

Cowlitz 911 Public Authority Resolution

2020-011

FINDING OF EXISTENCE OF EMERGENCY PURSUANT TO RCW 39.04.280(2)(b)

The undersigned hereby certify that the Board of Directors of Cowlitz 911 (Board) agreed to the following on the 25th day of November, 2020:

WHEREAS, Chris Fraley, the manager of Day Wireless, informed Deanna Wells of Cowlitz 911 on November 20, 2020, that the primary Alcatel microwave on the Rainier Communication Tower had failed; and

WHEREAS, this microwave supports all communications from the 911 dispatch radio system to responders in the field and paging; and

WHEREAS, the backup microwave at Rainier, which supports 911 dispatch communications in the event of the failure of the primary system, was also an Alcatel microwave, which was at the end of its expected usage, no longer manufactured and could also fail; and

WHEREAS, while the radio coverage and paging capabilities, using the backup microwave, were diluted in comparison to the use of the primary and required a change in operations for the dispatchers to continue their duties, the failure of this backup microwave could cause a failure in all dispatch communications for several weeks, creating an unacceptable condition for the communities it serves; and

WHEREAS, the Cowlitz 911 Executive Director, based on the above reports and based on his authority to act in the event of an emergency, declared that an emergency situation existed, waived competitive bidding requirements and awarded all necessary contracts, on or about November 20, 2020, on behalf of the public authority to address and alleviate this emergency situation, in accordance with RCW 39.04.280(2)(b); and

WHEREAS, RCW 39.04.280(2)(b) thereafter requires the Board of Directors of Cowlitz 911 to review the decision of the Executive Director, make an independent written finding of whether the emergency situation appeared to exist and duly enter a record thereof no later than two weeks following the award of the contract.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Board hereby finds that the failure of the Alcatel microwave in the Rainier Tower, on or about November 20, 2020, created an emergency for Cowlitz 911 under RCW 39.04.280 in that Cowlitz 911 was then faced with a degraded communications system and with the further prospect of losing all

dispatch communications, for the possible duration of several weeks, and that therefore the Executive Director thereby acted within his authority, based on RCW 39.04.280, and in compliance with the desires of the Board of Directors, as required by RCW 39.04.280(2)(b), by ordering the replacement part without competitive bidding and then bringing the matter to the attention of the Board of Directors at the soonest opportunity.

COWLITZ 911 BOARD OF DIRECTORS




Chair of the Board, Joe Gardner

ATTEST:



Clerk of the Board, Rachael C. Fair

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



General Counsel, Frank F. Randolph