

UMATILLA MORROW RADIO & DATA DISTRICT

Boardman City Hall

July 12, 2016 – 1:30PM

Present: Director Pratt Director Matlack Director Roxbury
Absent: Director Lieuallen Director Kennedy
Guests: Ron Spencer, Motorola Rob Reish, ODOT State Radio Project
Steve Reinke, Deschutes County 911 Marlon Johnson, Day Wireless
Jennine Weber, Harris Corp Rob Nelson
Staff: Shawn Halsey, Rosanna Brown

- I. **Call to Order and Recognition of Guests:** The meeting was called to order at 1:33pm.
- II. **Roll Call:** Directors Matlack, Roxbury, and Pratt were present. Directors Lieuallen and Kennedy were excused.
- III. **Minutes of the Meeting of June 7, 2016.**

A motion to approve minutes from the June 7 meeting was made by Director Matlack and seconded by Director Pratt.

Director Matlack: Aye

Director Roxbury: Aye

Director Pratt: Aye

- IV. **Changes/Additions to the Agenda:** None
- V. **Business from Guests:** None
- VI. **Old Business**

A. Umatilla System Extender Agreement

Shawn received a response from the City of Umatilla. He will sign the agreement and obtain a signature from the City.

B. Communications Interoperability Grant Update

The installation of interoperability repeaters began this week. Weston was done Monday and Cabbage Hill was started. Gleason was scheduled for Wednesday and Jordan Butte on Thursday. Tower inspections and equipment removal were also being done. When those installs are complete, Shawn will submit paperwork to the State for reimbursement and the project will be finished.

C. MCP Report Subcommittee Meeting Report

The subcommittee met on June 14 and elected to go with the first recommendation by Mission Critical Partners. That option was a new overall system. They also agreed that the process should not be rushed, as new technologies continue to be released. The group recommended having someone write the RFP and shift the liability away from the District. Shawn attended a presentation with an antenna vendor and they have a longer range antenna that could be used to connect Weston and Sillusi, removing the need for a new site and saving the District up to \$450,000. Shawn will continue to research that option and others, as they become available.

In response to Director Roxbury's question, Shawn noted that system will last while these decisions are being made.

D. Test Equipment Purchase: Over the Air Analyzer

Shawn presented the quote for the Over the Air Analyzer at a previous meeting. The analyzer is used to judge radios, as they key up, to identify those that are off frequency, malfunctioning, and causing interference. The equipment will be moved from site to site. It is a proactive and efficient way to find bad radios. This will happen to more radios as the fleet ages. Shawn considered replacing his current analyzer, but was unsure how it would work with a new system and would

also have to touch each radio to test it with that type of equipment. This purchase did not require a bid because the quote came from the only company that sells this equipment. Director Roxbury told Shawn to obtain paperwork that confirms that and add it to the file.

A motion to accept the quote from Locus, for the purchase of an Over the Air Analyzer, in the amount of \$63,735.84 was made by Director Matlack and seconded by Director Pratt.

Director Matlack: Aye

Director Roxbury: Aye

Director Pratt: Aye

VII. New Business

A. System Administrator's Report

1. Unit Tracking Sheet: The Board reviewed the tracking sheet. Mobiles were issued to MCSO and BFD.

2. District Income Review: The Board reviewed the income report. The total cash carryover was about \$700,000. The District has enough saved for expenses through November. Umatilla County and Morrow County have paid their logging recorder loans in full.

3. District Expenditures Review: The Board reviewed the expenditure report. Shawn transferred \$60,000 from the LGIP account to the District checking account to cover expenses.

4. District Bank Statement/Checks Review: The Board reviewed the statement and checks.

5. LGIP: The Board reviewed the LGIP report.

B. Motorola Agreement

Motorola provided a renewal maintenance agreement for repair and advanced replacement of infrastructure equipment. The agreement is for one year and is paid monthly. Shawn asked Ron to confirm that the agreement covers all of the District's equipment, even some that Motorola no longer supports. Ron confirmed that it did, that the agreement was for break/fix and not for software.

A motion to approve the Motorola services agreement, in the amount of \$18,578.64, was made by Director Pratt and seconded by Director Matlack.

Director Matlack: Aye

Director Roxbury: Aye

Director Pratt: Aye

C. Rob Reish (State Radio Project) and Steve Reinke (Deschutes County 911)

Shawn reminded the Board that Harris gave presentations and had a demo, at the Umatilla County Justice Center in May. The directors that attended voiced an interest in having the representatives from Deschutes County and the State Radio Project attend a meeting to discuss their arrangement and the process of Deschutes County joining the State system.

