

The Board of Directors of the Emergency Communications District (ECD) of Nashville and Davidson County met in regular session at the Metro Emergency Communications Center, 2060 15th Avenue South. Vice Chair William Johnson called the meeting to order at 1:04 PM and presided over the meeting with the following board members present: Lorinda Hale, Carolyn Tucker, Ruby Baker, and Rick Cowan. Board members Cleo Duckworth and Susan Mattson were not in attendance. Others who attended the meeting included: Mark Lynam and Larry Law (ECD Admin), Paul McCallister, Dwayne Vance, and Tim Watkins (Metro DEC), Taylor Wilson and Tiffany Childress (Finn Partners), and Julie Evans and Ken Youngstead (KraftCPA's).

Minutes

Ms. Hale made a motion to accept the minutes from the September 19, 2024 ECD board meeting. Ms. Tucker seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously by voice vote.

Annual Audit Report

Ms. Julie Evans and Mr. Ken Youngstead from KraftCPAs presented the independent audit report that was completed for the period ending June 30, 2024 and 2023. They went over various elements of the report that must be communicated between auditor and those charged with governance.

Ms. Evans provided reports showing revenue and expense trends over the last five years. She also communicated to board members that the District showed a positive change in net position of approximately \$5.4 million for fiscal year ending June 30, 2024 and that the financial health of the District was good.

Ms. Evans conveyed that Mr. Lynam and Mr. Law had provided all GAAP basis accrual entries for the year. She stated that there were no deficiency findings to report.

In summary, Ms. Evans reported that the audit found everything to be in order and the financial statements presented in the audit fairly represented the financial position of the Davidson County ECD as of June 30, 2024 and 2023. She stated that the report will now be filed with Metro and the State Comptroller's Office.

After discussion ended, Ms. Hale made a motion to accept the audit report as presented by KraftCPAs. Ms. Baker seconded the motion and it carried unanimously by voice vote.

Financial Report

Mr. Lynam went over the September financial report with board members. Cash available for operations as of September 30, 2024 totaled \$29,150,089. This consisted of \$76,522 in the ECD's checking account and \$29,073,567 in its LGIP account.

Mr. Lynam went over the various financial transactions that took place during the month. He reported that income for September totaled \$124,892, while expenses amounted to \$708,162. This resulted in a net loss of \$583,270 for the month.

After discussion ended, Ms. Hale made a motion to accept the financial statement as presented. Ms. Baker seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously by voice vote.

Public Awareness Update

Ms. Tiffany Childress conveyed to board members that the radio spot which mentioned pit-bulls was revised, and the new ad went live on October 9th.

Ms. Taylor Wilson went over the Rescue Rex report. She reported that Channel 5 did a live segment of the Rescue Rex show when they visited Charlotte Park Elementary School on September 30th. James Matthews, DEC's PIO officer, was present to speak to the significance of the Rescue Rex program.

Ms. Wilson reported that 20 shows have been prebooked for November and December. She also communicated that the Rescue Rex team is doing a targeted outreach to schools who have yet to book a Rescue Rex show.

Ms. Tucker asked the Rescue Rex team to do an assessment of why schools use, or do not use, the program. She felt this would provide a better understanding of the value of the program. Ms. Tucker also wanted to know what percentage of non-MNPS schools use the program.

Ms. Baker asked that a list of the school bookings be provided to board members each month.

DEC Directors Report

Assistant Director Paul McCallister went over the Director's Report with board members. He reported on call volume, answer times, standards compliance, and other statistical data.

Mr. McCallister reported that DEC currently has four vacancies which will probably remain unfilled through the end of the fiscal year. This is being done to meet Metro's request that departments end the year with a reduced budget.

Nashville DEC Supervisor Barbara Boske was deployed to assist with the East Tennessee Emergency Response effort. She is managing communications among state, local, and federal agencies coordinated out of the Carter County Emergency Operations Center (EOC).

Director Martini is working on a project with the Police Department and alarm monitoring companies to classify alarm calls to various levels of urgency, which would aid in dispatching law enforcement to these calls.

DEC is working on a project to add Radius to its RapidDeploy map to allow sharing of CAD data incidents with the Goodlettsville Police Dept. This will allow Goodlettsville to monitor and possibly respond to calls within their jurisdictional boundary and thus free up Metro resources. Other law enforcement agencies within Davidson County such as Berryhill Police Department, Vanderbilt University Police, and Tennessee State University Police could potentially participate in a similar arrangement.

Renewal of Will Denami's Contract

Mr. Lynam informed board members that Will Denami's contract will expire at the end of October. So that Mr. Denami can continue to represent our interests before the Tennessee General Assembly, the board must decide whether his contract should be renewed for another term.

In an email, Ms. Mattson pointed out that funding issues, which could impact 9-1-1, are likely to continue. She felt that Mr. Denami has been effective in clarifying the issues to legislators and dispelling misinformation.

Also, by way of email, Director Martini pointed out that 911 centers will be engaging legislation this year to amend EMAC contracts to allow for immediate backup of emergency networks by other 911 centers in neighboring states. He felt Mr. Denami's expertise will be critical in navigating that process.

After discussion ended, Ms. Hale made a motion to renew Mr. Denami's contract for another year. Ms. Baker seconded the motion and it carried unanimously by voice vote.

Adjournment

Upon proper motion by Ms. Hale and second by Mr. Cowan, the meeting adjourned at 2:02 PM.

The next meeting of the ECD Board of Directors will be held on November 21, 2024 at 1:00 PM.

Minutes submitted by Mark Lynam