

**SALT LAKE VALLEY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS CENTER**

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**  
*July 17, 2019 Meeting Minutes*  
**VECC Board Room**  
**5360 Ridge Village Drive, West Valley City**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Mr. Gary Whatcott; South Jordan  
Mr. David Dobbins; Draper  
Mr. Konrad Hildebrandt; Riverton  
Mr. Brett Wood; Herriman  
Mr. Mark Reid; Bluffdale  
Mr. Wayne Pyle; West Valley City  
Mr. Kyle Kershaw; South Salt Lake  
Mr. Brice Haderlie; Midvale  
Undersheriff Jake Petersen; UPD  
Mr. Doug Hill; Murray  
Mr. Mike Reberg; SLCO  
Mr. Dan Petersen; UFA  
Mr. Scott Harrington; Taylorsville  
Mr. Mike Shelton; Cottonwood Heights  
Mr. Korban Lee; West Jordan

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Mr. Mike Morley; Alta  
Ms. Gina Chamness; Holladay

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Chief Colleen Jacobs; West Valley  
Chief John Evans; West Valley  
Chief Jeff Carr; South Jordan  
Chief Troy Carr; Draper  
Chief Jack Carruth; South Salt Lake  
Mr. Layne Morris; West Valley City  
Mr. David Church; SLVECC Attorney  
Mr. John Inch Morgan, SLVECC  
Mr. Mark Whetsel; SLVECC  
Mr. Jeff Monson; SLVECC  
Ms. Gigi Smith; SLVECC  
Ms. Shelly DeJong; SLVECC  
Ms. Mary Bain; SLVECC  
Ms. Leslie Devey; SLVECC  
Ms. Missy Widdison; SLVECC  
Ms. Andrea Partridge; SLVECC

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JUNE 19, 2019 BOARD OF TRUSTEE MEETING**

**Motion –**

**. . . By Mr. Doug Hill, to approve the minutes of the June 19, 2019 Board of Trustee Minutes; seconded by Mr. Mark Reid; the motion carried unanimously.**

**RECOGNITION OF OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE BY COMMUNICATIONS OFFICERS**

John Inch Morgan introduced Kamrin Tarantino, who received an award for an EMS Dispatcher. Gigi Smith said Kamrin has been with VECC for 2 years; she's a Call Taker, a Call Taking Trainer and recently soloed as a Fire Dispatcher. Gigi read a letter that was submitted to the Utah Bureau of EMS and Kamrin was selected for the Urban Dispatcher of the Year.

Gigi Smith also mentioned that on June 29, 2019, we lost one of our Dispatchers, Chris Hyatt, who was assigned to the South Salt Lake channel. She wanted to say thank you to the agencies who reached out to us, specifically Cottonwood Heights, Unified Police Department, South Salt Lake, and West Valley City. Along with that, she wanted to commend the VECC family for the outpouring of sympathy and love shown. They put together a silent auction and all the proceeds will go to Chris's wife, Roxanne and their family.

Gary Whatcott also offered his personal thanks to the dispatching group for doing a last call for his grandson and for the support shown to him.

