



METCOM 9-1-1

Governing Board Meeting Minutes

Emergency Meeting - July 29, 2024

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Jay Alley
Mark Daniel
Mark Gaither
Gwen Johns
Bill Miles
Jason Millican
Dan Mullen
Don Parise
Fred Patterson
Keith Veit

METCOM:

Wendy Patterson
John Thompson

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Nick Hunter – MCSO
Brian Nicholas - MCPW

ATTENDING REMOTELY:

Sherry Bensema
Jay Bergmann
Jordan Donat
Levi Eckhardt
Damian Flowers
Alan Hume
Michael Kahrman
Don Taylor

METCOM Emergency Governing Board meeting called to order at 10:00 AM.

The Board meeting was opened by Board Chair Mark Daniel.

A moment of silence was observed for METCOM Executive Director Mark Spross.

Chief Daniel addressed the METCOM Board members present with the following:

Executive Director Mark Spross was found deceased in his home the evening of July 21, 2024, due to an apparent heart attack. Chief Daniel was advised of the death via phone from Wendy Patterson. Operations Manager John Thompson was advised by Supervisor Brandi Johnson. Both Wendy Patterson and John Thompson came into the center as soon as possible. As Chief Daniel was out of state, Chief Gwen Johns was also advised of the situation by Wendy Patterson via phone. Chief Johns arrived at METCOM early the next morning to assist staff. Both Chief Johns and Chief Jay Alley performed notifications to user agencies.

On July 24th, 2024, the METCOM Executive Board met with METCOM Administration team, John Thompson, Wendy Patterson and Brandi Johnson, to discuss the future function of METCOM. John Thompson was promoted to Operations Manager at the first of the fiscal year. It was known that succession planning was important to Mark (Spross), and he did so through training with both John and Wendy. It was stated in John's position description that the Operations Manager would act in capacity of the Director in his absence. As such, Chief Mark Daniel proposed to the Board of Directors that Operations Manager John Thompson act in capacity as Interim Director with no ending date stipulated.

Dan Mullen moved John Thompson be named as Interim Director as proposed by Mark Daniel.

Motion second by Bill Miles

Floor opened for discussion, no further discussion

Vote all in favor / no opposition / motion carried

John Thompson has been appointed as Interim Director for METCOM 911 with no end date determined and until otherwise noted.

PROJECT LIST:

Board Chair Mark Daniel proposed the user fee discussion and committee meetings be delayed until other issues have been addressed and operations are running smoothly. User fee discussions will be rescheduled to move forward at a later date. Opened to the floor for discussion. No further discussion.

STAFFING:

Wendy Patterson provided an update on current staffing. METCOM currently has two vacant positions with an anticipated 3rd position by the end of the year. Full time dispatchers are still working a lot of overtime hours as there are seven (7) new hire employees in some part of training. METCOM has one more new hire starting the first week of August and are continuing testing applicants to fill the remaining vacant positions. The Lead Dispatchers have been very helpful and taking on additional responsibilities as they can.

RADIO PROJECT:

METCOM will continue to move forward in communications with Marion County regarding the county wide radio project. Brian Nicholas stated that Mark Spross was very active in the process. If any other METCOM members wish to participate in the conversations or the TAC committee, please reach out.

BACK UP CENTER:

John will meet via phone later in the week to continue the discussion on the State phone project at the backup center in Stayton.

METCOM CONSOLES:

Wendy and John will work with Evans to move the process of the new consoles on the dispatch floor at the main facility in Woodburn.

MEMORIAL SERVICE:

Memorial service information has not yet been determined. It is possible it will be late August. If the family opts for a private service, METCOM will offer a memorial. John stated that METCOM has received staffing help from other agencies; 3 from CCOMM and 1 from BOEC.

No further discussion – meeting closed.

Future Meeting Dates:

All meetings will start at 1000 hours.

September 17, 2024 @ METCOM

November 19, 2024 @ TBA