



Dukes County Sheriff's Office

MVPSCS

(Martha's Vineyard Public Safety Communications System)



MVPSCS COMMUNICATIONS FINANCIAL ADVISORY BOARD

Meeting Minutes

The regular meeting was called to order by Mr. Graczykowski at 1017 Hours on November 18, 2020 at the Dukes County Sheriff's Office Administrative Offices, Conference Room, 9 Flight Path, Vineyard Haven, MA 02568 and simultaneously via Zoom, Meeting ID 984 3216 9785.

In Attendance

Timothy Carroll, Town Administrator, Town of Chilmark
Anthony Gould, Director of Technical Ops., Dukes County Sheriff's Office (joined at 1046 Hours)
Peter Graczykowski, Assistant Superintendent, Dukes County Sheriff's Office
James Hagerty, Town Administrator, Town of Edgartown
Jennifer Rand, Town Administrator, Town of West Tisbury
Jonathan Snyder, Finance Director, Town of Tisbury
Robert Whritenour, Town Administrator, Town of Oak Bluffs

Absent

John Grande, Town Administrator, Town of Tisbury
Jeffrey Madison, Town Administrator, Town of Aquinnah

Public Comment

There were no members of the public in attendance.

Approval of Minutes

Owing to the late start the meeting due to technical issues and another scheduled meeting 1100 Hours, the Board deferred the review and approval of draft minutes of its October 9, 2020 meeting until the next regular meeting of the Board.

New Business

- The Board reviewed the Apportionment Formula for FY22 Maintenance Assessments:
 - Mr. Whritenour reiterated his Town's concerns with the lack of fiscal offset to not-for-profit services and other facilities, which account for a share of dispatches.
 - Mr. Hagerty pointed out that each Town must deal with its own regional challenges, such as the High School apportionment formula or maintenance of public beaches, while Oak Bluffs also benefits from revenue offsets, such as embarkation fees and ambulance revenues. Mr. Whritenour responded that ambulance revenue offset is being evaluated as a potential loss.
 - Mr. Snyder asked for additional detailed statistics to show dispatches by each Town as well as point of origin volume, sorted from high to low. Sheriff's Office provided these statistics for FY17-19 dispatches, and will update the report for FY20.
 - Ms. Rand expressed that all Town have specific challenges and advantages, such as Aquinnah having low volume of dispatches; however, the current apportionment formula remains the best approach, which divides fixed costs equally between all Towns and adds a layer of variable costs based on individual dispatch volume.
 - The Board concluded that the current apportionment formula should be left unchanged for FY22, and that no formal action must be taken to effect this resolution.



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Old Business

- The Board discussed the radio system upgrade status:
 - Mr. Hagerty raised the issue of additional units that may be requested by his Town in addition to the initial deployment of mission-critical units, purchased under the FY21 Development Grant award. Dep. Gould explained that mission-critical number of units for each public safety agency, as per inventory worksheet confirmed with each department between January-October 2020, will be provided at no cost to Police, Fire and EMS under the FY21 grant. Additional, non mission-critical units can be purchased by each agency using the statewide contract ITT57 pricing at approx. \$1,500.00 for Fire and EMS and \$1,800.00 for Police due to encryption requirements. Units purchased by municipalities independently will remain municipal assets, but will need to be programmed by the Sheriff's Office to ensure system integrity and reliability. Dep. Gould added that the initial deployment using FY21 grant funds will address Police, Fire and EMS communication basic operational requirements. FY22 Development Grant application will include the request for additional, non mission-critical subscriber units for Police, Fire and EMS, as well as mission-critical units for non-Public Safety departments, whose radio communications are also supported by the regional radio system. Sheriff's Office will also work on identifying any remaining grant funds from FY20-21 grant cycles, which supported Phases 1A-1B of the radio system upgrade, for any potential purchase of additional subscriber units. Spares are specifically excluded under grant funding.
 - Mr. Carroll inquired about the non-Public Safety departments being able to communicate by radio with Public Safety agencies upon the initial implementation. Dep. Gould explained that until the non-Public Safety departments receive new subscriber units during the FY22 grant cycle, they will be able to continue to use VHF channels to communicate to RECC, which will relay the communications to Public Safety. As part of the infrastructure upgrades, the current channel strength is projected to improve, eliminating the need to radio-to-radio communications between Public Safety and non-Public Safety personnel up-Island.

Next Meeting

Mr. Carroll suggested a joint meeting of both Advisory Boards in December 2020 to discuss the radio system upgrade status and FY22 budget in more detail, with the benefit of having technical and administrative staff in the same meeting. Such meeting will be scheduled at the Dukes County Sheriff's Office Administrative Offices, Conference Room, 9 Flight Path, Vineyard Haven, MA 02568 and simultaneously via Zoom; as needed, and announced and posted in accordance with Open Meetings Law.

Motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Rand at 1059 Hours, seconded by Mr. Snyder, and passed unanimously.

Prepared by:

Peter Graczykowski, Assistant Superintendent