

LAW & COURTS COMMITTEE
May 10, 2018
Minutes

Members Present: Crenshaw, Anthony, Banas (arrived at 6:01 p.m.), Hope, Celentino (left at 6:16 p.m.), and Maiville.

Members Absent: Schafer

Others Present: Lance Langdon, Andy Bouck, Teri Morton, Lindsey LaForte, and others

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Crenshaw at 6:00 p.m. in Personnel Conference Room D & E of the Human Services Building, 5303 S. Cedar Street, Lansing, Michigan.

Approval of the April 26, 2018 Minutes

MOVED BY COMM. HOPE, SUPPORTED BY COMM. MAIVILLE, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 26, 2018 LAW AND COURTS COMMITTEE MEETING.

THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. Absent: Commissioners Banas and Schafer.

Additions to the Agenda

5. Resolution Honoring Meridian Township Police Chief David Hall on the Event of His Retirement

Limited Public Comment

None.

Commissioner Banas arrived at 6:01 p.m.

MOVED BY COMM. MAIVILLE, SUPPORTED BY COMM. CELENTINO, TO APPROVE A CONSENT AGENDA CONSISTING OF THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

1. Homeland Security and Emergency Management – Resolution to Apply for State Disaster Contingency Fund Grants under P.A. 390 Section 19
2. LOFT Committee – Resolution to Authorize Three Year Contracts for Westlaw Electronic Law Library, Patron Access and Clear Access for Various Ingham County Departments, Offices and Courts

3. Controller's Office – Resolution Updating Various Fees for County Services

5. Resolution Honoring Meridian Township Police Chief David Hall on the Event of His Retirement

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. Absent: Commissioner Schafer

THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE ITEMS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. Absent: Commissioner Schafer.

4. Law and Courts Committee – Supplemental Millage/Surcharge for New Public Safety Radio System (*Presentation/Discussion*)

Teri Morton, Deputy Controller, stated that there was a memo handed out to the Committee and a discussion about pursuing the funding through a millage or a surcharge would take place at the next Committee meeting.

Lance Langdon, 9-1-1 Center Director, stated that the last system update was approved in 2003 and completed in 2006. He further stated that the current system was at the end of its life, so replacing it before 2021 when Harris stopped servicing it was crucial.

Mr. Langdon stated that the current system was a proprietary system. He further stated that the new systems were all P25 compliant, which meant that they were more affordable and had increased flexibility in the long run.

Mr. Langdon stated that the 9-1-1- Advisory Board had a meeting last month and spoke with three vendors which had given them a chance to see what technology was available. He further stated that Andy Bouck, Ingham County Undersheriff and Vice-Chair of the 9-1-1 Advisory Board, had also been at that meeting.

Mr. Langdon stated that they were looking into a 700/800 megahertz (MHz) system with noise canceling abilities, plus other features such as Global Positioning (GPS). He further stated that the GPS capabilities would give the officers a chance to have their location known.

Mr. Langdon stated that the biggest requirement was a compatibility with the Michigan Public Safety Communications System (MPSCS). He further stated that it most of the state was already linked with the MPSCS.

Mr. Langdon stated that being a part of the MPSCS would ensure that communication could happen even in neighboring counties.

Chairperson Crenshaw asked if the current radio systems would work if a law enforcement officer left the County.

Mr. Langdon stated that it did not work if a law enforcement officer left the County. He further stated that there had been times when a law enforcement officer had pursued a suspect across County lines and had lost radio communication.

Commissioner Anthony asked about the map in the handout which showed some Counties “integrations in progress” and if Clinton County was planning on also upgrading their system.

Mr. Langdon stated that the “integrations in progress” counties were in the process of switching to an MSPCS. He further stated that Clinton County representatives had also attended the last 9-1-1 Advisory Board meeting and they were exploring upgrading their systems at the same time as Ingham County.

Commissioner Celentino asked what kind of funding recommendations the Committee would receive from the 9-1-1 Advisory Board.

Ms. Morton stated that they had estimated the cost to be about \$30 million. She further stated that the 9-1-1 Advisory Board was leaving the decisions about funding to the Board of Commissioners and would not be making any recommendations for that.

Commissioner Celentino asked if the varied proposed funding mechanisms all would gather the same amount of revenue.

Ms. Morton stated that each proposed funding mechanism would result in about equal revenue.

Commissioner Banas stated that she wanted to ask about the possibility of purchasing with Clinton County but that had been addressed already.

Mr. Langdon stated that he was hoping it would be possible to work with Clinton County and increase cost savings through that partnership. He further stated that they had been in talks with Eaton County previously but they had moved quickly to upgrade their system and Ingham County had not been ready when Eaton County was.

Commissioner Banas asked about the vendors and if there were a lot of differences between the three as far as technology.

Mr. Langdon stated that the next 9-1-1 Advisory Board meeting was next week and they would be looking into that more. He further stated that a group of Fire Chiefs had been invited in order to also have input into this process.

Commissioner Celentino left the meeting at 6:16 p.m.

