

Summary of Discussion
Broward County Charter Review Commission
Public Safety Subcommittee Meeting
Wednesday, May 30, 2007
Broward County Governmental Center Annex - Room A513
3:00 PM - 4:30 PM

Members Present:

Dr. Mark Lieberman, Chair
Mayor, Debby Eisinger, Vice-Chair
Commissioner, Hayward Benson
H. K. "Petey" Kaletta
Commissioner Ted Mena
Robert Penezic, Esq.
Wil Trower

Members Absent:

None

Others Attending:

Major Kyle Berwick, DLE Operations Manager, BSO
Richard Carpani, Director Communication Technology, BSO
Pete Corwin, Assistant to the County Administrator, Broward County
John Curry, Executive Director of Administration, BSO
Ronald DeShong, Battalion Chief Miramar Fire Rescue
Walter Dix, President of the Broward Professional Firefighters
Chedley Etienne, Administrative Assistant, CRC
Tom Gallagher, Pembroke Pines Fire Department
Yolanda Grooms, Administrative Specialist, CRC
Maria Gross, Assistant Director, CRC
Alain Jean, BSO
John Kelly, Vice President of the Broward Professional Firefighters
Phyllis A. King, Transcriber, PKING Consulting
Chief Kenneth Pachnek, Lauderhill Police Department
Chief John Picarello, Pembroke Pines Fire Department
Kim Rubio, Regional Communications Manager, BSO
James Saunders, Esq., Williams, Wilson & Sexton, P.A.
John Schildknecht, Assistant Chief, BSO/ Fire Rescue
Gary Smith, Division Chief of Logistics
Chief Daniel Sullivan, Hallandale Beach Fire Rescue
Patricia G. West, CRC, Executive Director
Mel Wilson, Esq., Special Counsel

(A copy of the sign-in sheets identifying those present is filed with the supplemental papers to the summary of this Subcommittee meeting.)

A meeting of the Broward County Charter Review Public Safety Subcommittee "Committee," "Subcommittee," or "PSSC," was held at 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 30, 2007 at the Broward County Governmental Center Annex Room A513, Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

I. Call to Order/Roll Call

The Chair Dr. Mark Lieberman called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m. with a quorum present. He requested the roll call by Phyllis A. King, PKING Consulting, Inc. Upon completion of the role the Chair opened the floor to the dais for revisions / corrections and approval of the May 9, 2007 Summary of Discussion.

II. Approval of the Summary of Discussion from Meeting of May 9, 2007

Mr. Mena mentioned that he requested the correction of the spelling of Mr. Roger Del Rio's name in future minutes and noted: *Mr. Del Rio does not appear in the minutes of the PSSC he is, however, in the minutes of the TSC and corrections will be made thereto.* Mr. Wilson requested the correction to the spelling of "council" to "counsel" on the list of Other Attendees located on Page 1.

Mr. Mena MOTIONED, Mr. Penezic SECONDED and the motion carried unanimously to approve the Public Safety Subcommittee Summary of Discussion of May 9, 2007.

The Chair then gave Mr. Rick Carpani the floor.

III. Presentation – Richard Carpani, Director, BSO Communications Technology Division

Mr. Carpani provided an updated handout entitled: ***Broward Regional Public Safety Communications Strategic Vision dated May 30, 2007 which will be filed with the supplemental papers to this Summary of Discussion.*** Mr. Carpani thanked the PSSC for the opportunity to present today. He advised that the Public Safety Communications Committee (PSCC) is the result of a collaborative effort between the municipalities and Broward County. He advised that the PSCC took a look at past initiatives and saw that most initiatives were internally focused, viewed as County controlled, and lacked user input.

Ms. Debby Eisinger entered at this time 3:11pm

He advised that there are a number of committees working on different public safety initiatives which are not communicating together. He suggested that they need to be rolled up and put under one umbrella. He advised that many Interlocal Agreements lack a Service Level Agreement; expectations were not set and the city did not understand what would come from the County and the County did not understand what would come from the city. Mr. Carpani advised that everything the PSCC did would be based on a Broward Regional bases;, he added that they were not going to look at individual city requirements. He stated that the PSCC went out and collected input from the users and asked them what tools are needed to support Public Safety. He stated that they support Fire Rescue and the DLE; he advised that they are looking at developing cooperative programs and explained that they want to develop cooperative maintenance programs to maintain equipment regionally keeping the total cost of ownership in mind. He advised that the public safety initiatives are not a one time cost element as they have ongoing operational and capital costs. He stated that they want to standardize capital software by providing standards for equipment, etc. Mr. Carpani explained that the life cycle of equipment is much shorter than in the past; he added that it is very important to ensure that they do not lose site of the capital expended in the past. He explained the desire to develop *Regional Standard Operating Procedures*. Mr. Carpani stated that supporting the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and a system of systems' vision and interoperability are important elements and by supporting them, they can go after grant funding.

