

**STATE OF VERMONT**  
**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS TASK FORCE**

**Meeting No. 26 – Meeting Minutes**

May 22, 2024

Via Microsoft Teams

**11:15 AM - Call to Order**

Co-Chair Neal brought the meeting to order and conducted roll call for Task Force members. She reminded the attendees that the meeting was being recorded.

The following were in attendance:

**Task Force Members Present**

Barbara Neal, E911 Director, Co-Chair  
Jennifer Morrison, Public Safety Commissioner, Co-Chair  
James ‘Jim’ Mack, Shelburne Dispatch  
Michael Wright, CEO of Calnex Ambulance  
Mike Doenges, Mayor, Rutland City  
Ron Kumetz, VSFA

**Others Present**

Soni Johnson, E911 Board Clerk (subbing for Task Force Clerk Cally Audet)  
Rance Duffy  
Rick Burke  
Senator Irene Wrenner  
Kim Cheney  
Stephen Whitaker

**Proposed Agenda Changes** – none

**Approval of Minutes from 5/8/24 (Regular Meeting #25)**

*Motion: Mike Doenges moved to approve the minutes from the 5/8/24 meeting; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ron Kumetz. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.*

**Public Comment**

Stephen Whitaker:

- It is under the jurisdiction of the Task Force to oversee the use of the congressionally directed funds. The Department of Public Safety is planning to use those funds for items not related to the transition to regional dispatch. This is a misappropriation of funds. He has repeatedly asked the Task Force to discuss this.
- The Task Force should not rely on Televate for the review of the plans for the congressionally directed funds.

- The Task Force should use the one-year extension for Mission Critical to get a planning framework and architecture in place.
- Task Force members are being led around by the Co-Chairs.
- Both Task Force Co-Chairs have a conflict of interest.
- These items should be added to a future meeting agenda and discussed in an open meeting.

Co-Chair Neal advised that the Televate review of the congressionally directed spending plan will be on the agenda for the next regular meeting.

Mike Doenges responded that the majority of the systems currently included in the congressionally directed spending draft plan could be utilized for regional dispatch.

### **Project Updates – Televate**

Rick Burke provided updates on:

- Review of the COPS Grant is ongoing.
- Dispatch survey/questionnaire updates have been made and it has been released to the Task Force for final review.
- Work with Mission Critical Partners on the outreach schedule is ongoing.
- Mission Critical Partners met with VCIC (Vermont Crime Information Center) to discuss obtaining information for the data collection process.

### **Dispatch Survey Status Update**

Rance Duffy provided a brief overview of the changes made to the dispatch survey draft. The draft questionnaire was sent to Task Force members in advance of this meeting. Senator Wrenner, Stephen Whitaker, and Kim Cheney asked that a copy of the latest draft be forwarded to them. Acting Clerk Johnson marked a copy as ‘draft’ and sent it out via email.

Co-Chair Neal reviewed the updated document section by section, asking members for any changes:

- Introduction – no changes
- Contact Information & Demographics (questions 1-12)
  - Law/Fire/EMS agency questions should also gather information on the towns covered.
- Technology (questions 13-30) – no changes
- Wireless Communications (questions 31-58) – no changes
- Facilities & Equipment (questions 59-68) – no changes
- Operations (questions 69-82) – no changes
- Personnel & Staffing (questions 83-109) – no changes
- Calls & Incident Data (questions 110-121) – no changes
- Governance, Leadership, Planning (questions 122-130) – no changes
- Budget & Finance (questions 131-135) – no changes
- Data Request Checklist (question 136) – no changes

*Motion: James Mack moved to approve the dispatch survey (with the town/coverage change previously discussed); 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ron Kumetz. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously. Note: Mike Doenges was not available for this vote.*

Next Steps: An introductory email will be sent to the stakeholder list, to be followed by the survey a few days later.

Note: Co-Chair Morrison left the meeting at 11:58 AM.

**New Business** – none

**Next Meeting Date and Adjournment**

The next regular meeting is scheduled for 6/5/24.

*Motion: There being no further business, Ron Kumetz made a motion to adjourn; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jim Mack. There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously. Note: Mike Doenges was not available for this vote. The meeting adjourned at noon.*

Respectfully submitted,

Soni Johnson

Soni Johnson, E911 Board

5/24/24

Date