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 1:00 PM and presided over the meeting with the following board members present: Lorinda Hale, William Johnson, Ruby Baker, and Rick Cowan. Board member Carolyn Tucker was not in attendance. Others who attended the meeting included: Mark Lynam & Larry Law (ECD Admin), Stephen Martini, Tim Watkins, Paul McCallister, Dwayne Vance, and James Matthews (Metro DEC), Kimberly Nichols (Finn Partners), Russell Freeman (Legal Counsel), Will Denami, and Susan Mattson.

Minutes

Ms. Hale made a motion to accept the minutes from the March 20, 2025 ECD board meeting. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously by voice vote.

Financial Report

Mr. Lynam went over the March financial report with board members. Cash available for operations as of March 31 totaled $33,387,845. This consisted of $255,860 in the ECD's checking account and $33,131,985 in its LGIP account.

Mr. Lynam went over the various financial transactions that took place during the month. He reported that income for March totaled $156,286 while expenses amounted to $197,711. This resulted in a net loss of $41,425 for the month.

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

ECD Proposed Budget for FY 2026

Mr. Will Denami gave a summary of bill SJR0048 which has been making its way through the Tennessee General Assembly. This bill ratifies the increase of the 911 surcharge fee from $1.50 to $1.86 as approved by the Tennessee Emergency Communications Board. If passed it will increase Davidson County's surcharge revenue by $1 - $1.6 million. Mr. Denami reported that the bill had passed the Senate but was currently sitting in the House and not going anywhere since committees were closed and legislators were going to adjourn next week. The bill has been referred to the House Delayed Bills Committee and will most likely be taken up in January 2026.

Mr. Lynam, with the assistance of DEC personnel, went over the proposed operating budget for fiscal year 2026. He pointed out increases and decreases to various line items. It was noted that most of the capital expenditures were being carried over from fiscal year 2025. During the discussion, Mr. Russell recommended that we increase the amount set aside for our TENA membership from $600 to $750, which the board agreed to.

In summary, Mr. Lynam communicated that revenue for FY 26 is projected to be $11,980,861. Expenses are estimated at $6,681,025, with $4,869,025 of that amount set aside for general operating expenses and the remaining $1,812,000 earmarked for capital expenditures. It is projected that we should end FY 26 with additional net income of approximately $5,300,000.

After discussion ended, Ms. Hale made a motion to accept the proposed budget as presented by Mr. Lynam. Ms. Baker seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously by voice vote.

Public Awareness Update

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 we continue to see steady engagement with the social media ads. She also noted that creative concepts are ready to present for the 25/26 campaign, and that she will be setting up a meeting to review them with members of DEC and the Public Awareness Committee.

Street Name Changes

BL2025-783: rename a portion of Toney Road to Lillard Lane. Mr. Lynam conveyed that DEC was in support of this bill. Ms. Hale made a motion to approve the name change. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously by voice vote.

BL2025-784: rename a portion of Alley #1892 to Frankie Alley. Mr. Lynam conveyed that DEC was in support of this bill. Mr. Johnson made a motion to approve the name change. Ms. Hale seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously by voice vote.

DEC Directors Report

Director Martini reported that call volume is increasing now that warm weather is with us.

He went over the Director's Report with board members. His overview included updates on staffing vacancies, dispatch compliance, and 5-year trends in call processing performance.

Director Martini reported that a kickoff meeting for the Architecture & Design phase of the new 911 facility will take place during the last week of April.

Ms. Hale asked if DEC did preparedness training on how it would navigate the loss of both the main, and backup, 911 facilities. Director Martini discussed how Nashville has partnered with Fairfax County, Virginia and the things that are being put in place to continue operations in the event of such a catastrophe.

DEC Awards Ceremony

Mr. James Matthews reminded board members that the DEC Awards Ceremony will be taking place on Friday, April 18th, at 6:00PM. He went over new aspects of the event, including how parking will be handled, special guests and presentations, and Metro Nashville Network's involvement for live streaming and photography.

Adjournment

Upon proper motion by Ms. Hale and second by Ms. Baker, the meeting adjourned at 1:47 PM.

The next meeting of the ECD Board of Directors will be held on May 15, 2025 at 1:00 PM.

Minutes submitted by Mark Lynam