

Knox Regional Communications Center Users Group

Wednesday
October 19, 2016
4:00 p.m.

A meeting of the Users Group of the Knox Regional Communications Center took place on **Wednesday, October 19, 2016 at 4:00 p.m.** in the Knox County Emergency Management Agency Office.

Executive Board members in attendance: Adam Miceli, Rockland Fire/EMS; Camden Fire Chief Chris Farley; Craig Cooley, Rockport Police Department; Jesse Thompson, Union Fire/EMS; and Ruston Barnard, Rockland Fire/EMS.. **Members absent:** *Knox County EMA Director Ray Sisk; and Rockland PD Deputy Chief Chris Young.*

Users Group members in attendance: Jamie Leo, Thomaston; Helen Darmara, Cushing Rescue Chief; and Kevin Soule, Union FD/EMA.

Others in attendance: Knox Regional Communications Director Linwood Lothrop, Knox County Administrator Andrew Hart, Administrative Assistant Candice Richards.

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| I. 4:00 Meeting Called To Order |
| II. 4:01 Discussion Items: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Oral Boards October 31, 20162. Review & Approval of the 2017 Budget3. Election of Representatives4. Other Business |
| III. Adjourn |

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Chris Farley at 4:08 p.m.

II. Discussion Items:

1. Oral Boards.

Director Lothrop noted that new hire temporary full-time employee and three other applicants will be participating in oral boards on October 31st. If all four are hired full-time, the KRCC will be full staff (except for the deputy communications director position).

2. Review & Approval of the 2017 Budget.

Director Lothrop executive board has reviewed the budget and tentatively approved it. Only a 0.7% budget increase over 2016. Capital includes redundant equipment because the RA equipment comes from Italy so it has to go through customs. Director Lothrop explained that Bruce Marcus recommended having the redundant equipment because when it's ordered, it has to go through customs, which can take weeks. The extra equipment would not just sit in a closet, however, but would be rotated annually when the towers are checked each year. Everything will be used, just on a rotating basis. November 17th is when the budget is being reviewed by the County Commission and the Budget Committee. Everyone is welcome to attend and show support for the budget.

- Craig Cooley motioned to recommend the budget to the Commission and Budget Committee for approval. Kevin Soule seconded the motion. A vote was taken with all in favor.

3. Election of Representatives.

Chief Farley explained that three of the representative terms will end on 12/31/16 so the Users Group needed to elect individuals to fill those seats for the next term. The three people currently filling those responsibilities are:

- Craig Cooley – Law Enforcement representative
- Chris Farley – Fire representative
- Rusty Barnard – EMS representative

Chief Farley asked for nominations.

- Kevin Soul made a motion to reappoint Chris Farley, Craig Cooley, and Rusty Barnard. Jesse Thompson seconded the motion.

Chief Farley asked for any additional nominations. There were none.

- A vote was taken on the motion with all in favor.

4. Other.

Radio Testing

Director Lothrop was asked by Kevin Soule how the digital radio testing was going. Director Lothrop said that everyone that he has talked to that has tried the radios so far has been very happy with how well they are working, even in known dead spots. Jesse said that he had already tested it and everything went well, but Linwood said that a radio would be given to Kevin so he can try it out for himself as well. In early 2017 the Executive Board send out a general statement to the municipalities to help explain what anyone doing radio replacements in the near future must have for capabilities when making purchases. The County is keeping an eye out for grant funds to put towards a group purchase. If there isn't funding available, the agencies can do a group purchase and hopefully get lowered group pricing.

Adam Miceli suggested checking with the Southern Maine Fire group to see what they are buying because they have a really good group buying program going.

III. Adjourn

- Craig Cooley motioned to adjourn. Rusty Barnard seconded the motion. A vote was taken with all in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 4:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Candice Richards
Administrative Assistant