

UMATILLA MORROW RADIO & DATA DISTRICT
BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING
Umatilla County Fire District #1, Station 23
May 18, 2021

Board Members Present:

Director Pratt	Director Roxbury
Director Lieuallen	Director Pratt

Committee Members Present:

Mike Hughes, Boardman Fire Department	Rita Allman, CTUIR Public Safety
Justin Russell, Umatilla County Dispatch	Scott Stanton, Umatilla County Fire District #1
Ray Denny	

Absent: Director Matlack

Guests: None

Staff: Shawn Halsey, Rosanna Brown

I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 9:59am.

II. Chairperson Election

A motion to name Justin Russell as the Budget Committee Chairperson was made by Director Kennedy and seconded by Director Lieuallen.

<i>Director Pratt: Aye</i>	<i>Director Roxbury: Aye</i>	<i>Director Lieuallen: Aye</i>
<i>Director Pratt: Aye</i>	<i>Mike Hughes: Aye</i>	<i>Rita Allman: Aye</i>
<i>Justin Russell: Aye</i>	<i>Scott Stanton: Aye</i>	<i>Ray Denny: Aye</i>

III. Budget Message: Shawn read the Budget Message in full.

IV. Discussion

Rita Allman asked Shawn when the District would know if a grant was awarded. Shawn responded that the District would apply for a grant if one was available, but he has found that it is difficult for the District to win grant awards when applying without other agencies.

Mike Hughes asked Shawn to explain the change in numbers for the Site Equipment line. Shawn replied that, if there had been sufficient funds, a repeater would have been put up at Madison. He planned that in the FY21-22 budget.

Director Lieuallen asked about the cost for the Pike's Peak and Ukiah site projects and Shawn noted that he did not have numbers from the vendors yet, but expected the cost for both projects to be about half a million dollars total. The District planned to move a building from the Exit 198 site and a monopole tower from Boardman Fire to Ukiah.

A motion for the Budget Committee to approve the budget as presented was made by Scott Stanton and seconded by Mike Hughes.

<i>Director Pratt: Aye</i>	<i>Director Roxbury: Aye</i>	<i>Director Lieuallen: Aye</i>
<i>Director Pratt: Aye</i>	<i>Mike Hughes: Aye</i>	<i>Rita Allman: Aye</i>
<i>Justin Russell: Aye</i>	<i>Scott Stanton: Aye</i>	<i>Ray Denny: Aye</i>

V. Additional Questions and Comments

Scott Stanton asked Shawn where he got the 1% estimate for increase in taxes and Shawn replied that he spoke with the county tax departments and was told that 1% growth was a conservative number to use. He also has a line for unappropriated funds.

Director Roxbury asked Shawn if there was enough budgeted for maintenance regarding the new system's troubles and repairs. Would there be funds if extra was needed? Shawn confirmed that there would be some funds that could be moved around, if necessary. He also noted that the District had a contract for a set amount and should not expect to pay more than that. With regard to the warranties, Shawn confirmed that they would not expire before the system was in full use. The equipment had a 1 year warranty and the subscriber unit warranty was 3 years. Shawn also noted that the issues that they had been having were exclusively problems with the software, not hardware or equipment, and that the annual maintenance contract would cover all software updates.

In response to Director Lieuallen's question, Justin Russell reported that the situation, from the Dispatch perspective, was much improved. There were still some traffic issues, but the overall quality was great. The coverage was also better. There were still concerning issues that were critical pieces. Justin also noted that the relationship between field users and dispatchers was good and that they were reporting issues to the District.

In response to Director Kennedy's question, Mike Hughes reported one equipment issue was the ease of accidentally hitting the emergency button on portables and he asked for a longer or deeper push. The accidental activations were disruptive to incident commanders and Dispatch. Shawn explained that a long press was possible, through a change to programming, that could be done over the air (OTAP). Scott Stanton agreed that that had been an issue for his staff as well. He also noted that he was looking into buying additional radios that were easier to use when wearing firefighting gloves. Director Kennedy noted that even thick winter gloves created issues when pushing buttons on the radios. Mike and Scott were not having any issues with scanning and were getting used to the change in the sound of voices.

In response to Director Kennedy's question, Shawn reported that the software update from Tait was expected in late June. Until then, he would continue to roll controllers every other day. Tait was expected to spend a lot more time on writing and testing the new software update than they have on previous versions.

VI. Budget Approval

The budget was approved at the end of IV. Discussion.

VII. Adjourn

A motion to adjourn the Budget Committee Meeting was made by Director Lieuallen and seconded by Director Kennedy.

Director Pratt: Aye

Director Roxbury: Aye

Director Lieuallen: Aye

Director Pratt: Aye

Mike Hughes: Aye

Rita Allman: Aye

Justin Russell: Aye

Scott Stanton: Aye

Ray Denny: Aye