

**EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS OF SOUTHERN OREGON  
INTERGOVERNMENTAL COUNCIL  
BUDGET MEETING MINUTES**

**February 11, 2015, 3:30 p.m.  
ECSO – 400 Pech Road, Central Point, OR**

**AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES**

Jackson County	Sue Watkins	Fire District #3	Dan Petersen
City of Ashland	Warren Hensman	Fire District #4	<i>absent</i>
City of Butte Falls	<i>absent</i>	Fire District #5	Darin Welburn
City of Central Point	Kris Allison, David Day	Evans Valley FD #6	Larry Tuttle
City of Eagle Point	Vern Thompson	Applegate FD #9	<i>absent</i>
City of Jacksonville	Jim Lewis	Greensprings FD	<i>absent</i>
City of Medford	Randy Sparacino	Lake Creek RFD	Tony Paxton
City of Phoenix	Derek Bowker	Medford RFPD	Brian Fish
City of Rogue River	Mark Reagles	Prospect RFPD	<i>absent</i>
City of Talent	<i>absent</i>	Rogue River RFPD	James Price
S. Oregon University	<i>absent</i>		

**Others Present**

Agencies: Tim George (City of Medford)  
Legal Counsel: Martial Henault  
ECSO Staff: Margie Moulin, Jody Hathaway, Corey Nelson, Johnna Pellam, Kevin Harris  
Sarah Leonard, Craig Williams, Joe Crawford, Jeff Palmer, Chad Pliler, Jeff McCamish

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**Chair:** Randy Sparacino      **Call to Order:** 3:31 p.m.      Roll call taken, quorum confirmed

The proposed ECSO budget for Fiscal Year 2015-16 was presented at \$6,321,739; a 3.88% increase from the previous year. It had been calculated by increasing the previous year's total user charges by 4.9%, which is equal to the percentage increase in County assessed valuation as of November 2014.

Proposed user rates were presented, which had been calculated by applying the formula to redistribute individual fees based on the new number, resulting in varying increases for tax base agencies of 5% to 11%. Minimum user fees were a flat 4.9%.

User rates were higher to make up for the depleted beginning fund balance. It was down by \$164,067 since the previous year, mainly from a high amount of overtime hours caused by continued operation at minimal staffing.

Chief Dan Petersen objected to the proposed rates, stating the intent of the previous year's discussion had been for the final cost to each user agency to be equal to the county increase (but no more) because the user agencies need a consistent number to plan their budgets. He proposed that user agencies are not responsible for holes in the ECSO budget. He noted that if ECSO were to receive more revenue from 9-1-1 tax, user agencies would pay the same 4.9% and ECSO would benefit from the extra. Likewise, if that revenue were to drop, user agencies would still pay only 4.9% and ECSO would have to figure another way to make up the difference.

The following issues were also discussed:

- a) *How many of the budgeted 39 dispatch positions were filled.*  
Margie Moulin noted that all positions were filled, minus one trainee that recently left. Of the filled positions, 4 are still in training. Until a trainee is capable of handling a position on their own (9 months to a year) they cannot help reduce overtime costs.
- b) *The increase in training budget.*  
Margie Moulin explained that minimum staffing forces most ongoing training to be conducted while dispatchers are still at their positions. To improve performance, outside training needs to be brought into the building. The IT manager also needs training to stay current with CJIS security requirements.
- c) *The status of 9-1-1 tax on pre-paid wireless phones as additional revenue for ECSO.*  
Margie Moulin confirmed that the legislation had passed but that ECSO would not receive any revenue from it until May 2016 and the amount is unknown at this time.

Chair Randy Sparacino officially opened the discussion to public comment and questions from the representatives. He reiterated and agreed with Chief Petersen's understanding of the 2014 budget meeting discussion; that each user agency's final fee would have increased by only 4.9%. Margie Moulin reiterated that her understanding of the motions passed in last year's IGC Budget and CEO Board meetings was for the 4.9% increase to apply to user chargeout before backing out revenue.

Chair called for additional questions or comments and none were voiced.

**MOTION: Chair Randy Sparacino moved to have ECSO staff recalculate the rates given the 4.9% and bring it back to the committee at a later date. The motion passed by unanimous roll call.**

The next IGC budget meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, March 11 at 3:30 p.m. at ECSO.

The meeting adjourned at 3:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jeff McCamish - Recording Secretary