



MAYOR
Geno Martini

CITY COUNCIL
Julia Ratti, Ward I
Ed Lawson, Ward II
Ron Smith, Ward III
Mike Carrigan, Ward IV
Ron Schmitt, Ward V

CITY ATTORNEY
Chet Adams

**CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING (CONCURRENT)
2:00 P.M., Monday, February 11, 2013
Reno City Council Chamber, One East First St., Reno, Nevada**

1. Call to Order (Time: 8:33 a.m.)

The special meeting of the Sparks City Council was called to order by Mayor Bob Cashell at 8:33 a.m.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Washoe County Commissioner Vaughn Hartung.

2. Roll Call (Time: 8:33 a.m.)

Mayor Geno Martini, Council Members Julia Ratti, Ed Lawson, Ron Smith, Mike Carrigan, Ron Schmitt, City Manager Shaun Carey, City Attorney Chet Adams and City Clerk Teresa Gardner, PRESENT.

ABSENT: None

Staff Present: Steve Driscoll, Andy Flock, Teresa Wiley, Tom Garrison, Neil Krutz, Kathy Clewett, Eric Milette

Comments from the Public (Time: 8:35 a.m.)

Reno Firefighter Dennis Jacobson commented on the responsibility of elected officials to make public safety decisions and opportunities for our community to work cooperatively.

3. Approval of the Agenda Consideration of taking items out of sequence, deleting items and adding items which require action upon a finding that an emergency exists.

No action taken.

4. Recognition of other public bodies that may be meeting concurrently. (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION) (Time: 8:40 a.m.)

City of Reno Mayor Bob Cashell recognized the Board of Health, City of Reno, City of Sparks and Washoe County.

5. Presentation, discussion and potential direction to staff regarding the August 2012 TriData Emergency Medical Systems Analysis Final Report and recommendations contained within the Final Report. (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION) (Time: 8:40 a.m.)

An agenda item from Sparks City Manager Shaun Carey recommending Council receive a presentation on the Emergency Medical Systems Analysis Final Report, and provide direction as

determined necessary to staff regarding the recommendations contained within the Final Report. Mr. Carey introduced Dr. Harold Cohen, author of the TriData Emergency Medical Systems Analysis report which was pushed through by the Washoe County Commissioners to provide guidance. The report covers the past 19-20 years and brings us forward to modern times and opportunities to use technology and create a modern integrated system.

Dr. Cohen presented the TriData report.

Council Member Smith asked for clarification regarding the 55,000 first responder calls and Dr. Cohen said the number refers to ambulance calls, not necessarily who arrived on site first. Council Member Smith asked for the number of calls responded to by City of Sparks and City of Reno. Reno Fire Chief Mike Hernandez said they responded to over 30,000 calls last year with approximately 80% of those being EMS. Sparks Fire Chief Andy Flock said Sparks responded to approximately 7,300 EMS calls. Truckee Meadows Fire District Fire Chief Charlie Moore said 3,000 calls were responded to during the first 6 months of operation, so he will estimate 6,000 per year.

No Action Taken

6. Presentation, discussion and potential direction to staff regarding an update and status report of the EMS Working Group, including progress on previous direction related to recommendations from the 2012 TriData Emergency Medical Systems Analysis Final Report. (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION) (Time: 9:16 a.m.)

An agenda item from Sparks City Manager Shaun Carey recommending Council receive a status report of the EMS Working Group, including progress on previous direction related to recommendations from the 2012 TriData Emergency Medical Systems Analysis Final Report.

Dispatch Working Group Chairman Sherriff Mike Haley requested direction be given to continue to enable the working group commissioned to identify challenges and report findings to the Shared Services Committee. Sherriff Haley reviewed the work that was done in the working group and discussed how the group's focus changed from consolidation to co-location. In addition, Sherriff Haley discussed the computer aided dispatch (CAD) to CAD approach to share and collect data. The City of Reno has approval for a grant to upgrade the Tiburon system which would provide a CAD to CAD link. Sherriff Haley requested approval to upgrade to the integrated CAD system. Reno Finance Director Robert Chisel said the proposed grant to upgrade the current system is for \$796,000 and would include the City of Sparks. The working group requested direction to continue to empower the working group, provide direction and milestones, and support a CAD to CAD link.

REMSA President Jim Gubbals discussed the benefit of technology to link services without co-location and said the system used by REMSA is medical based and would need to be linked to Tiburon even if they were in the same location. The REMSA successor of interest, along with assets and debts, were discussed.

Council Member Ratti asked Sheriff Haley about the letter which was critical of the abilities of Reno Emergency Communications (ECOM) to handle medical calls. Sheriff Haley said the issues were based on an analysis done before co-location and were not associated with the TriData report. Sherriff Haley said he is comfortable with the ability to handle dispatch

functionality across the broad spectrum until a unified software package is available that allows each entity to see all data before evaluating EMS management.

Council Member Ratti also said co-location should consider a major emergency that would disable the facility and the ability to have a second location to provide redundancy. Sherriff Haley said REMSA would not provide that redundancy, the City of Sparks would. Council Member Ratti confirmed the grant provides for Sparks to go on to the Tiburon system platform.

