

WESTERN COLORADO REGIONAL DISPATCH CENTER BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING MINUTES
March 23, 2020

The meeting of the Western Colorado Regional Dispatch Center (WestCO) Board of Directors was held on Monday, March 23, 2020. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the meeting was conducted virtually via Google Meet. Said meeting was posted in accordance with the Sunshine Law, including a link to the meeting and phone numbers for public participation.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS PRESENT:

Blaine Hall, Vice Chairperson, Montrose Police Department
Secretary Tad Rowan, Fire Chief, Montrose Fire Protection District
William Bell, City Manager, City of Montrose
Chris Broady, Chief of Police, Mountain Village
Gene Lillard, Sheriff, Montrose County
Lance Fitzgerald, Ouray County Sheriff's Office
Josh Comte, Marshall, Town of Telluride
Rogelio Pacheco, Chief of Police, Town of Olathe
Shane Schmalz, Marshal, Town of Ridgway
Jeff Wood, Chief of Police, Ouray Police Department
Justin Perry, City Manager, City of Ouray
Scott Fitzgerald, Olathe Fire Protection District
Matt Smith, Montrose Police Department
Matt Goetsch, E-911 System Administrator, City of Montrose

GUESTS:

Mandy Stollsteimer, Executive Director, WestCO Regional Dispatch Center
Mikayla Unruh, Deputy City Clerk, City of Montrose
Stephen Alcorn, City Attorney, City of Montrose
Drea Cole, PD Systems Administrator, Montrose Police Department
George Jackson, Undersheriff, Montrose County
Paul Gottlieb, President, METSA

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:35pm.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comment was accepted. No public comment was received.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Chris Broady, seconded by Matt Goetsch, to approve the agenda as presented. All voted yes. The motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Board considered the minutes of the WestCO Board Meeting held on January 13, 2020. A motion was made by Tad Rowan, seconded by Lance Fitzgerald, to approve the minutes of the January 13, 2020 meeting as presented. All voted yes. The motion passed.

DECLARATION OF THE WESTERN COLORADO REGIONAL DISPATCH CENTER OPERATING IN A TIME OF DECLARED PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

Executive Director Mandy Stollsteimer presented a proposed emergency declaration for the Western Colorado Regional Dispatch Center to operate in a time of declared public health emergency in response to the COVID-19 virus situation in the region.

Chris Broady inquired about emergency expenditure reimbursement procedures. Vice Chairperson Blaine Hall described the ICS reimbursement process through FEMA.

A motion was made by Tad Rowan, seconded by Chris Broady, to approve the emergency declaration as presented. All voted yes. The motion passed.

FIRSTNET DEVICE AND WIRELESS SERVICE AGREEMENT

Executive Director Mandy Stollsteimer led a discussion on the benefits of migrating WestCO's mobile telecom services to FirstNet, a mobile network designed for first responders. This migration would replace the current use of cellphone stipends to employees for WestCO's mobile telecom needs. Stollsteimer explained the costs associated with the transition.

Chris Broady shared that Telluride had recently transitioned to FirstNet and has been happy with it so far.

A motion was made by Tad Rowan, seconded by Chris Broady, to approve the migration of WestCO mobile telecom services to FirstNet.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Mandy Stollsteimer provided a brief update on current WestCO operations. Stollsteimer explained that both Verizon and AT&T are experiencing major service delays due to increased traffic in response to COVID-19 and the current state-wide "Stay at Home" order. Stollsteimer stated that the dispatch staff members are doing well and that several dispatchers are still completing their training process. There is currently only one staffing vacancy, but the application processing has been halted due to the current operating restrictions. Stollsteimer also asked for an update on each board member's staffing matrixes going forward to help WestCO determine if changes are needed in future staffing plans.

Stollsteimer presented a written report including a high level COOP plan for WestCO and explained the procedures moving forward under current health conditions.

Vice Chairperson Blaine Hall thanked Ms. Stollsteimer for her work and facilitation during this time as plans are rapidly changing.

Stollsteimer shared that she has asked the representatives from Priority Dispatch (ProQA) to push back the initial implementation meeting at least one month in response to the current COVID-19 situation. At this time, the ESInet transition has not been postponed; however, it may be depending upon what changes in the coming weeks.

Stollsteimer explained that she is currently working with the City of Montrose Finance Department to finalize the 2019 financials and will share this information once completed.

GENERAL WESTCO BOARD OF DIRECTORS DISCUSSION

Chris Broady gave an update on the community testing conducted during the week of March 16, 2020 in San Miguel County and the ongoing COVID-19 testing efforts. Currently, tourism, construction, and other major economic activity has been significantly reduced in Telluride.

Jeff Wood stated that the City of Ouray recently received orders from the Ouray County Public Health Department on how to proceed with health order enforcement.

Blaine provided an update on the City of Montrose's COVID-19 response. Montrose is currently in Response Tier 4 and moving forward. Hall attended a virtual meeting with the state director of public safety last week and provided an update on nonessential business closures and the importance of clear communication regarding possible shelter in place orders.

Josh Comte gave an update on the Telluride Marshall's Office. Comte shared that four officers are currently out due to illness and injury. Mountain Village will be providing coverage several nights each week to help with the staffing shortage.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Scott Fitzgerald, seconded by Chris Broady, to adjourn the meeting at 2:21pm with no further action being taken. All voted yes. The motion passed.


Tad Rowan, Secretary



John Cheroske, Chairperson