



BOARD OF DIRECTORS EAST CENTRAL DISPATCH CENTER

Board Members

Bola Akande
Amy Hamilton

David Gipson
Jennifer Yackley

Michael Reese
Elliot Brown

Barbara Sondag
Marie Peoples

Executive Director / Deputy Director

Paul Jokerst / Kurt Ploch

BOARD OF DIRECTORS STRATEGIC PLANNING MEETING MINUTES

Date & Time: Wednesday, January 5, 2022 @ 3:00 PM

Location: Zoom Invite – Call In

(312) 626-6799

Meeting ID: 849 8193 0615 / **Passcode:** 095371

- **Call to Order & Roll Call**

Meeting called to order at 1503 hrs

Members present were: Bola Akande, David Gipson, Barbara Sondag, Amy Hamilton, Jennifer Yackley, Elliot Brown, and Marie Peoples

- **Approval of January 5, 2022 Agenda**

Barbara Sondag motioned to approve the agenda, seconded by Amy Hamilton. All in favor, motion carried.

- **Approval of the November 3, 2021 Board of Directors Strategic Planning Meeting Minutes**

Marie Peoples motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Bola Akande. All in favor, motion carried.

- **Approval of the November 17, 2021 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

Amy Hamilton mentioned that the minutes were titled as the agenda. Amy Hamilton motioned to approve the minutes with the title changes, seconded by Marie Peoples. All in favor, motion carried.

- **Public Comment**

Shrewsbury Fire Chief Chris Amenn commented that he reviewed Director Jokerst's proposed changes to staffing and stated he and the other fire chiefs whole heartedly agreed with the proposed changes as ECDC is severely understaffed as ECDC is having difficulty in maintaining the 90% of calls processed in under 90 seconds as well as the comparison of calls answered per dispatcher when compared to other centers in the area.

- **Strategic Planning – Contracted Services**

Director Jokerst reported that as requested in the last board meeting, he investigated bringing in someone to consult on the proposed strategic planning items. He received three suggested names from various board members for these contracted services. All three stated that they understood the project, but declined to take on the project at this time. Director Jokerst reached to out Tom Percich for other suggestions. Mr. Percich suggested John Foster, who is a retired Police Captain for the City of Florissant. He was the Communications Division Commander, as well as CALEA, budgeting, strategic planning as well as Public Relations. After retiring, he has worked with the Fitch Group and as a CALEA Assessment Manager. Mr Foster felt that this project wouldn't take overly long and quoted \$75.00 an hour, not to exceed \$3,000.00. His scope of work would include attending strategic planning meetings, receiving input from ECDC staff and the Board. He would then report back to the Board on his findings.

David Gipson advised that he envisioned this person would meet with staff and board for an extended period of time to go through a board defined agenda on the future plans of ECDC, (where ECDC is housed, how

much room ECDC needs, should ECDC take on other agencies). Bola interjected that David articulated what the agenda should be, and if the board has other ideas, we would get to that. The successful person(s) would then define the process to get the board to a work session. She also said that the board needs to define a budget for this process and should be prepared for at least two full days. She suggested putting out an RFP to choose the right person. Jennifer Yackley was curious what was described to the three suggested names and why they declined. Paul stated that after these comments, he did not describe what the board is now stating to the three suggested names. Paul will investigate the cost of a larger project and start putting together an RFP to present to the board to ensure that the scope of the project is what they are looking for.

- **Employee Compensation**

- Pay Scale (10-Year / 12-Year / 15-Year)
- Executive & Deputy Director Comparisons

Paul presented the above information that was included in the board packet. ECDC staff is requesting the ten-year plan. A lively discussion followed. The Board expressed their preference for now would be the twelve-year plan and would like to see where everyone would fall into that plan; also, chart out the three-year adjustment to get ECDC into the step plan.

- **Additional Personnel**

- Public Safety Dispatchers (4)
- Business Manager (Quality Assurance/Training Manager)
- Information Technology Specialist

Paul reviewed the information in the packet reference additional personnel. He is suggesting 4 new dispatchers, a Training/Quality Assurance Manager and an IT Specialist, noting that the support personnel proposed would also be trained dispatchers to supplement staffing when needed.

The board requested that using the 12-year step plan, show what the future costs would be with additional personnel. Another lively discussion followed. Call statistics were shared and several questions were answered.

- **Future Board of Director Meetings**

- February 2, 2022 – Strategic Planning
- February 16, 2022 Regular Board Meeting
- March 2, 2022 – Strategic Planning
- April 6, 2022 – Strategic Planning
- May 18, 2022 Regular Board Meeting

- **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn made by Bola Akande, seconded by Barbara Sondag. All in favor, motion carried.