Commissioner Banas stated that she looked forward to reading the report from the 9-1-1 Advisory Board.

Mr. Langdon stated that moving forward with this process, it would be wise to hire a consultant to develop the RFP and make sure they were asking for the correct system requirements. He

further stated that this process would take time and moving forward sooner rather than later would be advantageous.

Ms. Morton stated that Harris would no longer support the current system in 2021, but users had already been expressing problems with the current system, so sooner than later would be helpful.

Commissioner Maiville asked about what type of frequency they wanted to upgrade to.

Mr. Langdon stated that it was ideal to upgrade to a 700 MHz frequency system and they could then move to an 800 MHz talk group on the radio they have if they need patch into the MSPCS.

Commissioner Maiville stated that when the current system was put into place there were concerns about the coverage of a MHz system so a UHF system was chosen. He asked if there were still concerns about coverage.

Mr. Langdon stated that there had been a lot of advancements and there was a lot more power and portability now than there had been over ten years ago. He further stated that the County was currently at 96% coverage and they were looking to move up to about 98%.

Mr. Langdon stated that to increase coverage there may be a need for up to 10 towers and they currently had five sites that may or may not work. He further stated that the tower portion of this upgrade would be the most expensive part of it.

Commissioner Hope asked what the turnaround time was for an RFP.

Ms. Morton stated that she was not sure how long that would take.

Mr. Langdon stated that the RFP usually was 30-60 days for business to respond.

Ms. Morton stated that writing the RFP seemed to be the most time consuming part and they wanted to set up the funding mechanism before writing the RFP.

Commissioner Hope stated that she was concerned there would not be enough time to get this done this year.

Mr. Langdon stated that it was possible to utilize the current fund balance of the 9-1-1 Fund in order to put out an RFP for a consultant now, who could help write the RFP for the system later.

Commissioner Hope stated that she had been asking about an RFP for a consultant, perhaps that had not been clear.

Commissioner Anthony asked if the timeline would allow for an RFP for a consultant and to have this done prior to the deadline for a ballot question in November 2018.

Ms. Morton stated that it would be possible to ask for the money in November prior to a consultant being hired. She further stated that there had been a discussion of starting the process

Mr. Langdon stated that there was a third option that was not recommended by the 9-1-1 Advisory Board which was to change the current UHF system to a P25 UHF system. He further stated that this solution was cheaper, but did not have the capabilities to work with other systems.

Ms. Morton stated that Board Leadership had expressed they would fully compatible system.

Chairperson Crenshaw thanked everyone for the discussion.

Public Comment

None.

Announcements

Commissioner Hope asked when they could expect an information sheet to share with voters concerning the Justice Millage.

Ms. Morton stated that it was currently in draft form and the County Attorney was reviewing at the time.

Commissioner Anthony asked if there was a distribution plan.

Chairperson Crenshaw stated that there had been discussion of a plan at a Joint Republican and Democratic Caucus meeting.

Ms. Anthony stated that she thought it would be best to get it out as soon as possible and to follow a similar plan as last time a millage had been put forward.

Chairperson Crenshaw stated that he agreed.

Ms. Morton stated that she had spoken with Becky Bennett, Board of Commissioners Director, about scheduling informational meetings.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:37 p.m.



BARB BYRUM, CLERK OF THE BOARD

of collecting revenue for this system replacement back in 2016, but it had been decided to wait until later.

Commissioner Anthony asked if there was a need for a consultant or any other expertise to put a ballot question to a vote in November.

Ms. Morton stated that they did not need a consultant at this time. She further stated that it was similar to the Justice Millage, where the Committee would have an estimate of what they needed to collect and they could move forward.

Commissioner Anthony asked about the Leadership Meeting in February 2018, if there was a direction given on the funding mechanism of a millage versus a surcharge.

Ms. Morton stated that both had been considered and a final determination was not made.

Commissioner Anthony asked if they would move the funding question forward at the next meeting.

Ms. Morton stated that that discussion would happen at the next meeting.

Commissioner Anthony stated that the Justice Millage was a long process and that she had concerns about this process also taking a long time.

Ms. Morton stated that she expected that this process would be quicker.

Commissioner Maiville asked if either a surcharge or millage would go on the November ballot for approval.

Ms. Morton stated that either question would go before voters in November.

Commissioner Banas asked if the 9-1-1 Advisory Board would bring recommendations.

Mr. Bouck stated that the 9-1-1 Advisory Board had not made a final determination, but were leaning toward the MSPCS compatible systems because they did not want to be a standalone system surrounded by partners and not be able to communicate properly.

Commissioner Banas asked if the 9-1-1 Advisory Board had discussed funding.

Mr. Bouck stated that they had not discussed funding mechanisms.

Ms. Morton stated that the 9-1-1 Advisory Board had felt it was up to the Board of Commissioners to make a decision on funding mechanisms.

Mr. Langdon stated that 9-1-1 Advisory Board had only mentioned that concerns that there had been a few millage questions put to voters recently, so maybe that would be a negative toward that mechanism.