



**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, July 8, 2020 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 1:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Directors Jim Lydon, Chair; Stephen Rea; Jose Tellez; Ernie Fermin; Graham Mitchell; Mike Calderwood; Brian Johnson

AGENDA ITEMS

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

Chief Jim Lydon, San Diego County Fire Chiefs' Association

Mr. Stephen Rea, County of San Diego

Chief Jose Tellez, San Diego Police Chiefs' Association

Mr. Ernesto Fermin, Caltrans

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

Chief Mike Calderwood, San Diego County Fire Chiefs' Association

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

2. Welcome and Introduction - Chief Lydon 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

*Chief Jim Lydon, Coronado Fire Department (Chair) – Graham Mitchell, City Manager, City of El Cajon (Vice Chair)
Commander Theresa Adams-Hydar, San Diego County Sheriff's Department – Jeff Toney, OES, County of San Diego
Chief Jose Tellez, National City Police Department - Chief Michael Calderwood, Carlsbad Fire Department
Ernesto Fermin, Caltrans – Chief Alfredo Estrada Jr., IVECA – Chief Brian Johnson, IVECA*

4. Approval of the NextGen RCS Board of Directors' Minutes for the Meeting of February 5, 2020.

ACTION:

ON MOTION of Chief Tellez, seconded by Chief Johnson, the Board of Directors approved the Minutes for the Meeting of February 5, 2020.

AYES: Directors Jim Lydon, Chair; Stephen Rea; Jose Tellez; Ernesto Fermin; Graham Mitchell, Mike Calderwood, Brian Johnson

5. Public Comments - There were no public comments.

6. Revenue/ Billing Update (January 2020 - June 2020)

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 (January 2020 – June 2020) –Mr. Root reported the following updates:

It has been reported historically to the RCS Board the number of radio calls set up on the network, known as conversations and the number of blocked channel assignments, known as system busy. The transitioning of network users between the Legacy network and the new NextGen network has been completed in the month of February. Both networks operated live with the conversations and busies having been artificially high and do not reflect the actual operating performance of the network.

March 2020: 3,384,479 call setups with 10 busies. No incidents to report.

April 2020: During April, the server that logs the traffic recordings experienced an issue and only 854,000 calls were logged, with 2 busies.

May 2020: 3,330,503 call setups with 7 busies. No incidents to report.

June 2020: 3,366,897 call setups with 5 busies. No incidents to report.

8. Administrative Update

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

UASI Grant: Closing out the grant funding, previously used for ongoing NextGen staff augmentations. No additional funding, previous task completed.

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

The fiscal year ended with 813 total users trained, 39 Field Classes and 10 Console Classes. The annual goal of 939 people trained was not met due to the COVID outbreak. There was a cancellation of 6 classes and all hosted classes have been placed on hold. At the end of June, a pilot webinar for the hands-on and fleetmap portion for the Law Enforcement course was held and will plan to roll out this month. Classes will continue to be altered to fit the classroom mandates with COVID-19 protocols in place. In the meantime, webinar classes will be ramped up.

Additional program updates: The information for the new Field Radio Operator Guide (FROG) is almost ready to go to print. Work continues on the Console Classes and System/Mutual Aid portion of the Law Enforcement classes into other formats; starting with Webinars and meeting Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) requirements.

9. Major Projects Update

9.1 RCS Site Projects Status - Mr. Brooks reported the following updates:

New Sites/ Relocations updates:

RCS has completed several modifications with NextGen and programming projects. The building relocation to the new Sheriff's Technology and Information Center which involved move of the existing core system has been completed. Transition was done with minimal to no impact on users.

Encina power plant move is completed and is moving forward with demolition work. The relocation of microwave connections going through Encina power plant has been completed. The RCS microwave was reconfigured and is now fully loop protected.

48V battery replacement at RCS sites continues to be ongoing. Backup power is needed and will continue to replace batteries to various RCS sites for the new fiscal year 20/21.

Weed abatement has been completed in preparation for the fire season to all sites, providing a defensible protection space around the sites.

Discussion: Mr. Rea asked about transition of old tower to new tower at the Primary System Center. Mr. Brooks provided information that all equipment has been transitioned to new tower with demolition work to start and complete within next month or two.

