

**UMATILLA MORROW RADIO & DATA DISTRICT**

Umatilla County Fire District #1, Station 23

March 19, 2018 1:30PM

Present: Director Pratt Director Matlack Director Lieuallen

Absent: Director Kennedy Director Roxbury

Guests: Marlon Johnson, Day Wireless Mike Smith, Frontier System  
Justin sterret, Day Wireless Chris Lense, Motorola  
Nicole Jackson, Motorola

Staff: Shawn Halsey, Rosanna Brown, Brett Mueller

- I. Call to Order and Recognition of Guest(s): The meeting was called to order at 1:31pm.
- II. Changes/Additions to the Agenda: Add IV. New Business B. Gleason Battery Bank System
- III. Old Business
  - A. CDX Contract

Shawn received an email from Doug Olsen regarding the contract. Doug only had one question regarding California law, but was satisfied with the contract otherwise. Shawn also obtained approval from Luanne at SDAO. Shawn was ready to sign the contract and the Board directed him to do so, since approval to sign the contract had been obtained at a previous meeting.

- IV. New Business
  - A. Motorola Presentation

Chris Lense, from Motorola Strategic Projects, came to talk to the Board about upgrades to system.

He asked the Board to tell him what its priorities were and how the District measured success.

Director Matlack expected the Motorola representatives to already know the system and give advice for what the District should be or could be doing. He asked Chris if he had brought any new or different ideas, based on Motorola's historical knowledge. Director Pratt agreed.

Chris and Shawn met before the meeting to discuss what the District needed, including a change in frequency, a move from analog to digital, dispatch override, budgetary restrictions, TDMA vs FDMA, and coverage enhancement opportunities. Chris explained that 700 was a cleaner frequency but the edge of coverage was more definitive. Motorola had not run coverage maps for 700 in the District. With regard to coverage, they planned to under promise and over deliver. His understanding was that the move to 700 was motivated by interoperability and support of neighbors. He asked if many outside agencies came into the District to help during incidents and was told that it was more often the other way around. Agencies from the District often travel outside the area to provide assistance and wanted the ability to communicate in those instances. Working with Benton County was rare and usually only happened when law enforcement was dealing with pursuits over the bridge. Director Matlack reported that he had issues talking to WSP in the past. When outside agencies come into the District, it is usually due to a fire. Director Lieuallen noted that bringing in outside ambulances was done by phone, not by radio. Shawn also explained that the HEAR channel had been used in the past. Chris felt that the District had opportunities to leverage existing investments to offset future expenses. He noted that a standalone system would not be as cost effective as joining an existing system. Director Pratt agreed and asked for details regarding joining the Frontier system. He explained that the biggest problem was how to govern a shared system, especially since the District would be a majority user of the system. He wanted to know how much say the District would have in the governance of the system and how much the District would actually save by joining their system. Shawn noted that he would like to visit the Frontier sites, to see how they were set up. Chris suggested that going with Frontier would mean avoided the RFP process.

Shawn explained to Chris that the major issue the District had with joining Frontier was the SUA with Motorola. Paying that fee annually would take such a large part of the budget that there would not be any funding left for anything else.

Chris said Motorola planned to put their best foot forward and retain a relationship with the District. If the issue was the cost of the SUA, they would look for outside of the box ideas. He also noted that he routinely saw ROMs come in at as much as 2x what the actual cost ended up being after the completion of engineering and planning. He explained that ROMs were padded to ensure that the amount was never more than quoted.

Shawn said he would like to know how much the agreement would cost. He said it was hard to tell what kind of a deal this would be, unless the District could compare it to other options and could not do that without numbers from Motorola. Shawn asked the Board if Frontier and Motorola came up with something that the District could afford, would they still want to go out for an RFP. Director Matlack agreed with Director Pratt in regard to the significance of answering the questions about who will run the system and who would control the decision making. Those factors would have an effect on the long term costs and should be decided between the

District Board and the Frontier Board. The Board agreed that they wanted to see the numbers from Motorola before deciding if they wanted to do an RFP. Director Lieuallen wanted to see the advantages and disadvantages of joining Frontier and felt that it was up to Motorola to give the District the price of an agreement. Director Matlack agreed and felt that it was up to Motorola to show the District how to make it work and, if they couldn't, go to RFP if necessary. Shawn felt that the District should do an RFP regardless of the response from Motorola and Frontier, to give the Board numbers to compare.

Chris responded by noting that, if the District was only concerned with dollars, that Motorola was not the best choice and if the District was looking for a cheap system, the RFP was the best option. Shawn explained that what the District was looking for was the best system that was affordable.

Mike Smith suggested that, if the District went with Frontier and could afford it, a good investment would be a fiber connection. In conclusion, Shawn and the Board asked Motorola to provide an answer to the SUA issue. Shawn would not be at the Board meeting in April, so he planned to bring the issue back up in May and expected to have more information from Motorola at that time.

Based on Director Matlack's suggestion, Shawn said he would find out more information on MOAs with the local forestry services.

#### B. Gleason Battery Bank System

Shawn reported that the battery bank at Gleason Butte had been failing to keep the site up during power outages and it needed to be replaced. He provided a quote from Day Wireless for about \$16,000. The site equipment line in the budget had around \$16,000. He recommended replacing the stack now and moving money from the contingency line if necessary. He also explained that there would be two more sites to do this to.

*A motion to approve the purchase of a Battery Bank system at Gleason Butte from Day Wireless for the amount of \$16,446.25, and to move money in the budget if needed, was made by Director Matlack and seconded by Director Pratt.*

*Director Matlack: Aye*

*Director Pratt: Aye*

*Director Lieuallen: Aye*

#### V. Open Discussion

Shawn reminded the Board that he would be out of town from March 21 through March 28, but available by cell phone.

#### VI. Adjourn

*A motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:49pm was made by Director Matlack and seconded by Director Pratt.*

*Director Lieuallen: Aye*

*Director Pratt: Aye*

*Director Matlack: Aye*

#### **Next Meeting**

April 3, 2018 @ 1:30pm

Umatilla County Fire District #1, Station 23