

Law Enforcement Advisory Board  
DPS Headquarters, Lab Classroom, Waterbury VT  
Minutes of Meeting  
August 15, 2018

- Chair Richard Gauthier called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm with the following present: Commissioner Tom Anderson, Department of Public Safety; Colonel Matthew Birmingham, Vermont State Police; Sheriff Bill Bohnyak Vermont Sheriff's Association; Kraig LaPorte, U. S. Attorney's Office; James Hughes, State's Attorney's Office; Bram Kranichfeld, Attorney General's Office; Nelson Tift, Vermont Constable Association; Thomas Hanley, Vermont Association of Chiefs of Police; Michael O'Neil, Vermont Trooper's Association; George Merkel, Vermont Police Association; Gwyn Zakov, Vermont League of Cities and Towns; Gary Taylor, St. Albans PD/E911; Barbara Neal, E911; Seth DiSanto, Newport PD (via conference call); and Suellen Royea, DPS. Introductions around the room. It was noted the quorum requirements were met.
- **Review Minutes from May 23, 2018: Jim Hughes made a motion to accept the minutes. Bill Bohnyak seconded the motion. Motion carried.**
- **Old Business:**
  - **S.273 Legislative Reports Update:** Rick Gauthier introduced Gary Taylor and Barbara Neal, who were invited to talk about the examination of dispatch services report. They reviewed their involvement with E911. It was noted that there are several regional dispatching areas and Public Safety dispatches for over 100 entities of various sizes. The current structure does not distribute the cost burden fairly as some towns are charged for services and some are not. Several formulas for distributing costs were reviewed. A lengthy discussion was held regarding dispatching costs. Some suggestions included: notifying agencies they will be charged for dispatching services; create a county tax for county dispatching; create a working group to draft legislation; utilizing a portion of the Universal Service Fund; and create regional dispatch centers. It was thought that some legislative guidance is needed for finding a mechanism to pay for dispatching. The following volunteered to be part of the working group: Gwynn Zakov, Gary Taylor, Tom Hanley, George Merkel, and Tom Hango, as a Public Safety representative. Gary Taylor and Barbara Neal left the meeting at 1:44 pm.
  - **Agency Participation in NIBRS Update:** Rick Gauthier reported that Legislation was enacted to better track calls for services. He is working with VCIC.
- **New Business:**
  - **ETicket Project Update:** Tom Anderson noted this is a project to automate the traffic ticket program. The software works and the project is at a point where it is ready to be rolled out to all police cars in the state. It was thought that Highway Safety funds could be used to pay for most of the hardware and the funding for the maintenance and management costs of the program will require some Legislature input.
  - **Law Enforcement Legislative Meeting:** Tom Anderson indicated that he would like to hold a law enforcement meeting in late September to select a couple of law enforcement priorities for the upcoming legislative session.
- **Next Meeting, September 19, 2018:** This date worked for those present.
- **Adjournment: Tom Hanley made a motion to adjourn. Kraig LaPorte seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 1:51 pm.**