvey.

Board Members Absent: Sheriff Mark Moon.

Guests and Delegations Present:

Derrick Walker (Director), Amanda Connell (Admin), Alex Smith (BCCD Attorney), Sandy Shelton (BCCD Shift Supervisor), Scott Barnett (State of Alabama 911 Board Attorney), Joshua Horton (Locust Fork), Jonathan Dempsey (Oneonta Police Dept), Clay Jones (West Blount Fire Dept), Nick Washburn (Blount County Commission), Allen Armstrong (Blount County Commission), Chad Trammell (Blount County Commission), and Chase Moore (Blount County Commission).

1. Call to Order

Chairman Brandon Horton called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Amanda Connell recorded the minutes. A quorum of members was present, and the meeting, having been duly convened, was ready to proceed with business.

2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation: Charles Parsons gave the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance: The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Brandon Horton.

3. Approval of the Minutes

- Motion was made by James Chapman to, "Amend and approve minutes."
- Seconded by Scott Payne.
- Motion passed unanimously.

4. November Financial Report

- General Discussion Held.
- Director Walker gave a brief overview of the November Financials.
 - Closing Balances as of November 30, 2024:
 - General Fund - \$417,659.94
 - Cash on Hand, minus Grant Money - \$214,819.25
 - Motorola Escrow - \$286,367.67
 - Savings/Depreciation - \$578,662.69
- Motion was made by Steve Pass, "Approve the November Financial Statement".
- Seconded by Scott Payne.
- Motion passed unanimously.

5. Town of Snead Mayor

- The Town of Snead Mayor was not present for this Board Meeting.

6. Old Business

- VHF Fire 1 Update
 - Director Walker stated that the Board authorized Blount County Communications District to update and reprogram the VHF Fire 1 repeaters across the county and change the PL tone. We have worked with the Blount Fire EMS Association, to include having to reprogram mobile radios in the field. Currently with MCA, the schedule they have provided, is they will begin monitoring for interference on December 26, 2024, at the Palisades Tower.
- Address Request Online Payment
 - Director Walker discussed that at the last Board Meeting, a motion was made to suspend the addressing fees that we were charging and to place the services online. Since moving the service online, it has been working flawlessly. Per Amanda, at the State Examiners Office, if

we are charging it would be a finding on all future audits.

- Motion was made by Commissioner Bradley Harvey to, "Cancel the addressing fees."
- Seconded by Scott Payne.
- Motion passed unanimously.
- 24/25 Dispatch Contract Update/Payments
 - General Discussion Held.
 - Blount County Commission – Paid \$184,251.35, Balance \$0.00; still need executed contract
 - City of Blountsville – Paid \$0.00, Balance \$46,608.76; still need executed contract
 - City of Leeds – Paid \$0.00, Balance \$230,249.61; still need executed contract
 - City of Oneonta – Paid \$49,500.00, Balance \$49,834.18
 - Town of Cleveland – Paid \$9,943.98, Balance \$0.00
 - Town of Hayden – Paid \$12,738.16, Balance \$0.00
 - Town of Highland Lake – Paid \$0.00, Balance \$1,267.95; still need executed contract
 - Town of Snead – Paid \$0.00, Balance \$35,760.78; still need executed contract
 - Town of Susan Moore – Paid \$0.00, Balance \$12,785.12; still need executed contract
- Stream South Camera Server Quote (CJIS)
 - Director Walker discussed that we have a camera solution that is not working about 50% of the time. At the last board meeting, BCCD provided a quote from Stream South for a NVR, not any cameras, and the Board requested Director Walker to get additional quotes. BCCD received an estimate to replace the camera solution (indoor and outdoor) at this dispatch center and a NVR to be compliant with FBI requirements and Alabama Criminal Justice Information System. A quote was given by B&S Aerial for \$10,007.50. This is to replace the full camera solution within dispatch with a non-networked camera system. This camera system will not be accessible off premises. This will not take care of all the camera. The PTZ camera would not be on this system, and the cameras at the tower sites would not be on this system.
 - Motion was made by Scott Payne to, "Go with B&S Aerial quote to replace."
 - Seconded by Commissioner Bradley Harvey.