Council Member Ratti said her main interest is governance and transparent unified reporting of data. Currently there is limited opportunity for those in the governance function because of limited transparency of data. Sherriff Haley said the working group would continue to move in the direction of a CAD system that includes regional capability and all data necessary to make regional decisions would be available.

Council Member Schmitt asked if it is procedurally appropriate for the Councils to direct the working group since the Shared Services Committee formed the working group. Sherriff Haley said he believes the working group has the right technical, legal, health, and human resources people to accomplish this work.

Council Member Smith asked if they will be looking for a new emergency operations center or is Parr Blvd an acceptable site. Sheriff Haley said he is requesting the Department of Transportation place a building on the property of the current ECOM EOC for the purpose of creating a "fast center" that would allow for the data side of our industry to move forward. Council Member Smith asked how much that would cost and who would fund it. Sheriff Haley said it is being considered by the Department of Transportation and the Governor is aware of the request. Council Member Smith said he heard the cost of a "fast center" is \$50 million.

Sheriff Haley said cities and counties are responsible for the emergency medical service provided to citizens therefore REMSA cannot be the point of entry for the call. Council Member Smith said when a citizen is in distress, they do not care which emergency medical service responds first. Council Member Smith said the City of Sparks wants to know when an emergency call is made and would not want it to go directly to REMSA.

A motion was made by Council Member Ratti, seconded by Council Member Lawson, to direct the Managers to continuing working on implementation of the 38 recommendations as appropriate. Council Members Ratti, Lawson, Smith, Carrigan, YES. Schmitt, ABSENT. Motion carried.

7. Update from staff of the Regional Emergency Medical Services Authority (REMSA, including, but not limited to, REMSA staff response to 2012 the TriData Emergency Medical Systems Analysis Final Report. (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION) (Time: 10:18 a.m.)

REMSA and CareFlight President Jim Gubbals referenced the two additional consultant reports on the current EMS system and a cover letter included in the agenda packet and encouraged the Council and Commissioners read them for additional information. Mr. Gubbals said there have been changes at REMSA and they are committed to a renewed spirit of openness, transparency and cooperation with an end goal to promote excellence in pre-hospital medical care. REMSA will be transparent in transactions with partners and hopes for the same transparency and

cooperation in return. REMSA welcomes the opportunity to work together to improve the overall system.

Mr. Gubbals reviewed 6 reports and said there are three common themes:

- 1) communication and dispatch;
- 2) medical direction; and
- 3) regional coordination and operation.

Mr. Gubbals suggested several areas that can be reviewed and improved. Mr. Gubbals said REMSA would like to be included in the Dispatch working group and he would like to build a spirit of mutual respect and cooperation. This region has a two-tiered system, working side by side.

Sparks City Manager Shaun Carey said the region is moving in the direction consistent with actions and motions from elected bodies. The working group recently heard from REMSA and will include them in the process. REMSA is a solution and the group will use negotiations, working with a consensus approach. This is not one agency calling the shots. Elected officials need recommendations to complex issues including options and pros/cons. Dr. Cohen came up with 38 specific issues, summarized into 3 areas: dispatch, REMSA franchise, and what to do with EMS agency authority and oversight. From review of those issues, solutions will come to the 38 questions. Being prioritized, looking for pros and cons. Dr. Iser has been instrumental in providing information and providing a tool. The answer is to say we need to address all 38 issues in the working group, including all parties, so that the elected officials have the necessary information to make decisions. REMSA will be an equal partner and stakeholder and will be a part of the working group that will bring back recommendations with pros/cons and alternatives.

Council Member Ratti thanked REMSA for their participation and said her main concern is the ability to govern and that requires transparency of data. Council Member Ratti wanted to confirm the willingness to be transparent with all data that can be, with all parties involved. At this time, data across the system or patient outcomes is not available and it is necessary to effectively govern. Mr. Gubbals said REMSA will be transparent with data, including financials. Mr. Gubbals said he believes Regional EMS first response can be achieved.

Discussion for a future agenda item to exchange medical items and use pooled purchasing to achieve savings.

Sparks City Manager Shaun Carey said he believes the Managers, District Health Department and REMSA are in a position to take Dr. Cohen's work and move forward to find mutually acceptable negotiated changes that will serve our community well. The past has been great to learn from but the future is what lies ahead. The group will craft something that works well today and make it better for the future. The recommendation is to include reports from the EMS working group, which now includes REMSA, as part of the joint meetings going forward.

Council Member Lawson asked if the council could expect action items and a plan on how to accomplish them, at the next meeting. City Manager Shaun Carey said the group will work to prepare a complete prioritization of the 38 actions against the three main categories and begin working from what is most important and move through all 38 and will begin at the next meeting.

No Action Taken

8. Comments

8.1 Comments from City Council and City Manager - None (Time: 11:00 a.m.)

8.2 Comments from the Public – None (Time: 11:00 a.m.)

9. Adjournment (Time: 11:00 a.m.)

Council was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

DRAFT