Mr. Mena inquired about funding for the Plan. Mr. Carpani explained that they are trying to leverage the economic base because it will cost more as individuals. Mr. Carpani explained from a grassroots perspective that everyone has come to an agreement that for Broward County, the Plan he presents today meets the needs for today and in the future and provides a scalable platform; he advised that there is a need for agreement and concurrence at the policy level. Mr. Carpani advised that the PSCC is in the process of developing the costs and plans to submit them in June. He advised that they have committed to provide the cost and are putting together a Business Plan Model to support Public Safety in Broward County. He stated that this will not only support initial funding but also ongoing O&M costs and life-cycle migration. He stated that they are proposing to the CRC and County Commission the revenue and funding models; he added that they have not explored all of the funding options at this point.

Mr. Carpani explained that 80% of the radios are interconnected with the County system; a few are not communicating at all and are using radio gateways. He stated that DHS system of systems of Broward Public Safety Intranet functions similar to the internet; he advised that they will provide global standards for intranet. Mr. Carpani proposed to take the independent systems "which are reaching end of life" and instead of paying the cost to migrate onto a County-wide shared infrastructure, they want to support the open-standards based technology. He advised that the actual hand held portable radios will not need to be proprietary and will be able to communicate based on P25 open standards.

Mr. Mena asked Mr. Carpani if he is advocating P25. Mr. Carpani replied that P25 is the open standard that is being developed; he advised that it still has ways to go in terms of full interoperability but currently allows radios from various vendors and different manufacturers to communicate on different systems. Mr. Mena asked if the P25 system is more like software. Mr. Carpani replied yes and no, he advised that it also includes hardware components.

Mr. Carpani stated that the most important tool they can provide our Public Safety professionals would be a Regional Wireless Broad Band; he explained that they would like to be able to provide access to the same types of applications for the mobile units. He advised that some municipalities are using a Commercial Network through Verizon Wireless or Cingular Wireless which is very expensive. He explained that these service providers do not offer a quality of service guarantee and their Terms and Conditions allow them to shutdown service without notification. Mr. Carpani advised that the overall vision going forward is to take the private system and augment it with the commercial component. He advised that the software is intelligent enough to allow it to automatically route to the commercial network. He advised that there is talk about adding Public Safety as a component to Wi-Fi systems and it is not currently known how first responders will use the system; however, he advised that streaming video is one way. Mr. Carpani advised that there are a number of providers developing solutions and there is no reason why Broward County cannot enter into some sort of agreement with those solutions providers.

He then provided an overview of the 911 call centers and explained the proposed plan to take pre-existing equipment and deploy it across 4 regional centers. Mr. Carpani stated that Public Safety Answering Points (PSAP'S) are the next generation of service through which the 911 centers would be able to receive streaming video. He advised that they want to constantly build

on scalable platforms and increased flexibility would enable our Public Safety professionals the ability to log on at another facility in the event of downtime at another center.

Mr. Carpani advised that the **Hollywood FS# 74 Regional Site, Backup Site Miramar FS# 84, Northwest Regional Site, Pompano Beach Regional Site**, and the **Primary Site Public Safety Building** make up the Broward County Public Safety SONET Intranet. He added that the setup of the network is built using SONET ring technology and if one or two sites were to go down the information would be routed from either the backup or primary site.

The Chair asked if Broward County has a Regional Public Safety Communication Committee (RPSCC). Mr. Carpani replied yes; he advised that the RPSCC meets every two months with very good participation. He added that the RPSCC started again in July 2006. He stated that they want all public safety communications to take place at their meetings. The Chair asked if municipalities could participate on their Committee. Mr. Carpani replied yes. Ms. Eisinger asked if the RPSCC is open to all municipalities. Mr. Carpani replied yes and advised that there has been much support from the municipalities.

Ms. Kaletta asked how many members the Committee consists of and if they are permanent. Mr. Carpani replied that each municipality has 2 to 3 attendees and the Committee is set up with voting rights for only those cities with Interlocal Agreements. He stated that they are working on finalizing Interlocal Agreements with 8 municipalities.

Ms. Kaletta asked what the difference between local government and Broward municipalities is. Mr. Carpani replied that the local government is an agency within the municipality.

Ms. Kaletta asked if Miami-Dade and Palm Beach have been invited. Mr. Carpani replied that they thought that they should get Broward in order but he advised they did reach out to Miami-Dade Fire Rescue who is interested in participating. But they have not reached out to Palm Beach. Ms. Kaletta asked if they would eventually reach out to other Counties to make it more regional. Mr. Carpani replied yes; he suggested that they should get together at least twice a year.

Mr. Benson asked if there is a place for the School Board and its structures in the Model of Excellence. Mr. Carpani advised that the School Board participates on the BCPSC. A discussion ensued regarding the inclusion of the Broward County School Board and the addition of possible assurance language in the Charter with comments made by Mr. Benson, Ms.

Eisinger and Mr. Trower. Mr. Carpani stated that when speaking of the School Board he was referencing the Communications Committee not as it relates to supporting the goals of the Charter. He advised that from a PS Communications Perspective / Form a school perspective, they have their system and are providing communications and video to the individual schools.

