

SNOCOM – SNOPAC Joint Task Force
Meeting Summary for May 2, 2017/9:00-11:00 am
 Location: Fire District 1 Headquarters

Note: *Follow-up action items are noted in italics. Decisions are underlined.*

Meeting Attendance:

Joint Task Force Members					
Bob Colinas	✓	Jon Nehring		Rick Smith	✓
Al Compaan	✓	Brad Reading	✓	Roy Waugh	✓
Steve Guptill	✓	Bryan Stanifer	✓	Ralph Krusey	✓
Staff Support Team					
Kurt Mills	✓	Karen Reed	✓		
Terry Peterson	✓	Brenda Froland	✓		

Welcome / Review of Today’s Agenda. Karen welcomed the group, including guests: Edmonds City Councilmember Tom Mesaros, Mill Creek City Manager Rebecca Polizzotto and Mill Creek Police Chief Greg Elwin. Karen noted that Jay Reich will not be attending today as the County Council needs to sign a waiver before he can officially engage; the Council will be taking this up tomorrow. Karen noted that today’s agenda is fuller than the time available and one or more items may need to be pushed until the next JTF meeting on May 16.

Standing Items:

- a. **Communications Updates.** Al and Bryan reported that governance was discussed at the last police chiefs’ meeting, and there were no serious concerns with the compromise in police governance structure as proposed at the April Joint Board meeting.
- b. **May 30 Joint Board meeting – draft agenda.** Karen reviewed the Agenda.

Approval of April 18 Meeting Summary. The meeting summary was unanimously approved. *Brenda will forward to the PSAP IT managers for upload to the websites.*

Discussion with Mill Creek City Manager, Rebecca Polizzotto. Rebecca thanked the JTF for the invitation to express her concerns. As a former police officer and dispatcher, she is supportive of improvements in public safety made possible through the proposed consolidation. Her concerns included: ensuring cost containment wording in the ILA, smaller cities losing a voice in governance, not stipulating whether electeds or operational staff are appointed to the Board, having first year cost savings guaranteed in writing, and preferring that costs be forecasted out for six years. Karen responded that the JTF understands the concerns and offered to *send Rebecca ideas related to cost control from previous meetings*. Brad noted that the proposed governance model already favors small cities. In discussion JTF members and CM Mesaros agreed that all cities will be concerned with controlling costs. Several observed that language in an ILA creating a new agency creating a cost cap is something that would be problematic as it

would shift costs to other members; a cost cap would be more appropriate in a shorter term service contract. Roy and Karen thanked Ms. Polizzotto for coming to the meeting and sharing her concerns.

Governance.

- a. **Joint Board debrief.** Karen reflected that she felt the last Joint Board the meeting went well, with stakeholders clearly interested and engaged. Also positive that they were supportive of the continuing work of the Joint Task Force.
- b. **Developing a recommendation: Supermajority Vote / Weighted Vote.** Karen reviewed the handout, but clarified that the document is based on the assumption that the 4/20 proposed governance structure is approved by both Boards. The JTF discussed whether a weighted vote was necessary given the representative board structure, as the number of seats is very close to the percentage of assessments. After discussion it was agreed to recommend as follows:
 - Define a supermajority vote as one that requires 70% in number of board members present and voting, and at least one vote from a small, medium and large caucus (police or fire).
 - Remove the stipulation that a Board member can call for a weighted vote whenever they want to.
 - Offer up an alternative for a weighted veto; 66% of weight could veto something otherwise approved by a supermajority vote.

In discussion, it was noted that while SNO PAC currently has weighted vote language in their ILA, it has never been called for in SNO PAC's history. SERS has similar language which has been used only twice.

Karen will update the document to reflect the discussion, and it will be made available to both Boards for review at their individual May Board meetings.

- c. **Developing a recommendation: preferred consolidation path (matrix).** The JTF reviewed the four options, but decided it would be helpful to know if any option was preferable / easier from a labor negotiation perspective. *Kurt and Terry will reach out to their labor attorneys.* Karen offered that choosing a recommended option comes down to a risk assessment; one agency could block options 1, 2, or 3, but a single agency could not block option 4. *Karen will add a row relating to labor contracts* and both Boards can review the document when they meet next.
- d. **Response to SNO COM Budget Committee proposal for 2 year blended management.** The JTF discussed the proposal and noted that it was very similar to options 2A and 2B that were already rejected by the JTF. Terry noted that the

proposal also suggested implementing a shared management structure for two years. The JTF discussed this, but the consensus was that it did not make sense to combine management on a trial basis. The JTF unanimously approved Karen, Terry, and Kurt *drafting a memo* in response to the proposal that could be reviewed on 5/16 by members of the Task Force. It was suggested that the proposal should not be widely distributed without noting that it was actually not proposed by the SNOCOM Board.

Scenario Cost Modelling and Assessment – feedback so far and next steps. As the meeting was drawing to a close, Karen asked the group to review the handouts on rate smoothing and transition costs and be prepared to discuss further on 5/16. It was noted that in terms of rate smoothing, the agencies receiving more than a 30% savings in year 1, or experiencing over a 30% cost increase are all SNOCOM agencies.

Next Joint Task Force Meeting 5/16.

Closing Comments / Adjourn. The JTF adjourned at 11:25 a.m.