Steve Reinke has been the Deschutes County 911 Director for 2 years. Just before he started there, an engineering study was commissioned to find a way to replace the radio system that was at end of life. The report suggested a \$13 million system replacement plan that would provide an independent system, while using some existing equipment. The old radio system was funded with a Service District levy of \$0.16, set in 1988, with operating levies on top. Deschutes County decided to dissolve the district and create a new one with a higher tax rate. Additionally, they moved the radio system responsibility from the Sheriff's Office to the 911 Dispatch Center. After hearing about the State Radio Project, Steve met with Rob Reish to discuss the benefits of joining their system and sharing infrastructure. Entering into that partnership saved Deschutes County \$6.5 million, half of the estimated cost. More sites were built in Bend, Redmond, Hoodoo Butte, and Santiam Pass. Deschutes County also won an interoperability grant for \$278,000. The vote to create and fund a new District passed with 71% and gave a tax rate of up to \$0.425. Each year the District does an analysis and adjusts the rate to what is needed and they have a strategic plan for saving for future replacement of the system when it reaches end of life. They plan to save \$6 million over the next 15 years.

Director Roxbury noted that it was difficult to get the vote to form and fund UMRDD at \$0.17 and, at the time, that was

enough to run the District. It is but not enough for large, one-time expenses.

Steve also noted that, by partnering with the State, techs from both agencies can work on either system. They also have users that pay to be on the system, as there is plenty of capacity, and that helps with the cost.

Rob Reish, from the State Radio Project, gave an update. The OWIN project was cut down and that is where the SRP came from. It was funded \$230 million for an ODOT and OSP radio system and was a stand-alone project, with an end date of June 30, 2017. 38 sites have been put into operation and 2 more sites were in process. Adding Deschutes County to the system helped to reduce the State's costs and is a good partnership.

Steve noted that there were some concerns regarding the OWIN challenges, but they were addressed and the partnership was the best financial option. He also noted that the transition was easy and only took about 3 months.

In response to Director Matlack's question, Rob explained that OSP has tri-band radios. The west side of the state has not been transitioned yet, due to some issues. They plan to do The Dalles, the Gorge, and Deschutes County in the spring, to avoid the winter season. However, there is some mobile coverage now. Steve also noted that the coverage is better than what they already had, and better than the Harris propagation maps indicated. Rob noted that one site was cancelled due to the extended coverage. As fire agencies use VHF, it was expected that some of the mid-tier and command level staff will have dual band radios. Steve is still working on ways to assist the fire services to migrate to the new system by helping them purchase equipment ahead of their timeline. The 911 Dispatch Center created patches to make it all work.

In response to Director Roxbury's question, Rob explained that the SRP assessed how many subscriber units were in use and included the replacements in their funding plan, as a one-time expense. Any additional radios were to be purchased by the agencies. The agencies were notified ahead of time of this plan and adjusted their budgets accordingly. Director Roxbury felt that that would be a good plan for UMRDD. If the agencies were given ample notice to put the expense of new radios into their budgets, the District would save millions of dollars. Steve noted that some agencies would qualify for grants, especially when showing regional partnerships. Director Roxbury noted that there are many agencies that probably have more subscriber units than they need. He felt that the number of subscriber units needed would decrease if the agencies were financially responsible for replacing the radios. Shawn felt that small agencies like volunteer fire departments would not have the funds for radios, but larger fire and law agencies should be able to help.

In response to Shawn's question, Rob explained that the state is on a biennium budget plan and the 2017-2019 plan is going through the approval process now. The maintenance of the radio system comes from the ODOT budget and OSP is billed for their part. He stressed that the radio system will continue to be funded.

Director Roxbury's opinion was that it would be better for UMRDD to have its own switch and continue to be autonomic. The OWIN project caused him concern. Shawn pointed out that some of the agreements made with the State, during OWIN, worked out well for the District. Steve said that there were people that would have preferred to continue to have an independent system in Deschutes County too and that is why the study was done. In the end, the dramatic difference in cost was the deciding factor. In response to Director Roxbury's question, Steve said he felt that the decision to partner with the state would have been the same, even if the difference in cost was only \$1 or \$2 million. Besides the cost, the other benefits included site maintenance, shared resources, and long-term interoperability.

Rob said that ODOT was connecting to the Lane County system by ISSI. This connection is possible, but is more complex and gives less features to Lane County. Shawn said that OSP troopers are eager to talk to radios in the District so the interoperability side of a partnership is very attractive. Currently there is an OSP patch and OSP has 30 District radios, but they are only used in the cars.

Rob concluded that the SRP was very motivated to partner with UMRDD and extend their trunked system into this part of the state and they were willing to help with expenses, such as the microwave system. The State owns very few sites and utilizes many sites from other agencies.

VIII. Open Discussion

Shawn reported that he was considering attending the vendor show at the APCO conference in Orlando in August and would make arrangements if any directors were interested in attending.

Shawn also told the Board that an EF Johnson presentation will be on the agenda for the August meeting. It will be 45

minutes or less.

IX. Adjourn

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:48pm was made by Director Pratt and seconded by Director Matlack.

Director Roxbury: Aye

Director Matlack: Aye

Director Pratt: Aye

The next meeting is scheduled for August 2, 2016 at Hermiston Fire Station #3.