

Rock Springs, Green River, Sweetwater County Combined Communications

Joint Powers Board

Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, July 14, 2025

The Rock Springs, Green River, Sweetwater County Combined Communications Joint Powers Board held its regular meeting on Monday, July 14, 2025 at 50140B US 191 Rock Springs, Wyoming. Board members present included: Shaun Sturlaugson and Mera Souare via teleconference; Brad Halter, Jim Wamsley, John Grossnickle, Cindy Johnson, Bill Erspamer, and Jeannie Demas. Board members absent were: Clark Allred. Also in attendance were: George Lemich, attorney, via teleconference; Nick Erskine, executive director; Drew Varley, accountant; Becca Thornock; Rock Springs City Councilman David Thompson; Sweetwater County Commissioner Mary Thoman; Chantell Bolton; Katie Fryer; and Tani Mamalis.

Call to Order

Chairman John Grossnickle called the meeting to order at 2:30p.m.

Agenda for Regular Meeting

The agenda was distributed to those in attendance. Grossnickle entertained a motion to accept the agenda as presented. A motion was made by Wamsley and seconded by Demas. Motion carried unanimously by board members.

Public Hearing to Approve FY2025-2026 Budget Resolution 2025-02

Grossnickle opened the public hearing to approve the FY2025-2026 budget at 2:30p.m. Hearing no discussion, the hearing was closed at 2:32p.m.

Minutes from Regular Meeting

Grossnickle entertained a motion to approve the minutes from regular Meeting June 23, 2025. A motion was made by Wamsley and seconded by Erspamer. Motion carried unanimously by board members.

Financial Report

Varley stated 911 funding was a little short for fiscal year 2025 at \$398,000 while \$400,000 was the budgeted amount. All other funds were very close to budget. Wamsley made a motion to accept the June financial report. Motion was seconded by Halter and carried unanimously by board members.

Comments from Floor

Dispatchers Tani Mamalis and Chantell Bolton addressed the board regarding potential changes to the Personal Time Off (PTO) benefit.

Executive Director Report

A copy of the executive director report was included in the meeting packet and went as follows: "On June 27, 2025, myself and Becca completed the final phase of our TestGenius upgrade. TestGenius places applicants into situations that mimic the typical work environment, so that employers can determine which applicants truly possess critical skills and abilities for the job position you must fill. This is something the Center has used for years however we now have the ability to conduct remote testing to potentially decrease how long our hiring process takes. PTO payouts from fiscal year 2025 were completed on July 1, 2025. We will be having our monthly Shift Supervisor meeting on July 17, 2025. Shift Supervisor Alison Murphy and dispatcher Elena Hamilton have resigned effective July 10, 2025. Dispatcher Lundyn Palmer has resigned effective July 11, 2025. We now have 5 open dispatch positions. We took delivery of our new 911 simulator for public outreach events on June 30, 2025. Anji Hook attended the national NENA conference in Long Beach, CA from June 22-27, 2025. She has discussed with me some RapidSOS innovations she thinks could be helpful for our agency. Kenzee Mullins attended a Peer Support training course at Laramie PD from June 23-26, 2025. Anji Hook represented SCCC as a co-grand marshal in the Flaming Gorge Days parade on Saturday, June 28, 2025. A team of employees led by Supervisor Katie Fryer and dispatcher Cassie Whittaker designed and decorated a float for the July 4th parade that included pictures of staff and a theme of Headset Heroes. Well done by all who participated. I held a meeting with shift supervisors on July 1, 2025 to address staffing and scheduling issues with all our pending departures and to devise an adjusted plan to staff us through all the special event coverage in July. We will begin the process of opening shift bids this week in addition to moving to the next steps in the hiring process with selecting candidates for CritiCall testing."

IT Director Report

A copy of the IT director report was included in the meeting packet and went as follows: "On June 22, the City of Green River's network was taken down by ransomware. We were notified around 10:30 that morning. To prevent the spread onto our network, we immediately blocked their access to our network, as well as implemented a quarantine of their emails. I was out of town at this time, so I called our dispatch to ask if they noticed anything out of the ordinary. They said everything was operating normally. I reached out to our IT specialist, Brey, and asked him to report to the Communications Center to run scans and check all of our logs. He spent several hours doing so, and also reported everything was normal. I also called the on-call number for Wyoming DCI to report the incident, and left a voicemail with Jeff Cullen. I did not hear back from him. Chris Meats with the City informed me that they already

reached out to the FBI, so I did not follow up with DCI. I also reached out to IT staff at the City of Rock Springs and Sweetwater County to inform them of the situation. They took action on their end to prevent the spread of the ransomware. On June 24, the Green River Police Department requested assistance, and we deployed a temporary network with 4 laptops and a desktop computer. These computers are isolated from the City's network, and allows the police department to continue working in our Motorola Flex RMS system. On June 27, we requested a few Panasonic ToughBooks, free of malware/ransomware, from the Green River IT department. They were able to provide us with 5 ToughBooks, and we installed the software required for patrol officers to use in their vehicles. Within a few days, we deployed them, and patrol is able to utilize them in their vehicles. On July 3, I assisted the Green River IT department in reinstalling their SecureAccess VPN servers. At this point, they had created a clean environment, and started re-building their IT infrastructure from scratch. Today, I am unaware of their status, and the timeline to full restoration. Until then, we will continue to support the Green River Police Department whether in a temporary or permanent capacity. On the week of July 7, Brey and myself set up communications for the mobile command post at the Sweetwater Events Complex. On July 10, AT&T FirstNet delivered and setup a CRD (Compact Rapid Deployable). This is essentially a mini-cell site, and will augment coverage for first responders in the area of the event. Brey is upgrading our environmental and data center monitoring in the server room of our communications center. The old system is no longer supported as they are no longer manufactured. This system alerts us when temperatures and humidity are out of range, and when the flood sensors detect water under the floor. We have installed the newest Q/A software from Priority Dispatch, Aqua 8. I will be working with a couple of our Q/A staff to test it out. The software is very new, and doesn't have all of the features available that Aqua 7 has. Fortunately, we can still operate on the old software until everyone is used to the new version."

Committee Reports

None noted.

Bills & Claims

Grossnickle entertained a motion to accept the bills and claims. A motion was made by Wamsley and seconded by Demas. Motion carried unanimously by board members.

Correspondence

None noted.

New Business

FY2025-2026 Budget Resolution 2025-02 Approval

Grossnickle entertained a motion to approve Resolution 2025-02 regarding fiscal year 2025-2026 budget. A motion was made by Wamsley and seconded by Demas. Motion carried unanimously by board members.

Employee Handbook Update

Copies of the requested changes were provided to board members. The changes were reviewed by Lemich and approved. Halter pointed out that there were a couple spots that had different months listed for how long the probation period lasts. Erskine stated that would be fixed so both spots reflect the same number of months. A motion was made by Wamsley to accept the employee handbook update with the additional probation period change. Motion was seconded by Johnson and carried unanimously by board members.

Comments from the Chairman and Board

Wamsley thanked the dispatchers for everything they do along with the administrative staff. Grossnickle seconded those sentiments.

Old Business

None noted.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the board was scheduled for Monday, August 25, 2025 at 50140B US 191 Rock Springs, WY 82901.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 2:56p.m.


Secretary

Date: 8-25-25


Chairman

Date: 08/25/2025