

Custer County
Special Meeting Proceedings - TUSA
February 27, 2024

The TUSA Special Meeting was called to order at 11:00 AM at the Board Room in the Community Events Center. Attending the meeting were Commissioner Chairman Randy Corgatelli, Commissioner Steve Smith, Commissioner Jake Zollinger, TUSA representatives Norm Folgers and Jessy Brenton, Emergency Manager Levi Maydole and Deputy Clerk Tina Hawkins.

Norm Folgers expressed the sincere condolences of TUSA for the loss of Commissioner Wayne Butts, they enjoyed working with him very much. He then introduced Jesse Brenton, of TUSA, and the Commissioners welcomed him. Norm reviewed the history of TUSA's efforts on behalf of Custer County from the beginning in June of 2021 to the present.

TUSA has completed the Request for Proposal-Phase II and have received proposals from TAIT/White Cloud Communications and Day Wireless/Motorola. Upon review they found that the Day Wireless/Motorola proposal was not compliant with the RFP. They stated they had a non-P25 solution, which was a RFP request. Due to the noncompliance on specifications and requests this proposal was not taken seriously.

TAIT/White Cloud Communications proposal basically complied with the intent and requirements of the RFP. Their warranty was for 10 years, not the 15 years requested; they completed the Phase #1 (replace aging equipment) section, but did not address Phase #2 (new installations). Their proposal was for \$2,646,664.58 and has been checked out as competitive. TUSA will re-apply the compliance list with TAIT and get all the information needed.

Jess explained the necessary equipment replacements at current sites, as well as equipment for the Sheriff's Office and a backup at the Search & Rescue building. There will be a restructuring of the connections between all sites. He also went over the vehicle-based repeaters that can be operated with hand held radio units to expand radio coverage at specific event sites. It was revealed that although equipment is P25 compatible, it can still be used in analog for Custer County rough terrain.

Norm then confirmed that the next step is for the County to confirm their funding, and/or secure lease/purchase financing through TAIT. Once the funding method is decided upon the process will move into finalizing the contracts. Commissioner Smith inquired about the timeline that would be involved? Norm responded that the funding must be available before any company can proceed, and understands it will take some time. TUSA will get a timeline for the bid figures from TAIT. Commissioner Smith and Levi discussed the Grant funding possibilities and that someone has been contacted about writing Grants for the County and will begin ASAP. TUSA will continue to provide the information needed while the funding search continues.

Custer Telephone Cooperative Inc. has partnered with Custer County and offered the use of their towers and buildings at the different repeater sites for minimal rent. This will be huge benefit and financial savings for the Custer County Emergency Communications System. Commissioner

Smith suggested the County should get a MOU written up with Custer Telephone. All present agreed that they need to keep moving forward with the TAIT proposal. Commissioner Corgatelli requested a lease/purchase be looked into if possible with TAIT.

Interim options for the Sheriff's Office, Road & Bridge Dept. and the Search and Rescue divisions will be satellite phone systems. Norm and Jessy confirmed that they are much more available than in the past as well as more affordable.

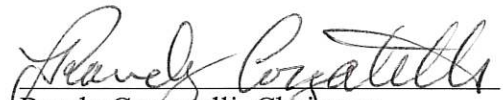
Commissioner Smith inquired about Hamm Radio use and if their connections were compatible with the required P25 systems. There is currently a Hamm repeater on Galena Summit. It was decided that Blaine County needs to be contacted about possible future use of this repeater site in our system also. Levi will contact their Emergency Manager Chris.

Commissioner Zollinger inquired about just how TUSA has been paid for their services. A review of the Grants used and ARPA funds used to get Custer County to this stage in the process. He then inquired about the possibility of using some of the E-911 funds from the State. It was known that those funds are already delegated somewhere else.

Phase III – Implementation will be quoted by TUSA, with them being the project managers. Phase II will include one more visit to Custer County to get the contracts completed before it moves into Phase III.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 PM.




Randy Corgatelli, Chairman
Custer County Commissioner

Attest:


Lura H. Baker, Clerk