



**East Bay Regional
Communications
System Authority**



Participating agencies include Alameda and Contra Costa Counties and the following cities and special districts: Alameda, Albany, Antioch, Berkeley, Brentwood, Clayton, Concord, Danville, Dublin, El Cerrito, Emeryville, Fremont, Hayward, Hercules, Lafayette, Livermore, Martinez, Moraga, Newark, Oakland, Oakley, Pinole, Pittsburg, Pleasant Hill, Pleasanton, Richmond, San Leandro, San Pablo, San Ramon, Union City, Walnut Creek, East Bay Regional Park District, Kensington Police Community Services District, Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority, Moraga-Orinda Fire District, Rodeo-Hercules Fire District, San Ramon Valley Fire District, California Department of Transportation, Ohlone Community College District, Contra Costa Community College District, Dublin-San Ramon Services District and University of California, Berkeley

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

REGULAR MEETING

DATE: December 6, 2019

TIME: 10:00 a.m.

**PLACE: Alameda County Sheriff's Office of Emergency Services and Homeland Security
4985 Broder Blvd.
Dublin, CA 94568**

MINUTES

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1. **Closed Session:** None.
 2. **Call to Order/Roll Call:** 10:00 a.m.

Boardmembers Present: Vice Chair Casten, C. Andersen, J. Calabrigo, A. Ciaburro, J. Diaz, T. Dupuis, N. Luby, R. McBain, P. Mulligan, C. Nice, M. Roberts, L. Smith, J. Tudor, D. Twa

Staff: T. McCarthy, L. McKinney, C. Boyer, C. Soto

Public: Shawny Williams, Vallejo Chief of Police; Daryl Arbuthnott, Vallejo Fire Chief; Naveed Ashraf, Chief Innovation Officer, Vallejo; Anne Cardwell, Assistant City Manager, Vallejo; G. Poole, Motorola

3. **Report on Closed Session:** None.
4. **Public Comments:**

Shawny Williams, Chief of Police, City of Vallejo, provided public comment regarding the City of Vallejo, and its Police and Fire becoming users of the East Bay Regional Communications System Authority (EBRCSA) as they were in need of a new radio system. They were in the process of joining Solano County radio system but it is not yet ready.

On motion of Bm. Andersen, seconded by Bm. Calabrigo and by unanimous vote, the Board directed Director McCarthy to explore the City of Vallejo becoming users of the System.

5. **Presentations:** None.

6. **Approval of Minutes**

6.1 **Approval of Minutes from the Board Meeting of September 27, 2019**

On motion of Bm. McBain, seconded by Bm. Roberts and by unanimous vote, the Board of Directors adopted the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of September 27, 2019.

7. **Written Communications:** None.

8. **Public Hearings:** None.

9. **Action Items:**

9.1 **Adopt 2020 EBRCSA Calendar Committees and Board Meetings**

On motion of Bm. Twa, seconded by Bm. McBain and by unanimous vote, the Board of Directors approved the 2020 EBRCSA Calendar for Committees and Board meetings.

9.2 **Annual Election of Board Chair and Vice Chair as Required by the JPA Agreement and Bylaws**

Bm. Luby nominated G. Ahern to serve another year as Chair.

Bm. Mulligan nominated M. Casten to serve another year as Vice Chair

Bm. Calabrigo stated that the Finance Committee had discussed the Chair of the Board rotation between Alameda County and Contra Costa County, for either this year or next year. The length of rotation could be discussed.

Bm. Roberts stated may be a two- to four-year rotation would be reasonable.

The Board of Directors and Authority Counsel McKinney discussed the implementation of rotation between Counties, of the Chair and Vice Chair, and if it would require an amendment to the Authority's by-laws, or could it be done by enacting a policy. By consensus, the Board directed Director McCarthy to discuss with both the Operations and Finance Committee, a policy of County rotation of the Chair and Vice Chair.

On motion of Bm. Calabrigo, seconded by M. Roberts and by unanimous vote, the Board of Directors approved the appointment of G. Ahern as Chair and M. Casten as Vice Chair, of the Authority for another year.