Mr. Rea asked about transition of asterisk fleetmap back to a fleetmap without the asterisk. Mr. Brooks mentioned that within the next couple of months a formal schedule will come out for the reprogramming of radios.

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

All Legacy equipment has been removed from the 49 existing San Diego County and Imperial County radio sites.

Completion of Phase 2 is on track to be completed by August as scheduled and within the 45 million dollar budget.

Phase 3 new site construction is ongoing with the construction of a radio site in the Pala area. There is approximately 2.8 million dollars remaining in the Phase 3 budget for improvements.

9.3 IVECA Projects- Mr. Schmidt reported IVECA voted to end participation in the Cahuilla project during the May 2020 IVECA Board meeting. Military considerations were the primary reasons for IVECA's withdrawal.

9.4 800 MHz Rebanding – Mr. Root reported that in May the final closeout documentation for the 800 MHz Rebanding project was signed. This has been approved by the 800 MHz Transition Administrator. The final reconciliation payment is anticipated to be received in the coming weeks and will be deposited to the RCS trust fund.

9.5 FirstNet – Mr. Brooks reported that once the final sign off with the NextGen system in the coming quarter occurs, the system will be stable to start working with FirstNet to begin test integrations on the interface to the Regional Communications System. This will not impact schedule or budget with NextGen project.

10. Consent Agenda

10.1 Request the RCS Board approve new RCS Customer Agreement for Symbiosis Care.

10.2 Request the RCS Board approve new RCS Customer Agreement for Navy Medicine Readiness and Training Command (NMRTC) Camp Pendleton Ambulance Services.

10.3 Request the RCS Board approve new RCS Customer Agreement for Rainbow Municipal Water District for twenty-five radios on the RCS.

10.4 Request the RCS Board approve U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Police to increase their radio limit from 60 to 85 radios.

10.5 Request the RCS board approve the La Jolla Reservation Fire Tribal to increase their radio limit to 25 radios for mutual aid use.

10.6 Request the RCS Board approve a Mutual Aid Agreement for Campo Reservation Fire.

10.7 Request the RCS Board approve the Santa Ysabel Tribal Fire to increase their radio limit to 15 radios for mutual aid use.

10.8 Request the RCS Board approve U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement's Homeland Security Investigations Directorate (HIS) to increase their radio limit from 15 radios to 30 radios for mutual aid use.

10.9 Request the RCS Board approve a Mutual Aid Agreement for Rural Fire Metro Fire Department – Yuma County for 48 radios.

ON MOTION of Mr. Mitchell, seconded by Chief Tellez, the Board of Directors approved the Consent Agenda items.

AYES: Directors Jim Lydon, Chair; Stephen Rea; Ernesto Fermin; Jose Tellez; Graham Mitchell, Mike Calderwood, Brian Johnson

11. Main Agenda

11.1 Request the RCS Board approve the addition of L3Harris as a new provider for subscriber radios.

Discussion: Mr. Root reported that the operation of the Harris radios is generally compliant with the RCS network. He further reiterated that approval is with the understanding that the Harris XL-200 series radios do not operate in the manner that current radios on the RCS network operate, and the introduction of the Harris XL-200 series radios will create added expense to the RCS through increased programming and training costs. In addition, the staff recommends that the RCS Board require personnel of any agency implementing the Harris XL-200 series radios complete the applicable updated RCS Training Course(s) within 6 months of the introduction into the radio fleet.

ON MOTION of Mr. Rea, seconded by Chief Calderwood, the Board of Directors approved the Main Agenda.

AYES: Directors Jim Lydon, Chair; Stephen Rea; Ernesto Fermin; Jose Tellez; Graham Mitchell, Mike Calderwood, Brian Johnson

12. Roundtable

Recognition was given by Mr. Brooks to two RCS staff retiring within the next couple months, Don Root and Dave Hazlett.

13. End of Meeting - The meeting ended at 1:42 p.m.

Next Board of Directors Meeting is on Wednesday, October 14, 2020 at 1:00 p.m. via MS Teams Virtual Teleconference. Meeting details to follow.

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