

**State of Texas
County of Bexar
City of San Antonio**



**DRAFT
Meeting Minutes
City Council B Session**

City Hall Complex
105 Main Plaza
San Antonio, Texas 78205

Wednesday, February 7, 2018

2:00 PM

Municipal Plaza Building

The City Council of San Antonio convened in the “B” Room of the Municipal Plaza Building. Deputy City Clerk Leticia Saenz took the Roll Call noting the following Councilmembers present:

PRESENT: 11 - Mayor Nirenberg, Treviño, Shaw, Viagran, Saldaña, Gonzales, Brockhouse, Sandoval, Pelaez, Courage, and Perry

1. A Briefing on the Public Safety Radio System Project. [Ben Gorzell, Chief Financial Officer; Erik Walsh, Deputy City Manager; Andy Segovia, City Attorney]

Erik Walsh stated that the current public safety radio system was implemented in 2004 in partnership with Bexar County. He noted that the system had 11,000 users including 6,100 City of San Antonio users who accounted for 70% of system talk time. He provided an overview of the CPS Motorola Harmony Radio System and noted that it currently provided radio service for SAWS. He noted that benefits of a regional public safety radio system included enhanced coverage, interoperability, efficiencies, safety, and lower cost to the public. He stated that an Interlocal Agreement (ILA) with Bexar County and CPS Energy was proposed to outline each entity’s responsibilities for a new system over 15 years. He noted that the purpose was to govern deployment and maintenance, establish system ownership, and create a governance structure comprised of an Executive Committee (EC), Joint Operations Committee (JOC), and Advisory Committees (ACs). He stated that the EC

would exercise the executive functions for the Alamo Area Regional Radio System (AARRS) Enterprise; the JOC was tasked with exercising the operational and administrative functions for the AARRS Enterprise; and the ACs would be created by the EC to support special projects as needed. He noted that the City of San Antonio would take the primary role for maintenance as the Primary Operator. He stated that the proposed ownership contribution was 56% City of San Antonio, 22% Bexar County, and 22% CPS Energy.

Ben Gorzell provided an overview of the solicitation process comprised of the Request for Qualifications (RFQ), Evaluation, Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDO), and Request for Proposals (RFP). He noted that there were five responses to the RFQ with one deemed non-responsive. He stated that the solicitation included Operational Impact, Additional Functionality, System Longevity, Reliability, Technical Innovation, Leveraging Technology, Emerging Technology, Cost, and Transition Plan. He provided an overview of the project timeline beginning with the release of the RFQ on December 7, 2015. He noted that the process included technical research through Southwest Research Institute and field analysis, as well as receipt of 708 user experience surveys regarding the proposed equipment. He stated that the EC recommended simultaneous negotiations with the top two RFP respondents during the solicitation process and Best and Final Offers (BAFOs) were finalized in October 2017. He noted that the RFP was atypical in its depth of requirements including 228 pages of technical scope, 2,559 technical specifications, and over 420 questions to vendors from the Technical Advisory Committee.

Mr. Gorzell stated that the top two RFP respondents were Dailey Wells with Harris Corporation as the equipment manufacturer and Central Electric with Motorola Solutions as the manufacturer. He noted that both were Local, Prime Contractors. He stated there were no issues found as part of the financial due diligence process.

Kevin Barthold provided an overview of the City Auditor's Office role in the solicitation process. He noted that no issues were identified for either vendor during the ethics due diligence process.

Erik Walsh stated that the Executive Evaluation Committee was comprised of representatives from the City of San Antonio, Bexar County, CPS Energy, University of Texas at San Antonio, and TechBloc. He noted that the Technical Advisory Committee was comprised of five voting members representing SAPD, SAFD, ITSD, Bexar County, and CPS, and 14 non-voting members from same. He provided an overview of the RFP evaluation criteria and the entities responsible for each scoring component. He stated that the technical scoring categories included Overall Solution and Design, Coverage, Migration Plan, Operations and Maintenance Plan, Subscribers/Consoles, Implementation and Services, and Vendor Innovation. He highlighted the operations and maintenance category and subscribers/consoles category as particularly important in the evaluation process. He

provided a comparison of Proposed Plan Components, Experience/Background/Qualifications, and Pricing and Timeline. He stated that Dailey and Wells Communications, Inc. received 86.16 points and Central Electric received 81.23 points on the final scoring matrix. He noted that the largest difference between the companies was in the category for Experience, Background, and Qualifications.

John Young of TechBloc expressed satisfaction with the quality and outcome of the evaluation process.

Erik Walsh stated that the Dailey and Wells system implementation timeline was 42 months, with 11 major milestones and on-the-ground coverage testing. He noted that the last two milestones included a 60-day burn in period of uninterrupted service to guarantee functionality and official project completion. He stated that capital pricing totaled \$80.7 million over 42 months with the City's portion totaling \$47.2 million and the option to purchase two mobile towers for an additional cost. He added that operations and maintenance costs totaled \$27.3 million over 15 years. He noted that the pricing agreement included guaranteed discounts on future purchases, a Most Favored Nation Clause for an additional bulk purchase, and flexibility in hardware quantities up 5% with no impact on pricing. He stated that the 5% flexibility limit did not apply to portable radios as Harris was developing a fire radio for release in 2019 with SAFD's input, testing, and sole purchasing discretion. He noted that project protections included a Line of Credit, Liquidated Damages, Manufacturer Guarantee, and Performance and Payment Bond. He stated that staff recommended City Council consideration of an Interlocal Agreement with Bexar County and CPS Energy and a Vendor Contract with Dailey and Wells Communications, Inc. for the new public safety radio system at the City Council Meeting of February 15, 2018.