Mr. Carpani provided a brief overview of today's governance structure and advised that the proposed structure is geared toward multi-disciplinary support inclusive of the Department of Law Enforcement (DLE), Fire Rescue and other entities. He advised that without going out and soliciting input he does not believe goals will be reached. Mr. Carpani advised the dais that the Regional Public Safety Communication Committee (RPSCC) has three subcommittees which are Operational, Technical, and Financial, which are not currently developed but will be necessary.

Ms. Kaletta asked Mr. Carpani who appointed the RPSCC and who they report to. Mr. Carpani replied that he reports to BSO Department of Administration; he advised that the RPSCC individuals are City Police, City Fire Chiefs, 911 Managers and a mixture of people who all report to different entities; he stated that there is no one governing body, which is the problem. He added that what the Plan is doing is soliciting consensus among all municipalities; once consensus is obtained they will make recommendations to the FRC who would in turn make the recommendations to the County Commission.

Mr. Penezic asked Mr. Carpani from a Charter perspective what the dais could place in the Charter to help; he asked Mr. Carpani if the FRC started the RPSCC.

Mr. John Curry, BSO, advised that he believes that there is room for policy direction through the Charter; he added that Broward County transferred this responsibility to the RPSCC. He suggested a formalized approach.

Mr. Trower advised that they are mixing things up; he stated their effort has covered broader issues with communications, etc. He added that to him it seems the original Charter language is focused on Fire Rescue which is what the FRC was meant to do. He advised that what is being seen now is an accessory group working including those looking at the broader picture of other agencies with no formal delegation. He then asked if this was delegated to the RPSCC to develop the Vision Statement and Plan.

Mr. Corwin advised that there is no formal relationship.

Chief Ron DeShong of Miramar Fire Rescue advised that the RPSCC was formed through the Charter Review; he added that they had technology issues which started Interlocal Agreements between Broward County and various municipalities excluding BSO. He stated that as a part of each of the Interlocal Agreements they added participation in the RPSCC which forces those municipalities with Interlocal Agreements to come together as a voting member. As this progressed, because it came from the Closest Unit Response Initiative, it made sense that the RPSCC reports back to the FRC. Mr. Trower expressed concern that the PSSC might get too much into the operational functions. The Chair asked if it would be helpful to make members of the Regional Committee voting members in the County.

Dan Sullivan of the City of Hallandale Beach Fire Rescue Task Force advised that the RPSCC has no formal relationship with FRC. He stated that the main argument is trying to define what the County is supposed to provide in terms of infrastructure. He added that their primary performance measures are time sensitive and with today's technology it is common to have CAD with GPS technology. Mr. Sullivan stated that if agreed there should be a standard level of service and GPS technology in every fire truck; he stated that his recommendation is to clarify the Charter language.

A discussion took place between Mr. Mena and Mr. Carpani regarding Coral Springs participation. Mr. Carpani stated that the issue becomes the CAD platform; he advised that Coral Springs has six different systems.

Mr. Mena stated that he feels that the problem in the County is communications and suggested that all the cities should work together. He also expressed his concern with property taxes, and the effects on budgets. He also expressed concern regarding how to get all cities to work together.

Ms. Eisinger stated that the real question is if the CRC needs to put to the voters the concept of giving more authority to the Fire Rescue Council. She explained that the question was posed to legal counsel and deferred to Mr. Wilson for further explanation of his response memorandum.

Mr. Wilson provided a verbal summary of his memo to the Public Safety Subcommittee. Mr. Wilson advised the dais to proceed cautiously with regard to the question of whether or not to make the RPSCC a subcommittee of the Fire Rescue Council. He suggested a review of the FRC's bylaws before any decisions. Mr. Wilson provided a verbatim draft of what the 2000-2002 CRC considered (Which can be found on page 2 of his memorandum).

The Chair asked if the FRC could mandate changes without Commission approval if the Charter language is changed giving the FRC more strength. Ms. Eisinger stated that it depends on the CRC language proposed. Mr. Wilson stated that he looked at the current Charter and it allows the County Commission to create boards by ordinance or by resolution. A conversation ensued with comments made by Mr. Trower, Mr. Penezic and Ms. Eisinger. The Chair suggested having Mr. Wilson at the next meeting and addressing these items. The dais agreed to allow more time to address the issues raised.

Mr. Trower MOTIONED to extend the meeting Mr. Mena SECONDED, and the motion passed unanimously [4:36 pm].

The Chair asked Mr. Curry if he had any recommendation for adding language to the Charter. Mr. Curry stated that he would like to spend more time with Mr. Carpani to develop a suggestion for the Committee. The Chair invited Mr. Curry to the next meeting of the PSSC. Mr. Curry advised that he will also coordinate with Mr. Corwin.

The dais thanked Mr. Carpani for his presentation.

IV. Public Comment

None

V. Adjournment

There being no further discussion the meeting was adjourned at 4:39 pm.

The minutes of this meeting are recorded on CRC-PSSC CD # 5.30.07 (BCGV CTR)