

UMATILLA MORROW RADIO & DATA DISTRICT
BOARD of DIRECTORS MEETING
Boardman City Hall – September 2, 2025 – 1:30pm

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

Absent: None

In-Person Guest(s): Rick Stokoe, Boardman Police Department

Remote Guest(s): None

Staff: Brett Mueller, Rosanna Brown

I. Call to Order and Recognition of Guests: The meeting was called to order at 1:30pm.

II. Roll Call

Director Pratt
Director Primmer
Director Irons
Director Kennedy
Director Pierotti

III. Recognition of Guest(s)

IV. Changes/Additions to the Agenda: None

V. Business from Guests: None

VI. Consent Agenda

A. Minutes of the meetings from August 5, 2025.

B. System Administrator's Report

1. Income Review
2. Expenditures Review
3. Bank Statements/Checks Review
4. LGIP Account Review

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

Director Pratt: Aye

Director Primmer: Aye

Director Irons: Aye

Director Kennedy: Aye

VII. Old Business

A. LMR System Project Update

Brett reported that during his time off, Chris continued to work on the Umatilla County console upgrade. A single console running the new software had performed well, but once additional consoles were brought online, the volume problems reappeared.

A test lab was set up at UCSO using the four upgraded consoles, for testing without disrupting Dispatch operations. Logs and audio data were being gathered and forwarded to Avtec. Avtec did not deny the issue, but they did not have a resolution and requested more data. Brett expressed frustration with support, citing time zone difference and limited availability of Avtec's support team.

Racom previously billed the District for the consoles minus installation, but Brett explained that the payment was on hold until the full installation was completed and accepted.

The system experienced two additional site controller resets—one in Hermiston and one in Pendleton—since the last meeting. No firmware upgrades were performed and none would be done before Round-Up.

A GPS time server at UCSO failed and was replaced quickly with a new, more compact unit from Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories. A spare unit was also ordered.

Brett had been working with Umatilla County Fire District #1 on refining unit-level dispatching and paging operations. The current plan involved stacking tones manually through a gateway that converted digital signals to analog, due to the limited integration with the P25 core.

The ERCES project, lead by Adcomm, continued. A tabletop exercise with Brett, fire marshals, and engineering partners was scheduled for later in September. The exercise would be a walk through the entire approval and implementation process.

The system overall remained stable. Director Kennedy noted continued issues with missing traffic at Radar Road. Hank had investigated signal quality, which showed some distortion, but no consistent issue had been identified. Control channel comparisons were next on the troubleshooting list.

Brett continued to review final system documentation. He noted that, moving forward, he would narrow his focus to technical content only, and not text proofreading.

B. Fire Portable Radio Committee Update

There were no updates from Adam Wilkinson. Brett confirmed that the TP9900 was delivered for evaluation. While it was a multiband radio, it did not support front-panel programming or cloning like the TP9800, which could be a deciding factor for the committee.

The FY25 AFG grant cycle had not yet opened but was expected in early November with a mid-December deadline. The board discussed engaging a grant writer. Scott Stanton recommended Nick Ducote, from La Grande, as a strong candidate.

Directors emphasized that the Fire Radio Committee needed to select a radio model and quantity to prepare for grant submission. Director Pierotti said he would follow up with Adam to ensure a recommendation was brought to the board in time for approval, ideally no later than the November meeting.

C. City of Umatilla Dispatch Center Update: The project was still paused, per Director Kennedy.

D. District Administrator Evaluation: Brett's annual evaluation would follow the board meeting.

E. District Safety Committee Update: Staff reviewed material on burn awareness and prevention.

VIII. New Business

A. Annual Audit / Auditor

Brett informed the board that Barnett & Moro, the District's longtime auditor, proposed increasing their annual fee by approximately 75% (from \$8,400 to \$14,400), citing years of underbilling. They also intended to apply a 5% annual increase going forward.

Based on the quote's arrival and timing, Brett requested an alternative quote from Anderson, Boylen & Ramos, who proposed \$13,900 with a 4% annual increase.

Because the District had only budgeted enough for the expected amount (plus \$4,500 from prior book cleanup), a resolution would be required to authorize a transfer of funds from contingency.

Director Pierotti inquired about the need for additional quotes, based on the quoted amounts. Brett confirmed he would continue to seek competitive bids but noted that time was limited due to the timing requirements for audit filing. Director Pierotti agreed to check with other local agencies.

The board authorized Brett to proceed with whichever firm he deemed most appropriate, with a resolution to follow for contingency allocation.

VIII. Open Discussion: None

IX. Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 1:58pm.

Next Board Meeting

October 7, 2025 - 1:30pm – Stafford Hansell Government Center