

**Dakota Communications Center  
Executive Committee  
Meeting Minutes: February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023**

**Members Present:** Tom Lawell – Apple Valley; Matt Smith – Dakota County; Dianne Miller – Eagan; Dan Wietecha – Hastings; Kris Wilson – Inver Grove Heights; Justin Miller – Lakeville; Cheryl Jacobson – Mendota Heights; Logan Martin – Rosemount; Ryan Garcia – South St. Paul

**Members Absent:** Gregg Lindberg – Burnsville; Lynn Gorski – Farmington; Nathan Burkett – West St. Paul

**Alternates Present:** Julie Flaten – Farmington

**Others Present:** Farmington Fire Chief Elvestad, Rosemount Police Chief Dahlstrom – Operations Committee Chairs; Heidi Hieserich, Brent Anderson, Jen Hildebrandt – Dakota 911; Dain Olson – Dakota 911 Legal Counsel

### **1. Call to Order**

Recognizing a quorum, Chair Martin called the meeting to order at 3:01 pm.

### **2. Roll Call**

Members in attendance are noted above.

Chair Martin (Rosemount) called for introductions around the room, ending with Dakota 911 Executive Director, Heidi Hieserich.

### **3. Approve Agenda**

**Discussion:** No discussion.

**Action:** Motion by Smith (Dakota County) to approve the agenda. Second by Lawell (Apple Valley). Motion passed.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

#### **4. Consent Agenda – Executive Committee Chair**

- a. **Approve minutes from the November 2<sup>nd</sup> 2022 regular meeting**
- b. **Approve October, November and December 2022 paid claims**
- c. **Receive October and November 2022 unaudited financial report**
- d. **Executed Contracts & Agreements**
- e. **LOGIS Board Representation Appointment**
- f. **Data Practices Responsible Authority Designation**

**Discussion:** No discussion.

**Action:** Motion by Miller (Eagan) to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Second by Wilson (Inver Grove Heights). Motion passed.

### **REGULAR AGENDA**

## **Action Items**

None

## **Information Updates/Discussion Items**

### **5. 2024 Operating and Capital Budgets timeline and formation of budget review committee.**

#### **Discussion:**

Hieserich (Dakota 911) called the groups attention to two points. The first was the anticipated 2024 review and approval timeline. The second was the need for volunteers from the Committee to participate in a budget review workgroup. Hieserich noted that the group would convene the first week of April to dig into the proposed budget before bringing it to the May 3<sup>rd</sup> Executive Committee for recommendation of approval at the May 18<sup>th</sup> Board of Directors meeting.

Martin (Rosemount) noted that historically, the Executive Committee Chair and Vice-chair participated on the workgroup, which he was willing to do again this year. Vice-chair Wietecha (Hastings) also agreed. Administrator Garcia (South St. Paul) offered to be the third participant on the workgroup. Martin (Rosemount) acknowledged that the workgroup would also include Dakota 911 staff and Dakota 911 Fiscal Agent representatives. Martin (Rosemount) noted that the group could expect to hear from Dakota 911 staff in coming weeks to get this meeting date and time on participant calendars the week of April 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Action:** No action.

### **6. Executive Director Meet and Greet**

#### **Discussion:**

Chair Martin (Rosemount) acknowledged that the final item on the agenda was an opportunity for members to meet the new Executive Director, Heidi Hieserich. Martin asked if before that happened, Hieserich had anything she wanted to update the group on. Hieserich (Dakota 911) confirmed, stating that earlier in the day she was made aware of a League of Minnesota Cities survey going out to member organizations regarding a bill being considered in legislation proposing up to 12 weeks of paid family and 12 weeks paid medical leave annually. Hieserich commented that while this would present a significant financial impact, she was even more concerned about the operational impact. Smith (Dakota County) asked if staff had a sense of the operational impacts would be. Hieserich commented that the main concern was the potential impacts on staff as administration worked to accommodate leave with limited resources. Miller (Lakeville) inquired if the State telecommunicator's association had taken a position on the topic. Hieserich responded that she was not aware of anything at this time, and assured she would be watching this bill closely.

Martin (Rosemount) referred to the encryption topic and asked if there had been any movement on that. Dahlstrom (Law Enforcement Operations Co-chair) recapped how member law enforcement agencies were planning to encrypt their law mains by

September of 2023. Dahlstrom explained how the BCA had informed the consortium that fire responders were not considered law enforcement, and as such should not have access to the Criminal Justice Information transmitted on the law mains. Dahlstrom continued, stating that he and Dakota 911 Operations Director Brent Anderson were going to work to draft a short letter explaining the implications of enforcement of this restriction, and bring it to Congresswoman Angie Craig with a request for support in resolving this responder safety concern. Martin (Rosemount) commented that this was going to be a big deal in the near future. Wietecha (Hastings) requested a 1-page recap in layman's terms that members of the Executive Committee could use to help push the topic. Dahlstrom (Law Enforcement Operations Co-chair) agreed to share this information with the group as soon as it was completed.

## **7. Other Business**

Martin (Rosemount) opened the floor to any additional discussion before closing the meeting.

Smith (Dakota County) commented that for a number of years, Dakota County had wrestled with how to add more staff to the Sheriff's patrol area, southern part of the district. Smith noted that there were discussions underway that were considering how to allow the smaller areas to share in the cost of new deputies. Smith stated that the Dakota County Board of Commissioners would be convening a meeting with all the township officers and representatives to consider some different options, two of which he wanted to bring to the attention of the group. The first would be to Dakota 911 billing the townships directly for their share of costs. Smith clarified that currently the County was covering the cost and then billing it back to the townships. The second option would be for the townships to participate in a JPA with the Sheriff's Office. Smith noted that if the desire were for direct billing, there could be the potential for the townships to have a seat at the Dakota 911 table. Martin (Rosemount) asked if that would slow down the progress made to date toward Dakota County's increasing contributions toward Dakota 911 expenses. Smith (Dakota County) responded that it would not impact what had already been agreed to nor the potential for further increasing Dakota County contributions in the future. Smith clarified that he just wanted members to be aware of the discussions taking place. Wietecha (Hastings) commented that what was being discussed seemed to be going in the opposite direction of the desired streamlining.

## **Adjourn**

**Action:** Motion by Smith (Dakota County) to adjourn. Second by Martin (Rosemount). Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 3:19pm.

**NEXT REGULAR MEETING**  
**May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023**  
**3:00pm**  
**Dakota 911 Training Room**