

Date: May 22, 2012

To: Mayor Pat Flury
Vice Mayor C. W. McElyea
Commissioner Anne Castro
Commissioner Walter B. Duke III
Commissioner Bobbi Grace

From: Robert Baldwin, City Manager 

Re: Regional Communications – I Board

Attached is a report from Broward County concerning regional communications for your information. The Broward County Commission has set up the Broward County Consolidated Communication Implementation Advisory Board (I-Board). The membership includes the city managers of Broward, the Sheriff, the County Administrator, et al. We have had a few meetings already.

In short, though this will not affect Dania Beach in FY2012-2013, the Broward County Commission has expressed its desire to require municipalities to fund the operating costs of regional communications.

Thus far, the I-Board is not having much difficulty with the Operations component of the plan being proposed; however, there are still issues to be resolved concerning Governance and Funding. Funding, in particular, is creating some disagreement among the cities that have a high tax base and those that have a high volume of calls for service.

The I- Board will continue to meet to discuss regional communications. Because the board falls under the Sunshine Law, the members cannot discuss the matter except in board meetings. Prior to any vote on various issues, I will advise you and seek policy direction.

No City Commission action is necessary at this time.



BERTHA W. HENRY, County Administrator
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April 3, 2012

Mr. Robert Baldwin, City Manager
City of Dania Beach
100 West Dania Beach Blvd.
Dania Beach, FL 33004

Dear Mr. Baldwin:

On October 25th, the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) established the Broward County Consolidation Communications Committee for the purpose of developing a plan for cooperative consolidated dispatch for our County. This effort, sanctioned by the League of Cities, was led by Mayor Ryan of Sunrise and County Commissioner Lois Wexler and served as a follow-up to the initial work by the Broward City County Managers Association (BCCMA) on this subject. In addition to the two chairs, the committee included County Commissioner Chip LaMarca, Sheriff Lamberti, members of the League of Cities, Broward Fire Chiefs Association and Broward Police Chiefs Association and various city managers.

The Committee held a series of meetings and adopted their final report (Exhibit 1) on March 7, 2012. In summary, the committee concluded the following:

- Consolidation of dispatch services is technically feasible, desirable and will improve public safety, particularly misdirected and transferred calls.
- A consolidated system should use three geographically separate PSAP locations.
- Performance metrics should be based on "best practices" and exceed national standards, if possible.
- The governing Board of a new system must include full representation of participating jurisdictions (one representative from each jurisdiction).
- For the immediate future, the County should maintain its current funding level in the new system (during the transition period of approximately three years).
- County's funding in future years should be in the same proportion as its initial funding in the new system (disregarding transition costs).
- Gap in funding, after county funding and 911 fees, should be funded via a Municipal Services Taxing Unit (MSTU).

- An Advisory Board should be created and funded to provide expert evaluation of potential sites for PSAPs, staffing and other budget resources, procedures and standards, and development of an Inter-local agreement (ILA).
- Cities joining the system (MSTU) would do so via an ILA.

On March 27th, the BCC received the Consolidation Communications Committee Report and its recommendations. While there was limited debate regarding some of the recommendations, the Board approved the recommendation to create a Broward County Consolidated Communication Implementation Advisory Board (I-Board), which will consist of city managers/administrators from each city, the Sheriff (or his designee), the County Administrator and a representative from both the Police Chiefs and Fire Chiefs Associations. In summary, the I-Board's responsibilities will include:

Governance - assess and rank alternative governance structures; recommend a draft charter, operating bylaws, inter-local agreements for the County and participating municipalities and best practices to be utilized in the selected governance model.

Funding - determine potential budget impact on municipalities, Broward County and Sheriff and the tax burden on residents within Broward County; determine a timeline and required actions for implementation of a municipal service taxing unit ("MSTU"); anticipate initial financial needs to occur in fiscal year 2012/2013; and identify start-up/transition budgets.

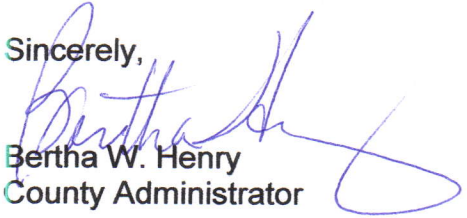
Operations - determine the administrative and technical requirements for implementation of the recommended governance model; establish standards and metrics which achieve a high level of performance and service; evaluate and rank proposed E-911 center locations based on engineering and technical analysis of the buildings and infrastructure needs.

The first order of business will be to develop a funding request for the I-Board by May 1st for its activities, including professional services to evaluate potential consolidated PSAP sites based on criteria outlined in the report.

Please allow this letter to serve as your invitation to serve as a member of the I-Board. The first meeting will be held 10:00 am - 12:00 pm on Friday, April 13th in Room 332B of the County Emergency Operations Center located at 201 NW 84th Avenue, Plantation, Florida 33324 in Plantation. Please RSVP as soon as possible.

If you cannot attend the first meeting, please send a member of your staff – while he/she will not have the ability to vote in your absence, it is still important that all cities be represented.

Sincerely,


Bertha W. Henry
County Administrator