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, Bryan Pettus, Ruby Baker, Rick Cowan, and William Johnson. Board members Carolyn Baldwin Tucker and Dan Dwyer were not in attendance. Others who attended the meeting included: Mark Lynam & Larry Law (ECD Admin), Patrice Coleman, Kristin Mullen, Jimmy Matthews, Michael Bateman, Erin Williams, & Christy Pruitt-Haynes (Metro DEC), Russell Freeman (Legal Counsel), Tiffany Childress & Tracey Drennon (Finn Partners), and Will Denami (Governmental Lobbyist).

Public Hearing – ECD Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2027

Chair Cleo Duckworth opened the meeting with a public hearing relating to the District's proposed operating budget for FY 2027. There was no one present who wished to speak to the District's budget for the upcoming year, so the public hearing was closed and the Board moved on to other matters.

Minutes

Ms. Hale made a motion to accept the minutes of the May 21, 2026 ECD board meeting. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously by voice vote.

Financial Report

Mr. Lynam went over the May 2026 financial report with board members. Cash available for operations as of May 31st totaled $43,953,898. This consisted of $99,295 in the ECD's checking account and $43,854,603 in its LGIP account.

Mr. Lynam went over the various financial transactions that took place during the month. He reported that income for May totaled $163,542 while expenses amounted to $253,987. This resulted in a net loss of $90,445 for the month.

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

Amend Current FY 2026 ECD Budget

Mr. Lynam reported that after all expenses were paid for the month of June, the District exceeded its 2026 budget in two categories. He provided a report showing overages in Employee Recognition & Building & Facility. Mr. Lynam went on to explain that when the books are audited for fiscal year 2026, the auditors will look for overages among the various line items within our budget. So as not to receive unfavorable comments regarding our budgetary controls, he recommended that the Board amend its budget for fiscal year 2026 as follows:

4208 – Contracts with Vendors	Decrease by $1,000	…. ($30,000 to $29,000)
4233 – Employee Recognition	Increase by $ 500	...... ($35,000 to $35,500)
4337 – Building & Facility	Increase by $ 500	...... ($161,400 to $161,900)

After discussion ended, Mr. Johnson made a motion that the Board amend the FY 2026 budget as recommended. Ms. Hale seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously by voice vote.

Adopt ECD Budget for FY 2027

Mr. Lynam presented a copy of the 2027 operational budget that was proposed at the April 16, 2026 board meeting. He stated that no changes were made to the initial proposal. Revenue for FY2027 is estimated to be $11,952,861. Expenses are estimated to be $7,624,263. The District should end FY 2027 with a net gain of $4,328,598.

Ms. Hale made a motion that the Board adopt the FY 2027 budget as presented. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously by voice vote.

HubNashville Report

Ms. Erin Williams reviewed the May performance statistics for hubNashville. Her report included the number of calls on both the main and Spanish lines, including average hold time and abandon rate. She provided graphs exhibiting request origin (hubNashville, Mobile App, Phone, or Other) and request type. Her report noted calls relating to Police matters was the most frequent call topic, followed by Waste.

Ms. Duckworth requested that the hubnashville report be removed from the agenda as a separate line item. In future meetings, she asked that it be included as part of the director's report.

Approval of Contracts

The ECD Board approved the following contracts for FY 2027:

1) Inter-Local Agreement with Metro – Mr. Johnson made a motion to approve the contract. Ms. Hale seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously by voice vote.
2) Will Denami (Lobbyist Services) – Mr. Pettus pointed out that Mr. Dwyer had calculated the pay increases Mr. Denami would have received over the past six years if he were a Metro employee. He conveyed that these numbers were very close to Mr. Denami's requested fee. Mr. Cowan pointed out that the word "Wheras" was misspelled in the fourth paragraph of the contract. Mr. Russell said he would correct that error. After discussion ended, Ms. Hale made a motion to approve the contract. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously by voice vote.
3) Russell Freeman (Legal Services) – Ms. Hale made a motion to approve the fee letter. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously by voice vote.
4) Mark Lynam & Larry Law (Accounting and Administrative Services) – Mr. Johnson made a motion to approve the contract. Ms. Hale seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously by voice vote.

