

January 24, 2022

At a Regular Meeting of the 911 Communications Oversight Committee on Monday, January 24, 2022, at 1:30 p.m., in the Commission Chambers of City Hall located at 300 South 5th Street. The following Committee members were present: Jewel Jones, Commissioner Carol Gault, Dr. Irvin Smith, Kevin Kauffeld, and Commissioner Edwin Jones (5).

Also present were Police Chief Brian Laird, Fire Chief Steve Kyle, Finance Director Jon Perkins, Communications Manager Pam Spencer, City Clerk Lindsay Parish, and Deputy Judge Executive Steve Doolittle.

APPROVE MINUTES

Commissioner Gault offered motion, seconded by Dr. Smith to approve minutes for January 10, 2022. All in favor.

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON APPOINTMENT

Commissioner Jones offered motion, seconded by Commissioner Gault to appoint Kevin Kauffeld as Chairperson of the Committee. All in favor.

COMMITTEE VICE CHAIRPERSON APPOINTMENT

Mr. Kauffeld offered motion, seconded by Commissioner Jones to appoint Dr. Irvin Smith as Vice Chairperson of the Committee. All in favor.

DISCUSSION ABOUT NEEDS OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee discussed the following needs, information and next steps:

- Chairperson Kauffeld and Mr. Jewel Jones toured the 911 Center last week.
- Consider a presentation from Federal Engineering to provide an overview and answer specific questions about the report. This may be able to be accomplished with local resources or by sending questions to Federal Engineering instead of them attend a meeting. Police Chief Laird will determine if there will be a cost associated with a presentation.
- Consider having Stacey Blankenship present information related to the governance of 911. Specifically, Commissioner Jones inquired if a joint City/County board could hire the Police Department or the McCracken County Sherriff to control 911.
- Consider having Paducah Water come speak to the Committee about water meters.
- Consider having the PVA speak to the Committee about parcels.
- Consider inviting volunteer fire departments to attend future meetings since upgrades to equipment would constitute a cost for those fire departments who have not previously upgraded. The report includes estimated costs for surrounding Fire Departments that chose to participate in the information gathering process with Federal Engineering.
- Consider using case studies of other communities where a parcel fee has been implemented.

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TIMELINE DISCUSSION

The Committee discussed the following items related to the Committee's timeline based on the Committee's charge as provided in the MOU between the City and County:

- The timeline for execution is 18-24 months after a plan is adopted by the Fiscal Court and the City Commission. This presents an urgency as the system is already past end of life.
- The cost is between \$10.5 million to \$12.5 million. The Committee will need to decide on a recommendation around funding. The MOU between the City and County provides that costs should be shared equally between the City and County. The capital expenditure is the first charge of the Committee. Commissioner Jones offered that the City and the County do not have the extra capital to cover the capital cost at this time. One potential option is eliminating the landline fee and implementing another in its place.
- The Committee may need to consider land acquisition in the timeline and cost depending on what towers are available and the final recommendation. The Committee may need to consider what sites will be utilized and if they will be leased or if a new tower needs to be built.
- Consider that the process of bonding funds takes 90-120 days.

FOLLOW-UP INFORMATION & ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

The Committee had the following questions:

- Report Pg. 29 Table 16 – The Committee needs additional information on the specific meaning of the numbers and what those mean for coverage.
- The Committee would like additional information on when a repeater would be needed. Is this based on building size, characteristics, etc.
- The Committee would like an overview and explanation of the service differences of a six (6) tower vs. five (5) tower system.
- The Committee raised questions about a partnership with the State Police. Federal Engineering provided some research on this on page 55 of the report.

The Committee members will develop their questions for Federal Engineering and send to Chairperson Kauffeld to compile.

ADJOURN

Mr. Jewel Jones offered motion, seconded by Commissioner Gault to adjourn the meeting. All in favor.

ADOPTED: February 14, 2022