Mayor Nirenberg asked how SAFD's independent discretion for portable radios affected the total allocation. Mr. Walsh replied that it could impact up to 1,700 out of 11,000 radio units but SAFD was not obligated to purchase the newly developed Harris radios and the option did not affect proposal pricing. Mayor Nirenberg stated that he was comfortable with the recommendation based on the rigor and professionalism of the process.

Councilmember Viagran asked of the report from Southwest Research Institute. Mr. Walsh replied that both radios passed military specifications as required but the Motorola radio performed better in fire-specific testing. Councilmember Viagran asked for a copy of the research report and asked of differences in radio technologies. Mr. Walsh replied that capabilities were similar but achieved differently based on the manufacturer. Councilmember Viagran asked of maintenance expenditures to date under the current contract. Mr. Gorzell replied that he did not have total expenditures since 2004 but recent years' expenditures included \$1 million for recorder log replacement, \$2 million for fiber installation, and \$11.5 million for replacement radios.

Councilmember Saldaña asked of the current quality of coverage and signal penetration. Mr. Walsh replied that while the local system was extremely reliable, it was not Project 25 (P25) compliant and lacked universality in radio functionality. Councilmember Saldaña asked if the proposed system would migrate entirely from the current system of EDACS to P25. Mr. Walsh replied that it would. Councilmember Saldaña asked if the Interlocal Agreement dictated feedback and complaint mechanisms. Mr. Walsh replied that existing internal reporting structures would not be affected by the agreement. Mr. Gorzell added that the Joint Operations Committee and Executive Committee would meet regularly to review feedback and make improvements. Councilmember Saldaña asked if the 60-day burn in period acted as an escape option from the contract. Mr. Walsh replied that if the system did not obtain operational status for a continuous 60 days, there was an option to withhold \$11 million and discontinue the contract. Councilmember Saldaña expressed support for staff's recommendation based on the expertise of the Evaluation Committees.

Councilmember Pelaez asked of payment to Southwest Research Institute for testing. Mr. Walsh replied that they received \$96,000 in exchange for testing. Councilmember Pelaez asked if the two companies received copies of the test results. Mr. Walsh replied that they did not. Councilmember Pelaez asked if Bexar County expressed their preference for vendor selection. Mr. Walsh replied that the terms of the Interlocal Agreement gave authority to the City of San Antonio to select the vendor but Bexar County participated in the selection process and he was not aware of a conflicting opinion to the current recommendation. Councilmember Pelaez asked of Bexar County's commitment to the Interlocal Agreement. City Attorney Andy Segovia replied that the ILA was designed so that Bexar County could not choose to exit the agreement if they did not agree with the City Council's vendor selection.

Councilmember Gonzales asked of the funding source for operations. Mr. Walsh replied that the majority of the operating expenses came from the Public Safety Budget but small proportions of radios were utilized and paid for by other operating departments. Councilmember Gonzales asked of the vendors' differences in capital and operations and maintenance costs. Omna Solomon replied that differences resulted from the way companies chose to apply discounts as well as the choice to lease property.

Councilmember Viagran suggested Councilmembers receive brief introductions and presentations from each vendor.

Councilmember Perry expressed support for the recommended vendor based on scoring outcomes.

Councilmember Courage stated that the proposed cost of operation was reasonable based on

the scope of the contract and asked if the contract costs would remain the same if the City Council selected Central Electric. Mr. Walsh replied that the presented costs would remain the same since they were BAFOs. Councilmember Courage asked how the contract would accommodate significant technological advances. Mr. Walsh replied that migrating to the P25 system would allow compatibility with various accessories and functionalities. Mr. Solomon added that public safety systems often adopt technology slowly because they require proven stability so the proposed system would likely be the primary system for at least 60% of the life of the contract.

Mayor Nirenberg thanked staff for their work and presentations.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Nirenberg recessed the meeting into Executive Session at 4:15 pm to discuss the following:

- A. Economic development negotiations pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.087 (economic development).
- B. The purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.072 (real property).
- C. Legal update related to Public Safety investigations pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (consultation with attorney).
- D. Legal advice related to anti-harassment policies pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (consultation with attorney).

RECONVENED

Mayor Nirenberg reconvened the meeting at 6:05 pm and announced that no action was taken in Executive Session. He announced that the Executive Session would resume the following day after the Business Portion of the City Council Meeting.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Mayor Nirenberg called upon the citizens registered to speak.

Mark Perez expressed concern with the readiness of public safety departments and businesses operating without the necessary permits. He asked the City Council to investigate

issues with zoning and code enforcement.

Liz Franklin thanked Councilmembers Sandoval and Shaw for organizing meetings regarding Viewshed Protection and spoke of community support. She asked City Council to engage with the developers of the Hays Street Bridge area to prevent the proposed development.

Antonio Diaz spoke of his difficulties securing the required resources to host a Cesar Chavez Freedom March and asked the City Council to ease the requirements for processions. He spoke of the history of Indigenous People in San Antonio and of current and historical injustices.

Pedro Ruiz spoke of grassroots civil rights efforts in San Antonio and the local history of Indigenous People and minority populations.

Christi O'Connor stated that devices in her home and possession had been hacked or bugged by local law enforcement and asked the City Council to assist her with an independent investigation.

Faris Hodge, Jr. submitted written testimony highlighting the grand opening of the Schertz Aquatics Center. He wrote of the following topics: White House Press Corps, property taxes, and redistricting.

RECESSED

There being no further discussion, Mayor Nirenberg recessed the meeting at 6:37 pm.

APPROVED

RON NIRENBERG
MAYOR

ATTEST:

LETICIA Y. SAENZ, TRMC
DEPUTY CITY CLERK