The Finn Partners contract was not approved. Board members were annoyed with Finn's handling of the new contract. The new contract was received one day prior to the board meeting. It was presented in a new format and contained a significant number of changes from the current contract. No one from Finn had contacted Mr. Lynam or Mr. Russell to discuss the changes.

As an alternative to approving the contract at this time, Mr. Russell had prepared a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) which would extend the current contract until such time that a new contract could be negotiated for FY 2027. He recommended this as the appropriate course of action. If Finn Partners will also agree to the MoU then services can continue without interruption. Ms. Hale made a motion that we move forward with the MoU. Ms. Baker seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously by voice vote.

Board members also requested that Finn provide some form of objective data that would help them understand return on investment for the 911 Responsible Reporting campaign. They want to make sure that the funds spent on this initiative are making an impact. The Board also requested that our primary account representative meet with the Public Awareness Subcommittee.

Public Awareness Update
Ms. Tiffany Childress went over the Rescue Rex report. She reported that school bookings have already started and her team is getting all materials ready for next year. Ms. Childress went on to inform board members that the Rex script is being modernized and that they will be recording a new voiceover for Rex. Ms. Baker requested that the new script be run by the Public Awareness Committee before releasing it.

Ms. Tracey Drennon went over the advertising report highlighting the various metric points that are being used to track customer involvement with our ads. She reported that audience engagement nearly doubled in May.

Legislative Update
Mr. Will Denami updated board members on the status of the TACIR study which will study the current funding model and operating structures of emergency communications districts across the state. He indicated that some members of the state legislature would like to use this study as a catalyst to change state law to gain access to ECD reserves. Mr. Denami conveyed that it is extremely important that we identify specific uses for our reserves and that we earmark these reserves as restricted funds.

Update on Prepared Live and Rave Link
Interim Director Coleman reported that the company who markets Prepared Live was unable to deliver a workable solution for radio dispatch transcription services. The purchase order that was issued to purchase this layer of the Prepared Assist platform was cancelled and no costs were incurred. DEC has found another product to meet this need at a much lower cost and is currently in the process of evaluating this other product.

Interim Director Coleman reported that the Rave Link project is currently on hold. The Metro Police Department was not comfortable with how their data would be shared with other jurisdictions. This project remains on hold until the vendor can provide filters to only display certain elements of the police department’s data with other agencies.

Restricted Funds
Board members felt that we should develop a plan for how every dollar in our reserves will be spent. They felt that this should be done on an objective basis by identifying all the specific expenditures associated with the new 911 facility and any other foreseeable need. Ms. Hale requested that this information be made available by the August 20th board meeting.

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DEC Directors Report

Interim Director Patrice Coleman reviewed the monthly Director's Report with board members. Her overview included call volume, answer times, vacancies, quality assurance compliance numbers, customer satisfaction numbers, training hours, and C.O.R.E. events.

It was reported that a new training academy started on June 8th.

It was announced that Michael Bateman from DEC's Technology Division has been elected president of the Tennessee Chapter of APCO.

Ms. Christy Pruitt-Haynes, DEC's new HR Director, was introduced to the Board.

Interim Director Coleman spoke to the board about her vision and management style … how she leads, motivates, and supports her team. Board members expressed their desire to stand behind her in her efforts to lead her department.

Election of Officers for FY 2027

Mr. Cowan made a motion that we reappoint our current officers to continue serving in their leadership positions … Ms. Duckworth (Chair), Ms. Baker (1st Vice Chair), and Mr. Johnson (2nd Vice Chair). Ms. Duckworth asked if there was anyone else interested in serving in any of these positions. There were none. Ms. Hale then seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously by voice vote.

Date of Next ECD Board Meeting

There will be no ECD board meeting in July. The next meeting of the ECD Board of Directors will be held on August 20, 2026, at 1:00 PM.

Adjournment

Upon proper motion by Ms. Hale and second by Mr. Johnson, the meeting adjourned at 3:36 PM.

Minutes submitted by Mark Lynam