9.3 **Request by AT&T to Lease Space on the Patterson Pass Tower**

Director McCarthy stated EBRCSA currently leased land from StopWaste.Org (StopWaste) in Patterson for microwave and radio antennas, which happens to be a high wind area. The Authority had been approached by Epic Wireless to do a site survey in Patterson because AT&T wanted to lease space on the tower. The

Director stated he had concerns regarding the use of the tower and shelter by another user. StopWaste stated it was their land and the Director stated they could look at site but he would need to take it to the full Board for consideration. He expressed his concern that with additional equipment, it would not allow for any future addition of EBRCSA equipment.

The Director stated the TAC Committee and Finance Committee had not agreed with moving forward with the lease. The Operations Committee had said more discussions could be had. CSI has done some reports and in the wind, the tower could move and affect radio reception. This is a prime spot for AT&T, but this could impede growth for EBRCSA equipment.

On motion of Bm. Ciaburro, seconded by Bm. McBain and by unanimous vote, the Board of Directors agreed with direction not to move forward with discussions with AT&T's use of EBRCSA's Patterson site.

By consensus, the Board of Directors directed the Executive Director to return with a policy item regarding other entities co-locating on EBRCSA sites.

10. Committee Updates:

10.1 Receive Informational Report on Recent Finance Committee Activities

Director McCarthy stated the Finance Committee had discussed the Patterson site and the rotation of the Chair and Vice Chair of the Board.

10.2 Receive Informational Report on Recent Operations Committee Activities

Director McCarthy stated there were no outstanding items to report.

11. Reports:

11.1 Receive an Update on the Time Division Multiple Access (TDMA) Upgrade

Director McCarthy stated the upgrade was going well. All System equipment had been upgraded. They were now working on radios. The cut over date was still June 30, 2020.

11.2 Receive an Update on Public Safety Power Shutdowns

Director McCarthy stated three generators failed during the shutdowns - one in Contra Costa County, two in Alameda County. Replacements were eventually found. Thirty-two generators are used within the System. Contra Costa County was looking to purchase two additional generators for such instances.

Bm. Roberts asked if there was anything the System could do proactively, in case there were further problems with the generators.

Director McCarthy stated generators were tested monthly. Batteries were also being replaced. He would like to find grant funding to allow EBRCSA to purchase backup generators.

Bm. Calabrigo asked if there was any other assistance that the Executive Director needed.

Director McCarthy stated the Counties' Radio Shops had been extremely helpful.

11.3 Receive Information East Bay Municipal District Request to Join EBRCSA

Director McCarthy stated he had been contacted by Steve Frew, Safety Manager for East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD), to discuss the possibility of becoming a user of the System. The Finance Committee discussed the cost of radios and determined there would be a cost of \$111 per radio. Once informed, Mr. Frew stated EBMUD would no longer be looking to join the System.

11.4 Receive Information on Inter Sub System Interface with BART

Director McCarthy stated there had been unknown alarms on the System in relation to the Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) Walnut Creek location of the Inter Sub System Interface (ISSI). He has tried several times to contact BART staff regarding this issue and has not received a response. This is critical right now because the Walnut Creek station is the only way Oakland Fire, Berkeley Fire, Moraga Fire and Fremont Fire Departments can communicate when they go underground at BART stations. BART has turned a deaf ear to this as they do not know how to move forward. Motorola has a technician that can do this but BART has not responded. He will discuss with EBRCSA member Fire Department Chiefs before turning off the ISSI.

Bm. Roberts left at 10:43 a.m.

Bm. Luby stated recent incidents made this a public safety issue.

By consensus, the Board directed Director McCarthy to draft a letter to the BART General Manager, copying BART Board of Directors, regarding the ISSA at the Walnut Creek Station, providing anecdotal information, and stressing public safety concerns for law, fire, and the public.

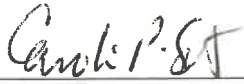
12. Board Comments: None.

13. Next Action Steps:

Directed the Executive Director to return with a policy item regarding other entities co-locating on EBRCSA sites; and draft letter to BART General Manager and Board of Directors.

14. **Adjournment:**

With no further business coming before the Board of Directors, the meeting was adjourned at 10:46 a.m.



Caroline P. Soto
Authority Secretary