

UMATILLA MORROW RADIO & DATA DISTRICT
BOARD of DIRECTORS MEETING
Stafford Hansell Government Center
August 6, 2024

Present: Director Irons (telephonically) Director Pratt
Director Pierotti (telephonically)

Absent: Director Primmer Director Kennedy

In-Person Guests: None

Remote Guests: Adam Wilkinson

Staff: Brett Mueller, Rosanna Brown

- I. Call to Order and Recognition of Guests: The meeting was called to order at 1:36pm.
- II. Changes/Additions to the Agenda: None
- III. Business from Guests: None
- IV. Consent Agenda
 - A. Minutes from the meetings on July 2, 2024.
 - B. System Administrator's Report
 1. District Income Review
 2. District Expenditures Review
 3. District Bank Statement/Checks Review
 4. LGIP

A motion to accept the consent agenda was made by Director Irons and seconded by Director Pierotti.

Director Irons: Aye

Director Pratt: Aye

Director Pierotti: Aye

- V. Old Business
 - A. LMR System Project Update

Brett reminded the board that he had received complaints about the coverage in the Weston area and his concern that the site had been underperforming. Brett did some testing inside a house in Pilot Rock and was able to speak with Hank while registered on the Weston site. Rod Ekholm performed full site preventative maintenance and found the Weston site to be fully in spec.

Brett was considering a few things that the coverage problems could be attributed to. One was that it was normal, as the pattern of antenna was very tight and so there was a lot of loss of close end coverage on the receive antenna. However, Brett reported finding field units out of calibration when working on the fire programming. Brett's focus for the next few months was to update the rest of the units in use, with a special focus on calibration with the service monitor. A few UCSO radios, that had been having issues, were updated and calibrated and their performance was improved dramatically. Brett was confident that, even though the Weston signal was weak, it would be usable. The updating of all of the field units will improve performance throughout the system, especially where coverage was weak.

The installation at the Ukiah site was successful. Mobiles were installed and Brett provided user training. The site was used quite a bit during the fires in that area, especially by USCO and Search & Rescue when they were patrolling and doing evacuations.

Brett reported that a new hazard smoke detection camera at Jordan Butte, that was installed by the University of Oregon the previous week. He expected to receive information from them about the District can access it.

Brett expected to be able to consider system acceptance at the next board meeting. In response to Director Pierotti's question, Brett confirmed that he had been working with Adcomm on that project and had a meeting with them on 08/05/24. Brett expected Adcomm to have a presentation ready to give to the board about their findings. Director Pierotti wanted to see those results before making a decision about system acceptance and Brett agreed.

B. Update to the User and Subscriber Unit Issue Policy/Fee Schedule: No update

C. Fire Radio Committee Update

Adam Wilkinson reported that, due to the recent fires, he and Brett had not been able to make a lot of forward progress, but he had created a draft evaluation form and a draft agreement (financial liability) between the District and the agencies and sent those to Brett for review. Brett received an email from Day Wireless about programming. He noted that he could provide the information to the vendors for the District system, but ultimately, he expected them to do the final programming, as they are most familiar with their own equipment and how to give the best user experience with it.

D. Safety Review: District staff reviewed information on eye protection.

VI. New Business

A. Console Upgrades

Brett reported that there was an ongoing limitation on the consoles that impacted the number of concurrent talk paths that could be open on the existing console model. Umatilla County Dispatch was often right at the limit. When they enabled additional endpoints, such a TAC channel, they were occasionally prevented from sending out tones because all of the talk paths were in use. In addition to that being a current issue, the District continued to add talk groups (TAGs, ISSI), creating more potential for the issue to occur.

Racom provided a proposal to upgrade all 12 consoles at Umatilla County, Morrow County, and the Tribe, but Brett advised the board that he wanted to start with just 6. These would initially be the consoles in Umatilla County Dispatch, making replaced consoles available as back up spares, in the event of failures at the other two dispatch centers.

The second part of the upgrade would address the limitations of the VPGate, which handled all of the console audio. That limit was 100 licenses for P25 endpoints and the District was at that limit. More hardware and more software was required to increase that limit. An additional benefit of purchasing 2 more VPGates would be the ability to locate one at the Tribal Dispatch, ensuring they would not lose everything if they lost their network connection. Brett was frustrated that this was the only option. In response to Director Pratt's question, Brett confirmed that this was the Avtec solution and, moving to a different vendor would require a different console system.

In response to Director Pierotti's question, Brett clarified that he was asking for approval for 6 console upgrades, at \$103,628 and the VPGate expansion, at \$59,354. Brett also confirmed that these upgrades would be sufficient, as they increased the paths from 50 to 250 and added 30 licenses. Brett also informed the board that Avtec had moved away from the existing console hardware and, in another year, they would not be providing updates. The District would move into what they were currently selling. Brett confirmed that the District would have to upgrade when Avtec stopped supporting the

version that the District used, as no more version upgrades would be available. In response to Director Pratt's question, Brett thought that the purchase of the other 6 upgrades would be based on budgeting and where the District was with regard to the status of other projects. In response to Director Pierotti's question, Brett confirmed that the Tribe was a user and paid the District an annual subscription fee. The District was responsible for all 3 dispatch centers.

A motion to approve the Racom purchase of 6 console upgrades, in the amount of \$103,628, was made by Director Pierotti and seconded by Director Irons.

Director Irons: Aye

Director Pratt: Aye

Director Pierotti: Aye

A motion to approve the Racom purchase of VPGate licenses, in the amount of \$59,354, was made by Director Pierotti and seconded by Director Irons.

Director Irons: Aye

Director Pratt: Aye

Director Pierotti: Aye

B. ADCOMM Services Retainer

When preparing the budget, Brett spoke with the board about the need for professional services to assist the District with agreements, design details, and projects. These were some of the tasks that CDX performed in the past. Brett provided a quote from Adcomm that he noted was within his discretionary spending amount, at \$25,000, but ultimately, he expected to go through that retainer amount and have a need to refresh it, as work was done. Since it was an on-going service, he planned to update the board for accountability and also tracking what was being done before authorizing additional funds.

Currently, Brett had 2 priority projects for Adcomm to focus on. One was the testing and data collection for a baseline at Gleason Butte due to the windfarm project. The second was the District's assistance with the creation of a solid process for building owners setting up distributed antenna systems in new buildings, which he hoped would move the majority of the time and financial burden on to the businesses, instead of the District.

Directors Pratt and Pierotti supported the proposal and confirmed that a motion would only be needed if the cost went over \$25,000.

VII. Open Business

Brett asked the board if they were available for a board meeting on 09/03/24, since it was the day after Labor Day. The directors confirmed their availability and decided to keep the current schedule. Brett intended to confirm that date with Adcomm, since Susan Ronning would be appearing in person.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 2:04pm.

Next Meeting

September 3, 2024 - 1:30pm

Boardman City Hall