The Board of Directors of the Emergency Communications District (ECD) of Nashville and Davidson County met in regular session at the Metro Emergency Communications Center, 2060 15th Avenue South. Chair Cleo Duckworth called the meeting to order at 1:01 PM and presided over the meeting with the following board members present: Lorinda Hale, Susan Mattson, Carolyn Tucker, and William Johnson. Board members Ruby Baker and Rick Cowan were not in attendance. Others who attended the meeting included: Mark Lynam & Larry Law (ECD Admin), Stephen Martini, Patrice Coleman, Paul McCallister, Dwayne Vance, Tim Watkins, and James Matthews (Metro DEC), Kimberly Nichols, Tiffany Childress, and Taylor Wilson (Finn Partners), Russell Freeman (Legal Counsel), and Tom Jones & Brian Howard (Messer Construction).

Minutes

Ms. Hale made a motion to accept the minutes from the January 16, 2025 ECD board meeting. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously by voice vote.

Financial Report

Mr. Lynam went over the February financial report with board members. Cash available for operations as of February 28, 2025 totaled $33,429,270. This consisted of $417,565 in the ECD's checking account and $33,011,705 in its LGIP account.

Mr. Lynam went over the various financial transactions that took place during the month. He reported that income for February totaled $1,898,697 while expenses amounted to $146,223. This resulted in a net gain of $1,752,474 for the month.

Discussion took place regarding the status of some of the capital improvement projects. DEC will give priority to acquiring new furniture for the administrative areas at the backup center.

After discussion ended, Ms. Hale made a motion to accept the financial statement as presented. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously by voice vote.

Public Awareness Update

Ms. Taylor Wilson went over the Rescue Rex report. Her report included number of shows performed, number of students reached, and upcoming schedule. She communicated that, in addition to the coloring books and pencils that are given to students at Rescue Rex shows, her firm has designed a sticker that will also be given out as a treat for students. Ms. Wilson also pointed out that her firm has identified a local costume design company in Nashville that will work with them on Rescue Rex costume needs.

Ms. Kimberly Nichols reviewed the advertising report with board members. Her report included performance data for the digital display ads and video. Ms. Nichols communicated that the new creative for the upcoming fiscal year is about to get underway. Director Martini and his staff have suggested that we should focus on trying to educate the public about online reporting opportunities available through HubNashville, which hopefully will lessen the number of phone calls.

Legislative Update
Ms. Mattson went over the various bills currently in front of the Tennessee General Assembly that may affect emergency communication districts. She provided a report which gave a summary of each bill and its current status in both the Senate and the House.

DEC Directors Report
Director Martini went over the Director's Report with board members. His overview included updates on call performance, staffing, standards compliance, quality assurance, citizen survey responses, and C.O.R.E. outreach. Director Martini also addressed questions regarding CALEA standards & accreditation and resources available for stress impact on telecommunicators.

DEC is getting phenomenal feedback from across the United Kingdom and the United States regarding their AI training simulator.

DEC will explore the possibility of utilizing text, Prepared Assist, and Rapid-Deploy to lower language interpretation costs.

The annual DEC awards ceremony will take place at 6:00 PM on April 18, 2025, at Music City Center.

Election for 1st Vice Chair
Ms. Mattson is stepping down from the ECD Board of Directors. An election was held to fill her leadership position of 1st Vice Chair.

Ms. Duckworth opened the floor for nominations for the 1st Vice Chair position. Mr. Johnson nominated Ruby Baker. Ms. Tucker seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations for the position of 1st Vice Chair. Ms. Hale made a motion that Ruby Baker be elected as 1st Vice Chair and that it be done by acclamation. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Adjournment
Upon proper motion by Ms. Hale and second by Mr. Johnson, the meeting adjourned at 1:58 PM.

The next meeting of the ECD Board of Directors will be held on April 17, 2025 at 1:00 PM.

Minutes submitted by Mark Lynam