The REGULAR board meeting of the Board of Commissioners was held November 10, 2016, at the Mobile County Communications Center.

Call to Order – Chairman Bowden called the meeting to order at 08:01 A.M.

Approval of Minutes – Chairman Bowden called for a motion to approve the minutes from October 20, 2016. Commissioner McLean made a motion to approve, Commissioner Landolt seconded, all approved.

Chairman Report – No Report

Treasurer Report – Chairman Bowden presented the October claims list and the MCCD Budget to Actual for approval. Chairman Bowden made a motion to approve, Commissioner Adams seconded, all approved.

Personnel – Commissioner Oliver presented a request for MCCD employees to receive an incentive of appreciation. Commissioner Adams stated he was in favor as long as the budget allowed for it. The bonus would not be a salary increase but would be a one-time incentive to keep morale high and to keep up with competition from other agencies. Commissioner Oliver stated he has heard from other agencies that MCCD has been a great partner in the delivery of public safety services. Commissioner Oliver suggested a one-time $1,000.00 bonus. Commissioner Oliver made a motion to approve the appreciation incentive, Commissioner McLean seconded. Commissioner Landolt chose to abstain from the motion because of his position with the City. All approved the motion.

Planning – Commissioner Landolt had no update on the predictive software from Tyler Technologies.

Communications – Jeya Salvaratnam provided an update on Hurricane Electronics. Tusa Consulting is working with Hurricane Electronics on programming the radios. Jeya has contacted other agencies using the P25 communications for feedback. Tusa Consulting and Hurricane Electronics were to have a meeting with the company programming the radios and will provide an update when available. Tusa Consulting and MCCD will sit down with all of the agencies to explain how the system works prior to the rollover date in March.

Emergency Medical – No Report

Building/Configuration – No Report

Board Attorney – No Report

Director – Director McNichol presented the board with bids submitted for the grounds care at Mobile County Communications District. Commissioner Adams made a motion to approve bid # 2016-01, seconded by Commissioner McLean, all approved. The grounds care was awarded to Tag Team Lawn and Landscaping.
Director McNichol presented the board with a proposal to transfer all banking operations from Regions Bank to First Community Bank as well as opening an Operating Account, Payroll Account, and a Money Market Account. Commissioner Adams made a motion to approve both banking proposals, seconded by Commissioner McLean, all approved.

Representatives from Harris Corporation were in the meeting to provide an update on the microwave antennas. Danielle Marcella from Harris stated an optional “stiff-arm” has been installed on all microwave antennas. Harris has reached out to an independent architectural and engineering firm to provide logistics on the new structure. Harris will be going to each individual tower to inspect and retrieve data to ensure the antennas will sustain higher wind speeds. Harris is hoping to ensure an easy transition to the new system in March.

Representatives from the Mobile County Commission were in the meeting to present an option for the Homeland Security Grant. A presentation was given on Interoperable Public Safety Communications Systems in Mobile County, AL by Rick Burke, a consultant of the Mobile County Commission.

Old Business – No Report

New Business – No Report

Announcement – Next board meeting to be held December 8, 2016

Adjournment – Commissioner Adams made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Bowden, all approved. Meeting was adjourned at 9:08.

Respectfully Submitted:

______________________________
Stephen Bowden, Chairman

Hayley Clough, Recording Secretary
AGENDA & OBJECTIVES

- **AGENDA**
  - Overview of Mobile County Radio Systems
  - County Radio Systems Operational Options
  - Recommendations to enhance interoperable communications

- **OBJECTIVES**
  - Future status of the legacy Project 25 / Phase I network
  - Investment options for the $777,925.59 grant balance
OVERVIEW OF MOBILE COUNTY RADIO SYSTEMS
**MOBILE METRO RADIO SYSTEM (MMRS)**

- MMRS is current primary County radio communications system (800 MHz)
- MMRS is operated by the Mobile County Commission (MCC)
- MMRS (9,313 users) supports:
  - County Sheriff, Fire and EMS
  - City of Mobile Police, Fire, and EMS
  - Other public safety and public service
- Hybrid trunked radio system - ten RF communication sites throughout the county
- System features three-site simulcast cell (24 channels each) and seven base station sites (various channel capacity)
- Harris Corporation EDACS technology
  - Currently operating beyond lifecycle
**Alabama Interoperable Communications System (AICS)**

- State grant to Mobile County and Baldwin County to implement next generation Project 25 radio networks (700 MHz)
  - Provide interoperable radio communications for statewide, national and federal responders
  - AICS is a segment of a larger State radio initiative - designed with dedicated “state” radio channels
- Specific grant obligations
  - Adhere to project plans, scope, and project description as presented by the Counties
  - Provide national, regional and state access
- AICS is primary disaster relief network – would not result in congestion to local networks
AICS Overview

- AICS employs the Project 25 / Phase 1 (P25/P1) standards based radio technology manufactured by the Harris Corporation
  - Configured to be interoperable with the MMRS radio network
  - Six-site multi-cast configuration
  - Each site supported by four unique 700 MHz channels – 3 simultaneous conversations

- Agreement with Harris to upgrade the AICS
  - Upgrade to P25 / Phase 2 will increase capacity and allow sites to support 7 simultaneous conversations
  - Offered at no P2 software license cost to the County
MMRS AND AICS ARE INTEROPERABLE

Simulcast Control

EDACS Switch and Console Interface
NEW MOBILE COUNTY COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT (MCCD) RADIO NETWORK