- Motion passed unanimously.
- Annual Review of By Laws
 - Director Walker discussed that our current by laws state that the second board meeting of the fiscal year, at the November meeting, the bylaws are to be reviewed.
 - Chairman Brandon Horton discussed that it was his intent at the January meeting to establish a committee to review the bylaws.
 - Chairman Brandon Horton requested this to be tabled until the next board meeting.

7. 911 Operations Manager Introduction

- General Discussion Held and Introduction.

8. Voice Recorder Policy

- General Discussion Held.
- Director Walker discussed that currently with voice audio, the voice recorder was previously being utilized with generic usernames and password. For audit purposes, there was no way to monitor this. For the last year, the policy has been internally to control the audio. When BCCD receives a request with an internal agency, the audio is burned onto a disc, and the agency signs a form when they come pick up. This process helps track who downloaded the audio to the disc and who picks up the disc. BCCD would like to provide our user agencies, who are law enforcement, access to our voice recorder through a secure VPN tunnel.
- Motion was made by Commissioner Bradley Harvey to, "Adopt the policy to include fire department to receive fire audio."
- Seconded by Scott Payne.
- Motion passed unanimously.

9. Agencies New VPN Deployment

- Director Walker wants to make sure the Board is updated. BCCD is currently meeting with all chiefs on how the VPN is setup throughout the county. Custom VPN profiles were being created for deputies or police officer within the county. Deputies and police officers were needing to call Eternal Networks afterhours to have passwords reset, so BCCD was being charged a minimum of 4 hours for an emergency callout. Therefore, this led to a substantial increase in our IT cost for this fiscal year budget. BCCD has now built profiles to align with what the industry standard is, and that are agency generic

profiles. Each agency is being provided a thumb drive with all of the correct VPN access on it.

10. Eventide Quote Pack and Go Feature

- General Discussion Held.
- Motion was made by Scott Payne to, "Authorize purchase of this."
- Seconded by James Chapman.
- Motion passed unanimously.

11. Principal Account – Wire Transfer

- Amanda discussed and wanted to make the board aware that there was an issue earlier in December where BCCD received an email that Principal benefits were about to lapse from a payment being skipped. A wire transfer was made by Chairman Brandon Horton in the amount of \$64.43 to bring the account current with Principal.

12. Office/HR Update

- Amanda provided a recruiting update via Slideshow.
 - Dispatcher Trainee
 - 1 Dispatcher Trainee Application Received
 - 4 CritiCall Tests Scheduled
 - 4 Interview Scheduled
 - 1 Offer Made

13. Operations Manager Update

- Dalia provided an update on Operations via Slideshow.
 - Admin Calls Inbound – 4,693
 - Admin Calls Outbound- 2,117
 - 911 Calls Inbound- 2,450
 - Total Phone Traffic- 9,260
 - Total Calls for Service- 5,171

14. Motorola Pending Litigation

- General Discussion Held.
- Members of the Blount County Commission were present to voice concerns and questions.

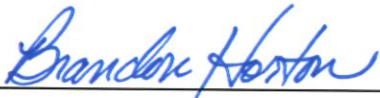
15. Executive Session

- Motion was made by Scott Payne to, "Enter Executive Session" at 11:25 am.
- Seconded by James Chapman.
- Motion passed unanimously.
- Motion was made by Scott Payne to, "Exit executive session" at 12:05 p.m.
- Seconded by James Chapman.
- Motion passed unanimously.

16. Additional Business

- General discussion held regarding Starlink as a backup internet system.
- General discussion held by Chief Parsons about the new MVC policy and private property accidents in parking lots, especially Buc-ees in Leeds.
- General discussion held regarding the towns that are not paying their fees, are they able to stand up their own dispatch center.

The next board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 16, 2024, at 9:00 am at the Blount County 911 Center. With no public comments, a motion was made by Scott Payne and seconded by James Chapman to adjourn the meeting at 12:15 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.



Chairman