

MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR OPERATIONS COMMITTEE FOR THE
SOUTHEASTERN ARIZONA COMMUNICATIONS CENTER (SEACOM)

Thursday, February 10, 2022, 8:00 a.m.

SEACOM 1728 Paseo San Luis,
Sierra Vista, AZ 85635

Chairman Tom Alinen, Cochise County Sheriff's Office called the regular SEACOM Operations Committee to Order at 8:02 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Chair Tom Alinen, CCSO; Vice Chair Brian Jones, SVF&MS; Billy Seamans FFD; Adam Thrasher, SVPD; Jim Thies, HCPD; Jon Buonaccorsi, PFD; Jesus Morales, NFD; Matt Stoffolano, NPS; Kevin Venos, HCI

Others Present: Michael Cline, SEACOM; Brad Dever, SVF&MS; Josh Meeker, SVF&MS; Melissa Clark, SEACOM; Pablo Duarte, CCIT; Joe Casey, CCIT; Judy Lynn, CCOES, Tammi Jo Wilkins, CCOES; Richard Karwaczka, Cochise Co.; Susan Papatrefon, SEACOM

CALL TO THE PUBLIC: No members of the public requested to address the Committee.

AGENDA

Item 1: Discussion and possible action to approve the minutes from the October 14, 2021 regular Committee Meeting.

Mr. Thrasher moved the minutes for the January 13, 2022, Operations Committee meeting be approved. Mr. Jones seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous vote of the members present.

Item 2: Director Report.

Mr. Cline reported on staffing levels, the National Guard Project and ProQA. Staffing currently sits at 50% (10 of 20 FTE) with no anticipated departures imminent. There is a total of 18 individuals at some phase of the process, the normal attrition during the process for various reasons is about 50%. There are 5 National Guard candidates in the process as well, 2 on the floor in training, 1 performing administrative tasks, and 2 processing and scheduled for the next ProQA class. Mr. Cline noted that recent background approvals have taken less time to process. There are 2 FTEs (new hires) currently in training with an anticipated completion date of May 1, 2022. There is 1 FTE on leave who is confirmed will be returning in March, 1 PTE expected to go on FMLA in April.

SEACOM relies on and thanks the participant organizations that have placed staff at SEACOM to assist. There are currently 11 individuals working in SEACOM in various capacities.

Ms. Papatrefon has prepared the year end statistic report in the agenda packet. It is speculated that calls increased in 2021 due to the easing of the pandemic restrictions put in place in 2020.

A new ProQA class is being scheduled if 5-6 attendees can be identified.

There have been no dispatch issues with the ProQA system, as the staff continues to use and learn, compliance improves.

The new server for AZ tracks has been delayed due to the death of the ADOT project manager. A meeting is scheduled to get it back on schedule.

Item 3: Discussion and possible action to approved Fry Fire request for a MOU with SEACOM regarding payroll compensation for dispatcher help.

The item was briefly discussed. The committee determined further direction from the JPA should be obtained. If the Board wants the Committee to do background work on a MOU they can revisit.

Mr. Thrasher moved the item be tabled. Mr. Jones seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous vote of the members present.

Item 4: Spillman interagency access, case report visibility.

Per Mr. Thrasher the issue relates to agencies having access to other agencies reports in the Spillman system and the concern reports may be printed by non-originating agencies and the potential to inadvertently be made public. It is common for searches to be performed by other agencies as part of their investigations. If they are unable to view reports, they simply get lists when names are searched, with no detail. In the current system, if they can view, they can print reports. Mr. Thrasher stated a process could be put in place where a request or notification is required when reports are needed, but he suspects compliance would slip over time. Another option would be to give access to Supervisors. Requests would be made through the supervisors, which may help with documentation and compliance. Mr. Alinen stated he agreed that in an emergency situation, Supervisor access is good. On routine requests a request to the originating agency is appropriate.

Mr. Thrasher will draft a policy for consideration.

Item 5: Fire Station Alerting Update

Mr. Meeker briefly restated the details of what the Station Alerting System was intended to accomplish. It is an automated system that would be utilized County wide that results in calls going out faster and has a component that addresses tones and the affect on 1st responder welfare. The system allows the call tones to be done via robo calls and frees the dispatcher to continue interacting with the 911 caller.

The Cochise County Board of Supervisors has approved funding in the amount of \$2.2 million. This amount is projected to cover equipment, installation, infrastructure, and O&M for the first 5 years. Mr. Meeker distributed a document breaking down the costs listed by agency that includes all agencies in the County. After the initial 5-year period, O&M would become the responsibility of the various agencies unless other funding is identified. Mr. Meeker indicated that area agencies, on a preliminary basis, agreed to the program except Pirtleville, Pomerene, San Jose, Sunnyside, Sundance, and Bowie. Those 6 agencies have not responded to recent attempts to contact. Discussion was held about the ongoing costs and whether the uninterested

agencies could be required to utilize the system. It was asked if the cost could be included in the subscriber fees, either over time, or after the initial period. Mr. Meeker stated he feels all agencies should have to use the system. Mr. Thrasher stated that SEACOM can't make them participate. He also asked, for those agencies that are unpaid subscribers and those agencies that may take the initial product but decline to continue, who is going to foot the ongoing costs.

The group was reminded, this is for fire only and doesn't affect law enforcement agencies.

Mr. Alinen asked about routers and maintenance. Mr. Casey stated there would be some maintenance, but the system would be new infrastructure, independent from the County system.

If the agencies participate in the initial 5-year period then opt out, per Mr. Seamans, the systems would remain. Mr. Duarte added, there are licensing fees for each location that is included in the maintenance costs.

Ms. Papatrefon stated these costs should be included in all subscriber agreements. Mr. Alinen asked her if the robo calls be separated? She indicated they cannot.

Mr. Thrasher made the motion this item be moved to the Board for further discussion. Mr. Jones seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote of the members present.

Mr. Jones concluded the discussion by stating that failing to move on a \$2.2 million dollar gift from the County would be negligence.

There being no further business of the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 9:02 a.m.

Tom Alinen, Operations Committee Chair