



Litchfield County Dispatch, Inc.

111 Water Street
Torrington, CT 06790
Administration (860) 626-7525
Dispatch (860) 496-0711
lcd911.com

LCD Board of Director's Meeting – February 29, 2024

In-person meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by President Eric Epstein at LCD Headquarters

Roll Call showed a quorum was present.

A motion was made by Chris Masi (Plymouth) and seconded by Brian Allyn (North Canaan) to accept the minutes of the last meeting as presented. Motion passed. It was requested that the vote count for the Dispatcher Ludwig request be added to last month's minutes which was 8 yea, 3 no, 1 abstention.

Public Comment:

- Ann Marie Rheault (Town of Winchester) asked about budget increase. Specifically, about the employee salary line-item increase. Scott Kellogg described the reasoning.
- Plymouth PD Chief spoke about the possibility of shared dispatchers and the effect on the budget. The PD is concerned that the town does not have proper dispatcher coverage and dispatchers not answering the radio in a timely manner.
- Winchester PD Chief spoke in support of the idea that LCD would be the best judge of current staffing if it is done in a safe and effective manner.

Correspondence: Jon spoke about the change in directorship of Goshen from Peter Bernard to Chief Barry Hall. President Epstein thanked Peter for his many years of service to LCD. Also, Jon reminded the Board that 3 representatives of the NWCOG need to be replaced as they are no longer Selectmen in their respective towns.

Treasurer's Report:

- Operating Account: \$1,216,229.50
- Projects Account: \$75,060.75

Motion made by Chris Masi (Plymouth) and seconded by James Lagassie (Winsted) to receive Treasurer's report. Motion passed.

Reports of Management:

Dan Soule reported that LCD is not eligible for the state law on paid leave. Unfortunately, employees have been paying for this benefit out of their paychecks. The State is reimbursing each of the employees. 2 employees will be out on maternity leave and the company will be working with the Exec Board to ensure that the employees will be covered.

GIS mapping is improved by contracting with a new company. The improvements are included in the capital plan for next year and working with NWCOG will be a priority.

Kevin Webb: focus is on recruitment and retention and revamping the on-boarding training process. The question was asked if exit interviews are done and why folks are leaving. Answer: yes, and stress is the #1 reason.

Brian Mirizzi: gave an update on the Fire Tek app and the Communications and Tech committee. Multiple tower sites are being updated with the new response channel and other new frequencies. Cyber security mitigation is on-going as well to safeguard all LCD systems.



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COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Communications/Tech: James Lagassie gave update that meetings are weekly and currently working on presentation to share information to all departments. Public info sessions will be next Fall.

By Law: None

Executive Board:

Finance: Met 6 weeks ago to come up with budget

Personnel: None

Protocol: None

Legislative: None

OLD BUSINESS:

2024-25 Budget: James Lagassie (Winsted) made the motion and seconded by R. Accosta (Sherman) to approve budget as presented. Much Discussion ensued about shared dispatcher position between Winsted and Plymouth Police departments. Motion by J. Lagassie (Winsted) and seconded by R. Accosta (Sherman) to rescind the original motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Scott Kellog made a motion and seconded by Mr. Jim Schultz, to adopt a reduced 2024-25 budget to \$ 4,141,700 and to have additional discussion with Winsted and Plymouth regarding police dispatcher staffing needs which could have their invoices adjusted by July 1, 2024. Motion passed.

A development contract with Fire Tek will be forthcoming next month.

NEW BUSINESS:

Brian Allyn (North Canaan) and Chief Barry Hall (Goshen) will be on the nominating committee for the upcoming election in April.

D. Tripp (Torrington) asked if an MOU was signed with the Union regarding M. Ludwig payout. The answer is no: D. Tripp would like to see an MOU added to the agreement as this was a special occurrence and not part of the Union contract.

A Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by J. Lagassie (Winchester) and seconded by Jim Schultz (Warren) at 2026 hrs.

Respectfully Submitted

Jonathan Barbagallo
Executive Secretary