

MINUTES

Metro Management Council

Friday, Dec 6th, 2019
9:00 AM – 10:29 AM
County Admin Building
415 N Dakota Ave

Members Present: Mayor Paul TenHaken, Council Member Christine Erickson, Council Member Rick Kiley, Commissioner Gerald Beninga.

Members Absent: Commissioner Jeff Barth

Attendees: Kim Adamson, David Bixler, Michelle Boyd, Janet Brekke, Matt Burns, Craig Dewey, Drew DeGroot, Justin Faber, Brad Goodroad, Jeff Gromer, Jeff Helm, Tom Huber, Jon Klemme, Bib Litz, Scott McMahon, Mike Milstead, Carol Muller, Jesseca Mundahl, Greg Neitzert, TJ Nelson, Shawn Pritchett, Ona Reker, Marshall Selberg, Regan Smith, Curt Soehl, Theresa Stehly, Matt Tooley, Monte Watembach

The meeting was called to order by Mayor TenHaken at 9:00 A.M.

1. Approval of Agenda

Motion made by Council Member Erickson, seconded by Council Member Kiley, to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

2. Agency Facilities Discussion

The Mayor requested a special meeting to discuss Agency facility needs. The timing is conducive with upcoming bond initiatives and schematic designs with the Public Safety Training Facility. The Director presented current facilities are limiting needed capabilities, the current backup center is inadequate to provide current level of services, spacing in current center does not meet employee needs and there is no room for future growth. A new facility will help with employee retention.

Remodel of current facility versus new construction was reviewed. Both options are cost comparable. New facility would cost more initially, but the current center would be a turnkey backup center. Remodeling will cost less, but will require additional expenses to find a temporary facility to work out of during the remodel and would also require costs for an upgraded backup center space. New construction would allow for better layout of facility needs; remodel is limited by existing walls and limited spaces. Leasing space was also considered, but the cost of leasing hardened space was very high.

Current backup center does not meet needs; there are 8-10 staff working in the 911 center at a time, the backup center only has 6 consoles and does not have comparable equipment. If the primary center becomes the backup facility it is a central location for responding in an emergency, affordable to lease, minimal maintenance costs, it's turnkey and leaves room for expansion of other county facilitates.

The Director reviewed the ICC 500 standard for PSAPs; the operational floor, server room and a safe room would need to be built to this standard, at minimum, but there is a possibility that the whole facility wouldn't need to be hardened to this standard which would allow for cost savings. There is also a possibility of applying for grants.

Future considerations including expansion of services provided, continued agency growth and possible collaborations were discussed. Future collaborations may open up additional revenue streams.

The Director's recommendation was to build a new facility. This will allow for an easy transition from the current center to a new center, it offers additional redundancy and possible cost savings to city and county IT departments, would provide for future growth, is a long-term solution, and would allow for a more conducive floor plan.

The Public Safety Training Center is a viable option due to the available land, it is a geographically diverse location from recommended backup center, a good location for placing a tower, minimal hazards, such as, flood plain or in flight paths and will allow for valuable training and collaborations for Metro staff with law enforcement and fire personnel.

Discussion on funding and costs was held. Rough estimates of costs were approximately 8 million for a new facility. It was determined that for bonding the building must have a single owner and the city and county could not do a joint bond; other payment arrangements/agreements would have to be identified. Operational costs of a new facility will still need to be identified. Metro will meet with an architect to get more accurate costs for the building of a facility.

The Minnehaha County Sheriff, Chief of Police and the Fire Chief all spoke to extend their support of a new Metro facility and to use the current space as a backup center. City IT Director and County IT Director expressed value in savings and collaboration in data center capabilities.

Motion made by Mayor TenHaken, seconded by Commissioner Beninga, to authorize the City and County to put together a proforma/funding plan to present to the Metro Management Council as soon as practical. Motion carried.

3. Public Input

City Councilor Stehly expressed concern that the meeting was not recorded and that the powerpoint presented was not made available for the public. She requested more information on current city/county financial split of expenses and how funding for a new facility would work within this split.

4. Adjournment

Motion made by Council Member Erickson, seconded by Commissioner Beninga to adjourn the meeting at 10:29 am. Motion carried.