

**KLAMATH COUNTY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT MINUTES OF  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING  
Wednesday, January 20, 2021  
Klamath Emergency Communications District**

**I. CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 9:03 a.m. by Keith Endacott. Representatives were present from the following agencies:

AGENCY REPRESENTATIVE	HERE	ABSENT
KC Emergency Management		X
Winema National Forest		X
Basin Ambulance - <b>Larita Ongman</b>	X	
Merrill RFD		X
Central Cascade RFD		X
OIT Security		X
Malin RFD		X
Merrill PD - <b>Brian Bicknell</b>		X
Malin PD		X
Kingsley FD		X
Walker Range Fire		X
OSP		X
Klamath Interagency Fire		X
ODF – <b>Randall Baley</b>		X
District #3		X
Chiloquin Ambulance & Fire – <b>Mike Cook</b>		X
BLM – <b>Blake Dornbusch, Virtual</b>	X	
Harriman RFD		X
Chemult RFD		X
Bonanza RFD		X
Bly RFD		X
District #4 – <b>Larry Woodruff</b>		X
District #1 - <b>Greg Davis</b>	X	
District #5		X
Crescent RFD - <b>Dylan Webb, Virtual</b>	X	
Klamath PD – <b>Ryan Brosterhous</b>		X
Klamath SO – <b>Chris Kaber, Virtual</b>	X	
Keno RFD – <b>John Ketchum</b>		X

**Guests: Keith Endacott, Joanie Rote, Chris Swan, Randy Swan**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Greg motioned to approve the meeting minutes from April 15, 2020, Dylan seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Radio Interoperability: Keith said they had an informational gathering call work session for the communications system owned and operated by the radio group KIRG. This is for the grant received to move forward in the project. The project technician will be on site next week to visit the mountain top locations, dispatch and meet with user agencies to assess the current equipment and capabilities and identify what is needed to move forward in the future.

Strategic Plan Update: Continues to move forward and as we look at the ability for redundancy this will take significant planning. Staffing goals continue to be a challenge due to finding qualified candidates that make it through training. Annual State required documentation is currently being updated and will be submitted by the end of the month. Keith said this was a good strategic plan approved 8 years ago that continues to be worked on and got the levy renewed having secured funding another term.

## **II. NEW BUSINESS.**

- A. Executive Director Report: Installation of 2 new consoles to be socially distanced were installed last week and are in use with only a few little things to finish up for completion. We also purchased some chairs that have cleanable fabric along with a smart board and computer that is currently being used in the conference room. These items were all COVID grant funded.

Discipline Nation and Statewide: Recognizing dispatchers as first responders. Keith explained that the position of a dispatcher has always been recognized as clerical, but many see that it is a first responder and believe it should be recognized as such. A lot of local counties are not waiting for that recognition to be made at the federal level first but doing so already. Clackamas, Jackson, and a couple Eastern counties have already made this declaration. Corvallis along with us are working on doing so now. At today's meeting the board will be looking at a resolution to adopt this recognition and then we would present that to the Commissioners, asking them to adopt the recognition on a county level as well. Keith said he hopes that partner agencies will support this as well and would like this presentation to the Commissioners to be made during national telecom week in April.

Operations Manager Report: Joanie reported that we are back in the open recruitment phase due to having hired 3 in the fall but only one successful about ready for solo status. We are looking to hire 1 currently unless there are 2 candidates that really prove to be highly qualified.

December total calls were 8958 of which 4200 came in on a 911 line. 1047 of those were Fire/EMS with 676 being medical specific. There were 6211 LE calls of which 1998 were law enforcement initiated.

In the past month there has been 7 staff out with COVID and the remaining staff really stepped up to covered and did a great job.

Dylan asked if it would be helpful to have his board write a letter of support regarding the recognition of a dispatcher as a first responder and if so, he would also present this to the fire defense board meeting next week. Keith said yes and gave some historical background on the job of a dispatcher, stress, training, and studies that have taken place to support this change in the recognition. Discussion followed regarding this. Keith added that there is no financial impact to anyone in recognizing this. If the state level of recognition changes then there would be some impact to things such as retirement in PERS.

**III. GOOD OF THE ORDER:** Greg noted that Chief Hitchcock is pretty involved in the KIRG project and he will continue to be their POC.

Blake informed they have a tentative offer to a Josh Horn to replace Robert Dockery and if accepted he will be new in our area.

Randy said the new call type SAR is a big-time saver and will make a big difference in response. He thanked the team for taking the time to figure this out and initiate the change.

**VI. PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**VII. AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING.**

**Next Meeting Date April 21, 2021 at 9:00am**

Greg motioned to adjourned, Randy seconded, meeting adjourned at 9:24am.