



**San Diego County – Imperial County
Regional Communications System**

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**NEXTGEN RCS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MINUTES OF THE MEETING**

SAN DIEGO COUNTY – IMPERIAL COUNTY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Wednesday, February 9, 2022 1:00 p.m.

COUNTY OPERATIONS CENTER
5500 OVERLAND AVENUE, ROOM 120
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92123

Virtual teleconference held via Microsoft Teams due to COVID-19 public health emergency restrictions.

Meeting was called to order at 1:01 p.m.

PRESENT: Directors Graham Mitchell, Chair; Theresa Adams-Hydar; Brian Boggeln; Ernesto Fermin; Stephen Rea; Alfredo Estrada Jr.; Brian Johnson

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum - The following Directors were in attendance and a quorum was established:

Mr. Graham Mitchell, City of El Cajon/County Manager's Association

Commander Theresa Adams-Hydar, San Diego County Sheriff's Department

Mr. Ernesto Fermin, Caltrans

Mr. Stephen Rea, OES, County of San Diego

Chief Brian Boggeln, San Diego Fire Chiefs' Association

Chief Alfredo Estrada Jr., Imperial Valley Emergency Communications Authority (IVECA)

Chief Brian Johnson, Imperial Valley Emergency Communications Authority (IVECA)

2. Welcome and Introduction – Mr. Mitchell welcomed the group.
3. Purpose of the meeting is to conduct the business of the NextGen RCS Board of Directors.

NextGen RCS Board of Directors

SAN DIEGO COUNTY - IMPERIAL COUNTY

Graham Mitchell, City Manager, City of El Cajon (Chair) - Commander Theresa Adams-Hydar, San Diego County Sheriff's Department (Vice Chair)

Jeff Toney, Director, San Diego County Office of Emergency Services - Chief Jose Tellez, National City Police Department

Chief Michael Calderwood, Carlsbad Fire Department - Chief Brian Boggeln, Alpine Fire Protection District - Ernesto Fermin, Caltrans

Chief Alfredo Estrada Jr., Imperial County Fire Department, IVECA – Chief Brian Johnson, El Centro Police Department, IVECA

4. Approval of the NextGen RCS Board of Directors' Minutes for the Meeting of October 13, 2021.

ACTION:

ON MOTION of Commander Adams-Hydar, seconded by Chief Boggeln, the Board of Directors approved the Minutes for the Meeting of October 13, 2021.

AYES: Directors Graham Mitchell; Theresa Adams-Hydar; Brian Boggeln; Ernesto Fermin; Stephen Rea; Alfredo Estrada, Jr.; Brian Johnson

5. Public Comments - There were no public comments.

6. Revenue/ Billing Update (October 2021 - January 2022)

6.1 Network Operating Cost (NOC) Billing and Revenue – See attachment

6.2 Trust Fund Balance – See attachment

7. Network Operations Update

7.1 Monthly Reports (October 2021-January 2022) –Mr. Brooks reported the following updates:

October 2021: 3.9 million call setups with 29 busies. 18 busies occurred on the shared San Diego County and Imperial County Hendrix Peak Astro Repeater (ASR) site. The remaining 8 busies occurred on the Imperial County ASR site. No incidents to report.

November 2021: 3.7 million call setups with 29 busies. 1 busy occurred on the San Diego County ASR site at Rams Hill. 2 busies occurred on the San Diego County West Simulcast cell. 23 busies occurred on the shared San Diego County and Imperial County Hendrix Peak ASR site. 1 busy occurred at the Imperial County Calexico ASR site. No incidents to report.

December 2021: 3.8 million call setups with 13 busies. 2 busies occurred on the South Simulcast cell, 10 busies occurred on the shared San Diego County and Imperial County Hendrix Peak ASR site. 1 busy occurred on the Imperial County Salton City ASR site. No incidents to report.

January 2022: 4 million call setups with 47 busies. 2 busies occurred on the San Diego County ASR site at Rams Hill. 5 busies occurred on the San Diego County East Simulcast cell. 16 busies occurred on the San Diego County West Simulcast cell. 20 busies occurred on the shared San Diego County and Imperial County Hendrix Peak ASR site. No major incidents to report.

The busies are short intervals and the system is performing as it should. No major incidents to report this past quarter.

Discussion: Mr. Mitchell inquired on the operational impact regarding busies. Mr. Brooks explained how the busies are incident based with average duration being 1.73 seconds. Within two seconds radio users can communicate on the system. Chief Boggeln and Commander Adams-Hydar confirmed that there is no impact or hindrance to operational matters and public safety.

8. Administrative Update

8.1 Grants Update – Mr. Brooks reported the following updates:

Currently, RCS has no active or pending grant funding requests.

8.2 Training Update – Ms. Alvaro reported the following training updates:

Classes: Eight Law Enforcement Field classes and 12 console classes have been completed. A Saturday pilot class was successful and will be incorporated in future scheduling dates. Two classes are scheduled for the month of March.

9. Major Projects Update

9.1 RCS Site Projects Status - Mr. Santiesteban reported the following updates for the 2021/2022 projects:

Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) Replacement Project: Completion of HVAC unit replacement at Palomar and Sierra Rojo sites. Point Loma will have HVAC replacement in April.

Lock Replacement – Completion of all door lock replacement to all radio sites.

Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS): Superstition site UPS batteries have been upgraded.

Site Power: Power has been reconnected at the Legacy Harmony shelter in support of North County Fire agencies.

Generator Replacement Project: The San Ysidro generator is scheduled for relocation to Sierra Rojo in April. Generators for Chihuahua, Abbey, Volcan South, Monument and Los Pinos have been ordered. Due to material shortages, delivery is expected in the third or fourth quarter of this year.

