

Southeastern Arizona Communications (SEACOM)
Operations Committee
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 14, 2021

Chair Billy Seamans, FFD called the meeting to order at 8:16 a.m. at SEACOM, 1728 Paseo San Luis, Sierra Vista, AZ, 85635.

Committee Members Present:

Chair Billy Seamans, Fry Fire District (FFD)
Tom Alinen, Cochise County Sheriff's Office (CCSO)
Brad Dever, Sierra Vista Fire & Medical Services (SVF&MS) Remote
Lawrence Boutte, Sierra Vista Police Department (SVPD)
Jim Thies, Huachuca City Police Department (HCPD) Remote
Sam Foster, Whetstone FD, (WFD) (Remote)
Jim Adams, Tombstone Marshall's Office (TMO) Remote
Jesus Morales, Naco Fire District (NFD) Remote
Kevin Venos, Healthcare Innovations (HCI) Remote

Others Present:

Judy Lynne, CCOES; Pablo Duarte, CCIT; Mike Cline Director SEACOM, Rich Karwaczka, Cochise County Administrator; Melissa Clark, SEACOM; Susan Papatrefon, SEACOM; Tammi Jo Wilkins, CCOES

Call to the Public –No member of the public requested to address the Committee.

Item 1: Approval of the Operations Committee Minutes for the 09/09/21 Meeting (Action Item):

Mr. Boutte moved the Operations Committee Minutes for 09/09/21 be approved as written. Mr. Alinen seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote of Committee Members in attendance.

Item 2: SEACOM Director Report:

Staffing: Mr. Cline reported he is expecting to lose 4 dispatchers in the coming months for various reasons. There are 19 in various stages of the application process and one new hire that is expected to be in training until February 2022. Staff continues to look at options to slim the timeline for the hiring process.

Melissa Clark is currently working through the application process to become a ProQA instructor.

Discussion was held regarding the timeline for training and the difference between training a ProQA certified dispatcher and one not qualified to operate a console. Clarification was made between what can be done by individuals not ProQA certified (CAD, Spillman, Radio, ACJIS). Depending on the skills of the individual training comes in with. Ms. Lynn added the National

Guard was asking what the timeframe for training their personnel would be. Ms. Clark stated a normal amount would be 10-12 weeks.

Staff attended several events and a job fair. They made contact with a lot of people and are actively following up with interested individuals to encourage them to apply.

Mr. Cline stated he continues to work on the development of a dispatcher training program / academy at Cochise College. Mr. Seamans asked if there were any colleges in AZ with a program currently. Ms. Papatrefon indicated there had been one at Northern Pioneer College, but she didn't know the current status. Mr. Cline will look into it.

ProQA: All is going well; compliance continues to increase.

Bylaws: One committee meeting has been held, work continues on the new Bylaws/IGA.

National Guard: Ms. Lynn stated there are currently two lines of help in the works through the Guard. One is the Sabre group currently assigned to the CCSO, the other is a pilot program with a cohort assigned to SEACOM. She stated it may have to be phased in with the individuals initially working non ProQA assignments and graduating to being trained. There are currently funded through 2022. They continue to work out the details, they are screening personnel with the intent to place for the duration of their mission. The SABRE group is currently assigned to the CCSO. They are also working the details of changing assignments for some of those individuals.

Building and IT updates: Ms. Echernach is working on a new temporary server and adjustments to the Spillman patch to attempt to control program freezes continue. The water riser is being addressed. It has a leak and parts have been ordered to repair it. County facilities cleaned up the landscaping.

Mr. Boutte inquired about the recurring odor issues. Ms. Clark indicated it has recurred and despite theories of diesel trucks causing it, there were none in the area this time. They are opening the door and using a fan to dissipate the smell.

Mr. Venos asked if there had been any feedback from the persons not showing up for oral boards. Mr. Cline stated they tried to contact them; most didn't respond. Those that had been contacted had found other jobs. It is his intent to follow up on all of these things in the future to help identify if there are things that can be corrected that are causing people to drop out of the process.

Item 3: Radio Identifiers

Ms. Clark discussed an issue they are having with radio identifiers with the CCSO primarily. This is an officer safety issue because the unit identification on the call screen may not actually be the person using the resource. They are working to get updated, but the CCSO staff often changes vehicles and SEACOM is not notified. Mr. Duarte added this is really a much broader issue and counting on updates is not enough. After further discussion it was suggested staff get with the CCSO and discuss the issue and work towards a proper solution.

Item 4: Tentative Schedule for Rotary Award to Rebekah Coby

There will be an award ceremony at SEACOM for Ms. Coby on 10/21/21 at 11:30 a.m. She will be receiving a Life Saving Award for the cardiac save call in St. David.

Item 5: Fire West Upgrade Project Update:

Mr. Duarte reported the tower work was done last week. Motorola is tentatively scheduled for next week. Testing should begin this month and he asked FFD to assist with the testing from areas of deficiency.

There being no further business of the Committee Chair Billy Seamans adjourned the meeting at 8:58 a.m.

Billy Seamans
Operations Committee Chairman