



# 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 Board of Directors*

*Meeting Minutes for August 12, 2021 – Regular Session*

Board Members Present: Jonathan Ruda, Randy Becker, Steven Sullivan

Board Members Participating Remotely: Doug Willardson

Board Members Absent: None

Others Present: Gregory Lynskey, Dean Kochanowski

Meeting Location: Dudley Fire Training Room

- Meeting called to order by Chairman Ruda at 10:07am.
- Chairman Ruda led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Chairman Ruda welcomed Steven Sullivan as the new representative of the Dudley Board of Selectmen. He thanked him for volunteering to serve on the board.
- Mr. Becker made a motion to approve the regular session meeting minutes from June 17, 2021. Second by Mr. Willardson. Vote: Mr. Sullivan – abstain; Mr. Becker – yes; Mr. Willardson – yes; Chairman Ruda – yes. Vote 3-0-1.
- Mr. Becker made a motion to approve and release the executive session meeting minutes from June 17, 2021. Second by Mr. Willardson. Vote: Mr. Sullivan – abstain; Mr. Becker – yes; Mr. Willardson – yes; Chairman Ruda – yes. Vote 3-0-1.
- *Chairman Ruda asked for a motion to enter executive session pursuant to MGL c. 30A § 21, To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares, and he does, regarding MassCOP Dispatchers Unit. The board will return to open session. Mr. Becker made the motion. Second by Mr. Sullivan. Vote: Mr. Sullivan – yes; Mr. Becker – yes; Mr. Willardson – yes; Chairman Ruda – yes. Vote 4-0.*
- *Mr. Becker made a motion to exit executive session. Second by Mr. Sullivan. Unanimous vote. Vote: Mr. Sullivan – yes; Mr. Becker – yes; Mr. Willardson – yes; Chairman Ruda – yes. Vote 4-0*
- Mr. Becker made a motion to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement with MassCOP Local 497 effective July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2024. Second by Mr. Sullivan. Vote: Mr. Sullivan – yes; Mr. Becker – yes; Mr. Willardson – yes; Chairman Ruda – yes. Vote 4-0. Mr. Becker wished to thank the negotiating team for completing the contract negotiations with the union.
- Mr. Becker stated he has been playing telephone tag with the Chairman of the Charlton Board of Selectmen. Mr. Willardson noted that the Charlton Board of Selectmen had recently taken a vote to look into dispatch regionalization. Mr. Willardson stated there has been no further discussion with Sturbridge.
- Director Lynskey provided the board with a copy of the final FY21 budget. He noted approximately a \$51,000 surplus primarily caused due to a vacancy for nearly half of the year.

## **Board of Directors:**

Jonathan Ruda - Chairman  
Doug Willardson - Vice Chairman  
Randy Becker - Member  
Steven Sullivan - Member

## **Operations Board:**

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

- Director Lynskey reviewed the status of the reserve fund. He noted that with the Board previously voting to utilize \$50,000 from reserve toward the FY22 budget, the reserve fund will stay near level from the prior year at approximately \$270,000.
- Director Lynskey informed the Board that the Operations Board had selected Ryan Stephens to fill the vacancy that currently exists. He noted that Stephens had been selected for a position last fall and ultimately declined it but is now looking to take a position. His start date will be August 22. Motion by Mr. Becker to confirm the appointment. Second by Mr. Sullivan. Mr. Sullivan asked if he is fully trained. Director Lynskey stated no, we have not received applications from trained dispatchers in several years due to so many places being short that people aren't moving around. Vote: Mr. Sullivan – yes; Mr. Becker – yes; Mr. Willardson – yes; Chairman Ruda – yes. Vote 4-0
- Mr. Becker wished to thank Mr. Willardson for all he has done. He will be missed. Mr. Becker noted that there will be a going away luncheon held on August 30<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Willardson thanked the Board. He stated it was his hope in his time to have seen a 3<sup>rd</sup> community come in but that it looks like maybe some progress is being made.
- The Board did not yet schedule a next meeting.
- Mr. Becker made a motion to adjourn at 10:50am, second by Mr. Sullivan. Vote: Mr. Sullivan – yes; Mr. Becker – yes; Mr. Willardson – yes; Chairman Ruda – yes. Vote 4-0