## **OPERATIONS DISCUSSION – UPGRADES TO SPILLMAN AND VERSATERM CAD**

### **Radio Programming and Staffing**

Shelly deJong commented about what is happening with UPD, Herriman and Riverton. Recently, the radios were consolidated on the UPD side; they realized there were some channels that were a little slower and others that were a little bit heavier. They made the consolidation and changed some things around, they took away the Special Services channel and merged it with Midvale and Taylorsville. They took their Animal Control channel and patched with all the Salt Lake County Units. They also reconfigured the floor and moved the South end by each other, Riverton and Herriman are on one channel, South Jordan is right next to them and Cottonwood Heights/Draper are there. On the floor, we have all those channels that can talk to each other. East side is on the other end with the West side. They will be going further with the consolidation but as we have gone out to speak with the Chiefs' and explained the lower staffing and the busyness and they all agreed to patch as necessary. If staffing is low or there is an incident, we can patch channels together. Some of the reasons we are doing a consolidation on the radios is to streamline them so that we don't have one that's busy and one with no traffic. They are trying not to overwhelm any one channel because the dispatchers already have their hands full. Riverton and Herriman have their talk groups now, most of you don't have those talk groups and will need to have the radios upgraded. The next groups to come on will be Draper/Cottonwood on Versaterm. They are looking at Draper for a month, and possibly putting them with Riverton and Herriman, until they can get Cottonwood over to Versaterm and then they will be put with that radio. It's less expensive to do this, there is less equipment, and it's more manageable for dispatch with our staffing levels.

Jeff Monson mentioned we are always looking at how we are doing thing and what we can do differently. We've increased the frequency of hiring individuals. We used to bring a new group on every 3 months or so and now it's around a month and a half. Over the past few hire groups, we've had several applicants, around 80, that come in, and then we whittle it down with typing tests and Critical testing. Our training program has also been changed a bit. They used to go through Call Taking first, but we are now looking at moving some of them over to the different channels and training there first. A few weeks ago, we hired 5 new people; 3 went to the Versaterm side and 2 went to the Spillman side. Staffing is still down some, but we are starting to increase the number of people and getting them trained. With so many channels we are training on and the differences in policies and protocols, as we become closer together with the different agencies and do things very similar, it helps us in the Center. In running things more similarly, we can patch channels as necessary which can save the agencies money in the long run. Jeff also thanked the Board for the changes over the past few months on policies and benefits; increasing the vacation, the COLA and pay for performance. Jeff is hoping to continue down the path we have; turnovers have slowed down, and we are hoping to continue to retain and hire good employees that will get our staffing where it needs to be. John commented on having the same commonality in the way we dispatch, and it gives us greater flexibility in our staffing. As John and Gigi went around to all the Spillman Chiefs this past Spring, patching channels at certain times was discussed. If there is a major event or a channel codes, sometimes we will patch two different departments together so that we can deploy the resources to the area with the critical response. We were able to reduce the UPD cost center by eliminating a channel and consolidating some of the channels together. This could be a model for the Spillman side as well.

### **Upgrade Schedule and Capacities**

The past few days, we have been upgrading the Spillman side; it was a complete upgrade and rebuild because the AIX server is no longer supported. The equipment was older and if it failed, there was nothing to replace it with. The rebuild took longer than expected and even now, we are still putting the finishing touches on the Spillman upgrade.

**MOTION TO CLOSE THE MEETING TO DISCUSS PENDING OR REASONABLY IMMINENT LITIGATION****Motion –**

**. . . by Mr. Wayne Pyle; to go into a closed session, having the same personnel attending at the last meeting; the motion was seconded by Mr. Mark Reid; the motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.**

The meeting went into a closed session at 2:21 p.m.

**Motion –**

**. . . by Chief Dan Petersen, to open to a regular session meeting; the motion was seconded by Undersheriff Jake Petersen; the motion carried unanimously.**

The meeting went into an open session at 3:21 p.m.

**INTROUCTION OF NEW BUSINESS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

Gary Whatcott suggested having an August meeting to discuss what came out of the UCA meeting and then another agenda items might be to talk about next steps and what might be the right things to do. John was asked to give UCA an update of where their money is and what's going on. If we let them know we are pursuing a common cad and would like to retain the money and working on a new direction, that's all we need to say. They cannot take anything unless they have a Resolution that forces us to pay that money back and given the discussions we've had with everyone, holding right now is where we need to be. John believes that Dave and Quinn are asking for this report even though it doesn't disclose a lot of detail as a means of conveying to the other PSAP's and other individuals that they are responsible for the money and that the program is still going forward. Gary would like John to report back on the UCA meeting and then what the next steps might be and where we want to go.

There was nothing more to discuss at this meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 3:24 p.m.