



South Worcester County Communications Center

357 Main Street • Webster, MA 01570 • 508-943-1212
Serving the Towns of Webster and Dudley, Massachusetts



Gregory Lynskey, Communications Center Director

SWCCC Operations Board Meeting Minutes for June 9, 2020 – Regular Session

Attendees: Chairman Dean Kochanowski, Michael Shaw, Steven Wojnar (see notes), Brian Hickey, Gary Milliard, Gregory Lynskey

- Meeting called to order by Chairman Kochanowski at 10:08am
- Chief Kochanowski led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance
- Chief Hickey made a motion to approve the minutes from February 18, 2020. Second by Chief Shaw. Unanimous vote.
- Director Lynskey stated there was not much to update regarding other towns but that Oxford had still not returned any contact requests however Charlton's new Town Administrator seemed to have some significant interest.
- Chief Wojnar arrived at this time.
- Chief Wojnar stated he believed the money had been received from EOPSS for the backup radio equipment and that he would confirm later today.
- Chief Milliard stated he had been in contact with Deputy Chief Wheeler and that they will be restarting the subcommittee final review of the Cell Block complaint. The meetings had been put on hold due to both COVID and another personnel matter that Deputy Chief Wheeler had to attend to.
- Director Lynskey informed the board that with the assistance of a State 911 data analyst that he was able to obtain 2019 911 call volume per community which is the first time this data has been available since 2016. He noted that there is a significant difference (8%) in the split by community from 2016 to 2019 and that this is likely due to the new 911 system being able to track the location of the call made vs. just the tower that a cell call hit. State 911 reported that the split in the 2016 data and prior is probably inaccurate due to this and that they believe the new data is far more accurate. It is believed that there will not be similar swings in the future now that the new system is able to provide better data. He stated the new data also aligns much more closely to the actual split of calls for service that are documented.
- Director Lynskey informed the Board that we will be receiving an additional \$67,000 in Support & Incentive Grant funding this year. He stated this money will be used to offset the local assessments for this year. He further informed the board that he had applied for a Development grant award for a laptop based radio console that would tie into our existing system for use either elsewhere in our building or anywhere outside the building that has internet access. This could be setup at a command post and/or at an EOC as examples. He stated that he presented the argument for the position based upon COVID and the fact that an evacuation for even just a couple hours to clean would render the operation out of service currently.

Board of Directors:

Doug Willardson - Chairman
Jonathan Ruda – Vice-Chairman
Randy Becker - Member
John Marsi - Member

Operations Board:

Dean Kochanowski - Chairman
Michael Shaw - Vice Chairman
Steven Wojnar - Member
Brian Hickey – Member
Gary Milliard - Member

- Director Lynskey presented the Board with several policies for review. He noted that with the exception of the prisoner policy that all were administrative updates to correct old information. He suggested that the board could vote them all as one vote unless someone wished to vote individually. He stated the prisoner policy was revised after extensive review by Webster Police as a result of the cell block complain. Chief Wojnar asked Chief Shaw if he was good with all of the revisions. Chief Shaw noted that they were almost all proposed by WPD as a result of reviewing the policy. Chief Wojnar made a motion to recommend all policies to the Board of Directors as presented. Second by Chief Milliard. Unanimous vote. The policies reviewed were as follows:
 - 1.10 Emergency Evacuation
 - 1.11 Hiring Process
 - 2.01 Shift-Schedules
 - 3.09 Emergency Medical Dispatch
 - 3.11 Monitoring of Prisoners
 - 3.18 CopSync Crisis Alert
- The Board reviewed the Board of Directors agenda for June 11, 2020. Director Lynskey stated there was really not much else to report on other than a proposed IMA change that would officially made the dispatchers employees of Webster. He stated this was the result of the Town of Webster's financial audit having noted a discrepancy in the IMA. He stated that for all practical purposes the dispatchers are employees of Webster anyway. Chief Wojnar asked about stabilization and if any thought has been given to utilizing some money from the stabilization to offset the budget given the financial challenges everyone is currently seeing. Director Lynskey stated there is currently about \$250,000 in stabilization and the Board of Directors has considered utilizing funds possibly for the next budget cycle but has not done so yet. He also noted that it is important to remember that we have multiple capital items of large value that will need upgrades in the next several years. Chief Milliard asked if there is any thought on costs to replaces servers that are coming up on an end of life. He noted that he is in the process of replacing one and the cost was greater than he would have expected. Director Lynskey stated SWCCC has one dedicated server and one shared server with WPD. He noted that the dedicated server, although the newer however is in need of software updates to keep licenses current. He stated a quote was obtained and it is about \$11,000 for the upgrades. He stated he intends to look at that with the Board of Directors from Stabilization after July 1. He stated the shared server has already been discussed as well with Chief Shaw and preliminary plans are to budget for replacement next year.
- Chief Milliard stated he wished to commend everyone, especially the dispatchers on a great job done during the recent protest in Webster.
- Chief Hickey made a motion to adjourn at 10:29am, second by Chief Wojnar. Unanimous vote.