9.2 NextGen RCS Project Status – Mr. Santiesteban reported the following updates:

Project Milestones: The San Ysidro radio site electrical utilities have been completed and hardware relocation of RCS equipment is scheduled on February 14, 2022 through February 18, 2022. Through engineering analysis and from predicted coverage maps there is anticipated minimal disruption to RCS customer operations during site relocation.

Discussion: Commander Adams-Hydar inquired if there would be any areas with no coverage such as dead spots and/or complete outage in certain parts of the County due to this relocation. Mr. Santiesteban explained that from the coverage map analysis there is an area of one quarter to half a mile on the west side of the San Ysidro site, outside of this area there is no large area that will be affected. Mr. Brooks expanded on this to mention possible interruption inside buildings but conventional channels within the RCS are available in the area.

Additional Milestones: The Black Mountain radio site soil analysis and environmental audits have been completed. All drawings have been reviewed and comments have been submitted to Motorola. The San Onofre 4-port switch and transformer has been delivered with expected completion of San Onofre activities by the end of March.

In-work: The subscriber reprogramming encryption and code plugs have been resolved. Sheriff's Department radios have begun the programming process and continues forward. Federal agency code plugs are pending approval prior to programming

Future plans: The completion of activities for San Ysidro and San Onofre are expected by the end of February and March.

Phase 3: Current balance for Phase 3 project is \$1.68M. Contingency balance is \$806K for an overall project budget balance total of \$2.49M.

9.3 IVECA Projects- Mr. Schmidt reported the replacement of UPS power at the Black Mountain, Imperial, Palo Verde, Salton City and Sidewinder communication sites has been completed. Major planned maintenance has been completed on all generators. Salton City generator has intermittent problems and vendor is looking into this issue to resolve this. IVECA along with Consultant Mission Critical Partners continue to work on development of a public safety answering point and final regionalization implementation plan continues. Mr. Schmidt reports that IVECA is halfway through this project and are ensuring all participating parties have data needed to make an informed decision as project moves forward.

9.4 FirstNet – Mr. Brooks reported the following:

Currently, there is no update on FirstNet. AT&T continues to build out sites and expanding coverage in the San Diego County region.

10. Consent Agenda

10.1 Request the RCS Board approve a new RCS customer agreement with Aeromedevac, Inc. for up to 10 radios

10.2 Request the RCS Board approve a new RCS customer agreement with Responsive Medical Services for up to 10 radios.

ON MOTION of Chief Boggeln, seconded by Commander Adams-Hydar, the Board of Directors approved the Consent Agenda items.

AYES: Directors Graham Mitchell; Theresa Adams-Hydar; Brian Boggeln; Ernesto Fermin; Stephen Rea; Alfredo Estrada, Jr.; Brian Johnson

11. Main Agenda

11.1 FY2022-2023 Proposed Budget Presentation was presented by Ms. Pia – See attachment

11.2 Request the RCS Board approve the RCS Budget and Network Operating Cost (NOC) for FY2022-2023.

ON MOTION of Chief Boggeln, seconded by Chief Estrada Jr., the Board of Directors approved the FY2022-2023 RCS Budget and the NOC will remain at \$28.50 per radio per month.

AYES: Directors Graham Mitchell; Theresa Adams-Hydar; Brian Boggeln; Ernesto Fermin; Stephen Rea; Alfredo Estrada, Jr.; Brian Johnson

11.3 Request the RCS Board approve the addition of Kenwood NX series as a new provider for subscriber radios under two separate motions.

Discussion: Chief Boggeln inquired if other radio models besides Motorola operate on the RCS. Mr. Brooks confirmed that there are currently four models that are certified to function on the RCS as public service radios and include, Motorola, EF Johnson, Harris series and now Kenwood series. Mr. Rea and Mr. Mitchell inquired since there are new vendors, have there been more agencies bringing in these radios. Mr. Brooks expanded on the possibility of seeing more radios in the future as agencies begin to replace radios to use on the RCS and having more options. Chief Boggeln inquired if there is a list of radios for RCS use to which Mr. Brooks confirmed this is located on the RCS website for reference.

ON MOTION of Mr. Mitchell, seconded by Commander Adams-Hydar, the Board of Directors approved the addition of Kenwood NX series as a new provider to operate on the RCS with the understanding that the Kenwood NX-5400 and NX-5900 series radios do not operate in the manner that current radios on the RCS network operate, and the introduction of the Kenwood NX-5400 and NX-5900 series radios will create added expense to the RCS through increased programming and training costs.

AYES: Directors Graham Mitchell; Theresa Adams-Hydar; Brian Boggeln; Ernesto Fermin; Stephen Rea; Alfredo Estrada, Jr.; Brian Johnson

ON MOTION of Chief Boggeln, seconded by Mr. Rea, the Board of Directors approved the addition of Kenwood NX series as a new provider with the requirement that the personnel of any agency implementing Kenwood NX-5400 and NX-5900 series radios complete the applicable updated RCS Training Course(s) within 6 months of the introduction into the radio fleet.

AYES: Directors Graham Mitchell; Theresa Adams-Hydar; Brian Boggeln; Ernesto Fermin; Stephen Rea; Alfredo Estrada, Jr.; Brian Johnson

12. Roundtable

Commander Adams-Hydar confirmed this as her last meeting representing the RCS Board as Vice Chair due to new assignment.

13. End of Meeting - The meeting ended at 1:49 p.m.

Next Board of Directors Meeting is on Wednesday, April 13, 2022 at 1:00 p.m.

County Operations Center
5500 Overland Avenue, Room 120, San Diego, CA 92123