



Monday, June 12, 2023
8:30 AM

DRAFT MINUTES

Board Members: Steven Locke (Chair – South Burlington), Aaron Frank (Vice Chair – Colchester), Erik Wells (Williston), Michael LaChance (Burlington), and Elaine Wang, (Winooski).

Attendees: Others present: John Audy (Winooski) and Jessie Baker (South Burlington).

1. Call to Order/Welcome

Locke called the meeting to order at 8:32am.

2. Agenda Approval

Wells moved the agenda as presented. Frank Seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

3. Public comment

None.

4. Approve meeting minutes for December 19, 2022

Frank moved acceptance of the minutes as presented; Wells seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

5. Dispatch console transfer of ownership

Locke provided an update on the transfer of ownership of the consoles. This transfer has taken place with consoles going to South Burlington and Burlington with the condition that they transfer to CCPSA ownership if/when the transition takes place. LaChance stated that Burlington has not taken control of theirs yet.

6. CCPSA Timeline and Process

Locke provided an update on the significant dispatch discussions that took place during the Legislative session. Included in the meeting packet is that final bill language that is now part of the vetoed State budget bill. As discussed at the State level, the State intends to own dispatching in the future. The current language in the vetoed budget bill includes a significant lift to lead to regional dispatch centers through data collection and planning. Funding is available in 2023 for regional centers with preference for “underserved parts of the State.” It is not anticipated that this would include Chittenden County.

Each community shared their current status and needs.

- Williston is still committed to a regional dispatch model. They have an agreement with Essex to dispatch Police through 2025. They are talking with Shelburne about dispatching Fire.
- Burlington reports that moving to a regional model is uncertain. In the past year, they were down from 12 dispatchers to 4 or 5 dispatchers. LaChance reported that they have hired several dispatchers to fill vacancies. They intend to remain dispatching Police and Fire within the City for now.
- Winooski reports that they continue status quo local operations. They have not lost any dispatchers and can meet their Police needs. They do have additional Fire needs and are interested in continuing the regional discussion.
- Colchester is interested in a regional model for Fire and Rescue. They may be willing to discuss shared

police dispatch services in the future if all had a similar level of police services.

- South Burlington reported that the center is operating well, at full capacity, with modernization underway and there is an interest in maintaining that. South Burlington is open to taking on partners on a contract basis to provide regional services and may have some additional capacity. They remain committed to a regional model in the future pending State direction and financial support.

The Board discussed that without a champion, additional state funding and a more certain future for state-level standards, it's challenging to see how CCPSA moves forward. Locke recommended CCPSA follow the prior direction Colchester provided in their December 2022 communication and maintain the governance structure of CCPSA, keep the local funds currently with CCPSA in place through December 2025, and continue to monitor the progress at the State level.

Locke will draft a shared "letter of agreement" for Board members to bring to their local elected bodies and that will be discussed at the next CCPSA board meeting in December 2023. This letter will include a continued commitment to the governance structure of CCPSA, agreement to maintain the local dollars in the CCPSA budget (Wells will provide the community by community breakdown) through December 31, 2025 with a return by January 15, 2026 if no alternative is realized, the ability to use the funds for tasks that move regional dispatch forward, and a commitment to semi-regular Board meetings to monitor progress at the community and State level.

7. Discussion of next steps – Congressionally Directed Spending

The Board discussed the opportunity to transition the Congressionally Directed Spending grant to a different entity. Frank and Locke recommended that CCPSA should look at transitioning the funding to the State to support their regional dispatch efforts. If CCPSA does nothing it is likely that the funding evaporates. Breaking it out to other communities may be challenging while the State is better positioned to support the funding transition. Locke will talk with the DPS Commissioner and then delegation about transition this award.

Wang motioned to authorize Locke to transfer the ownership of the Congressionally Directed Spending to the State if possible. Wells seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

8. Adjourn

Wells moved, and Frank seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 am. All in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Jessie Baker