- Independent Project 25 / Phase 2 radio network being deployed by MCCD based on Harris technology
  - Replace the end of lifecycle EDACS network
  - Increased capacity and reliability
  - New towers and microwave

- Discussion and planning ongoing for migration of public service users of the MMRS to the MCCD network
  - Comprehensive public service migration plan will need to be developed

- AICS network relationship with the MCCD radio network
  - Integration of the AICS into the MCCD network (stand alone zone)
    - Maintain “seamless” interoperability with statewide and local users
    - Reduce maintenance costs associated with multiple core elements
    - Maintain State coverage requirement of statewide network
COUNTY RADIO SYSTEMS OPERATIONAL OPTIONS
AICS INTEGRATION WITH THE MCCD NETWORK

- Integrate the six sites of the AICS into the MCCD network
- Eliminate the existing AICS core controller, integrate into the MCCD core controller
- AICS and MMCD would operate independently under an efficient MCCD controller
  - AICS would support statewide, national, federal, and regional responders
  - MCCD support Mobile County end users
- Leverage the MCCD inter-RF sub-system interface (ISSI) gateway to connect to Baldwin County
**Enhanced Interoperability with Baldwin County**

- Mobile (Harris) and Baldwin (Motorola) are interoperable at a radio channel level
  - Currently operate two control stations to connect the MMRS/AICS and the Baldwin radio networks
  - Focus on law enforcement and fire interoperability talkgroups (limit of two simultaneous calls)
- Opportunity to enhance radio interoperability between the Counties
  - Advanced interoperability over the P25 Inter-RF Sub-System Interface (ISSI)
  - Seamless roaming over the Mobile and Baldwin radio networks – home dispatch connectivity
  - Increase the number of simultaneous talk paths
### ISSI Project Overview and Cost Estimate

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<th>Task Line Item</th>
<th>ROM Cost Estimate</th>
<th>Comments</th>
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| **Project 25/P2 Upgrade**     | $186,480.00       | - Harris offered a no cost upgrade of the AICS to P25/P2  
|                                |                   | - Savings of $186,480.00 |
| Hurricane Services             | $50,145.00        | - Services include:  
|                                |                   |   o P2 site software install at all six sites  
|                                |                   |   o Connectivity of County sites to the District ISSI gateway  
|                                |                   |   o De-installation and removal of the AICS P25 network Core |
| Microwave Connectivity         | $300,000.00       | - Ring microwave network design  
|                                |                   |   o Metro Plaza to Fairhope Courthouse  
|                                |                   |   o Metro Plaza to Bay Road  
|                                |                   |   o Bay Road to Fairhope Courthouse  
|                                |                   | - 6 GHz IP microwave with 10 Mb scalable capacity  
|                                |                   | - Expecting actual microwave cost quote in the near future |
| Baldwin County ISSI            | $250,000.00       | - Baldwin County operates a Motorola P25 network - no ISSI gateway  
|                                |                   |   o Baldwin County seeking ISSI quote from Motorola (cost estimate)  
|                                |                   |   o MCCD ISSI gateway cost of $283,050.00 (per MCCD contract) |
| Project Management             | $15,000.00        | - Third party Project Management (PM) vendor implementation oversight  
|                                |                   | - PM provided by the Counties to reduce/eliminate cost |
| Total ROM Cost                 | $615,145.00       | - $777,925.59 in the bank  
|                                |                   | - Balance of $162,780.59 |
RECOMMENDATIONS TO ENHANCE INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATIONS
## Enhance Interoperability Recommendations

Activities to enhance County and Regional interoperability

**Homeland Security**

### Interoperability Continuum

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<th>Informal Coordination Between Agencies</th>
<th>Key Multi-Discipline Staff Collaboration on a Regular Basis</th>
<th>Regional Committee Working within a Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan Framework</th>
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<td>Joint SOPs for Planned Events</td>
<td>Joint SOPs for Emergencies</td>
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<td>Training &amp; Exercises</td>
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<td>Usage</td>
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<td>Localized Emergency Incidents</td>
<td>Regional Incident Management</td>
<td>Daily Use Throughout Region</td>
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REGIONAL VOICE AND DATA INTEROPERABILITY

- Mobile County and regional efforts to define and establish voice and data interoperability goals and initiatives for the greater Mobile County and tri-state region
  - Enhance Mobile County radio interoperability
  - Enhance data sharing (CAD, RMS, video, other)
  - Engage the tri-state region into discussions to enhance communications interoperability
STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES (SOPs)

- Update the “Communications Plan for Unified Command/Incident Command Communications System” SOP to ensure it addresses new systems and capabilities
- Determine if and what additional SOPs and Communications Plans are required within Mobile County and between Mobile and Baldwin Counties
- Define and develop communications based SOPs and Comm Plans throughout the tri-state region
GOVERNANCE

- Facilitate countywide technical sub-committee
  - Committee composed of technical leads from key public safety, public service, information technology and other entities
  - Assess countywide voice and data interoperable communications performance, gaps and requirements – deliver tactical and technical recommendations to the MCCD Board of Commissioners
  - Meets monthly or not less than quarterly

- Facilitate tri-state regional technical sub-committee
  - Assess regional voice and data interoperable communications performance, gaps and requirements – deliver tactical and technical recommendations to their respective leadership groups
  - Technical group meets quarterly
  - Regional leadership groups meet quarterly, not less than twice annually
THANK YOU!

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