

MEETING MINUTES

Joint Emergency Communication Services Association of Johnson County
Policy Board
Friday, February 26, 2010 at 8:00 a.m.
JECC Policy Board Conference Room
4529 Melrose Avenue, Iowa City, Iowa

MEMBERS PRESENT: All members present:
Coralville: John Lundell
Iowa City: Regenia Bailey, Michael Wright
Johnson County: Lonny Pulkrabek, Pat Harney
North Liberty: Tom Salm, Chairperson
Johnson Co. EMA: David Wilson

1. Call to order: recognize alternates.

All members present.

2. Approval of minutes from the January 22, 2010 and January 27, 2010 meetings.

Pulkrabek requested changes to spelling. Motion to approve with changes by Harney. Seconded by Pulkrabek. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Comments from the public.

Salm recognized members of the League of Women Voters. No public comments.

4. Update from User Advisory Committee.

Rocca reported about the UAC's February 16, 2010 meeting. Rocca commented the UAC had discussed the batteries and chargers for the portables. The UAC was concerned primarily with performance of the batteries. Rocca understood the use of Honeywell batteries would not void the warranty on the Harris portables. Rocca also understood Honeywell would cover their negligence.

Rocca investigated the deployment of Honeywell batteries by contacting public safety personnel in San Antonio, Texas. The San Antonio Public Safety Departments started with nickel batteries. Sometimes, the nickel batteries showed a full charge, however, the batteries were flat. Pulkrabek questioned when the batteries appeared flat. Wilson inquired whether or not the batteries had been properly conditioned.

Rocca stated the lithium polymer batteries could operate for up to three days. Rocca commented the lithium polymer batteries came off the portables so infrequently there had been some buildup on the contacts. Rocca did not support the use of lithium ion batteries because the battery pack

may short. The UAC supported the purchase and use of lithium polymer batteries. Rocca also commented that the San Antonio Fire Department conducted a submersion test. The submersion test lasted ten minutes. After the submersion test, the battery continued to operate. Rocca was particularly concerned about the use of batteries other than the lithium polymer batteries due to cold temperatures. The cold temperatures cause the batteries to lose their charge more quickly. Rocca stated that the lithium polymer batteries would hold up longer.

Wilson commented <IS> certification is important. Lane Burrell, Harris Corporation, stated the only way to have <IS> certification is that the complete unit must be FM approved. Burrell further stated that FM certification is only as a package.

Pulkrabek stated JECOSA needed to get full value out of its battery. Pulkrabek would not support not using the Harris batteries. Harney supported purchasing extra or spare Honeywell batteries.

Sullivan stated <IS> certification was important and the only way to keep <IS> certification was to use only Harris batteries. Sullivan further stated high-powered batteries were not <IS> certified. Bailey supported Harney's idea of buying extra Honeywell batteries. Wright inquired about the warranty. The Honeywell batteries will cost approximately \$125 each.

Rocca also commented on the Emergency Management levy rate. Rocca expressed concerns about the legality of the actions by the Board of Supervisors of Johnson County. Rocca also expressed concern about the lack of accountability for the Board of Supervisor's disregard of the 28E Agreement. Rocca reminded the Policy Board that there is a need to fund the warranty and a need to replace equipment in the future. Rocca encouraged the Policy Board to take another look at the levy. Rocca expressed strong support for maintaining cash reserves.

Wright comment in the future, the Policy Board will have the benefit of looking at the actual historical costs to operate the JECC. Then, the Policy Board will have a better idea about budgeting and the levy rate. Rocca again commented that the cost will increase in the future.

Harney commented it won't take too much money to operate the JECC and the amount of dollars should be about the same. Harney also stated that the Board of Supervisors wants to have a meeting. Harney stated the issues to be discussed will be the sidewalk, parking, and levy rates. Harney also supports putting dollars aside, specifically, dollars for portable radios. Harney also supported bonding as much as possible. Pulkrabek supported the idea of bonding as much as possible. Pulkrabek wants JECOSA to bond for major expenses in an effort to have the TIF districts contribute. Harney supported bonding for any expenses in the three to four million dollar range. Bailey suggested that a discussion of establishing an amount over which to bond. Salm suggested that this be an agenda item for the future.

5. Action to Approve Change Order No. 4 and discussion regarding batteries.

Stone presented Change Order No. 4 for Harris Corporation. Pulkrabek questioned about the paging to Lone Tree. Sullivan commented Lone Tree paging was an issue. Sullivan also commented that bit error rate testing was the better way to do the acceptance testing. Wilson agreed with Sullivan about bit error rate testing.

Pulkrabek commented on the enhanced paging provided for in Change Order No. 4. Wilson also had concerns about the paging in the southeast corner of Johnson County. Motion to approve by Bailey. Seconded by Wright. Motion passed unanimously.

6. Update regarding litigation and action to stop condemnation proceedings.

Stone stated that Salm, Harney, Sullivan, and Jones had participated in settlement negotiations. The settlement negotiations resulted in a stay of the proceedings. No action was taken to stop condemnation proceedings.

7. Election of new Chairperson.

Bailey nominated Wright, the current vice-chairperson as Chairperson. Motion to nominate Wright by Pulkrabek. Seconded by Bailey. Motion passed unanimously. Bailey nominated Pulkrabek as Vice-Chairperson. Motion to elect by Bailey. Seconded by Wright. Motion passed unanimously.

8. Other Business

There was discussion about a meeting with the Board of Supervisors. Lundell was offended by the Board of Supervisors' tone. Lundell commented the Policy Board is comprised of experienced members of the community. Pulkrabek stated there was some need for a review.

Salm commented the North Liberty City Council thought JECSA was going quite well. Lundell stated the Coralville City Council also thought the project was going well. Bailey commented that Iowa City had no interest in participating in some type of meeting with all of the entities of JECSA. Wilson commented that Emergency Management thought the project was going well, and Wilson seconded the comments made by Lundell. The general consensus was that there would be a meeting with the Board of Supervisors in April 2010.

9. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Wright. Seconded by Lundell. Motion passed unanimously.