MOBILE COUNTY COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Minutes of January 22, 2026

Commissioners Attending:

Eric Linsley
Donnie Brown
Timothy Hughes
Chris McLean

Staff Attending:

Robert Jackson, Interim Director
Jeffery Hartley, Attorney
Hayley Clough, Recording Secretary

The REGULAR board meeting of the Board of Commissioners was held on January 22, 2026, at the Mobile County Communications Center.

Call to Order – Treasurer Linsley called the meeting to order at 8:57 AM. Commissioner Hughes opened the meeting in prayer.

Approval of Minutes – Commissioner Brown made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 18, 2025, meeting, seconded by Commissioner McLean, all approved.

Treasurer Report – Treasurer Linsley presented the December claims list and MCCD Budget-To-Actual. Commissioner McLean made a motion to approve the December claims list and MCCD Budget-To-Actual, seconded by Commissioner Brown, all approved.

Personnel – No Report

Planning – No Report

Communications – Commissioner Hughes stated that there is a lot going on with communications but will defer to the Director to discuss. He stated that the RFP draft for the phone system is up for consideration and working to prepare the RFP for the radio system. He reported that there has been a lot going on with CAD and Hexagon with roadblocks and difficulties including CAD crashes but luckily, we have a good staff that worked through it. Interim Director Jackson was able to get in touch with somebody high up at Hexagon, possibly the Vice President, and they sent a team here to work on it and found issues with the way it was initially installed.

Emergency Medical –No Report

Building/Configuration – Interim Director Jackson stated that plans for the building are being prepared but are not ready yet.

Board Attorney – Interim Director Jackson stated that Mr. Hartley was currently on a call but would be joining the meeting as soon as it was over. He stated that Mr. Hartley has advised him that there are 2 items that the board needs to discuss in executive session but that it could be moved to the end of the meeting so that the meeting can adjourn first.

Director – Interim Director Jackson recommended approval of a payment to Indigital for the software renewal in the amount of $128,862. He stated that Indigital is the operator of the ANGEN statewide 911 network; our 911 phone system and the backup phone system are through them. He stated that this payment is budgeted for, but it has to be approved due to the amount. Commissioner McLean made a motion to approve the payment, seconded by Commissioner Hughes, all approved.

Interim Director Jackson recommended approval of the First Due Renewal in the amount of $53,831.92. First Due is the program used as RMS and record keeping for the fire departments in the County. He stated that we have been providing this software to the agencies so that they can keep up with their call volume for funding from the state. He stated that this is related to 911 because they are receiving these calls from us. Commissioner McLean made a motion to approve the renewal, seconded by Commissioner Brown, all approved.

Interim Director Jackson recommended approval of a quote from Motorola Solutions for emergency radio deployment equipment in the amount of $138,207.44. He stated that this is a quote for a cache of equipment to use during deployments. Mobile 911 has a unique ability to deploy to places with low to no communications infrastructure using systems that are maintained for disasters. He stated that while the equipment is primarily used in a disaster deployment, it's more important that we have this equipment on hand in case we ever need it. This equipment allows us to establish communications in areas that are very degraded by using HF and VF. Commissioner Hughes stated that the radio department did a drill on Dauphin Island recently and while the drill went beautifully, it did show that we needed more equipment. Commissioner Linsley asked how much the man packs weigh to which Interim Director Jackson stated that we originally had some made man packs, but these will be lighter than those weighing around 10-15lbs. The ones that were made weighed roughly 30lbs. He stated that when they are deployed to these places, the lighter packs are better because sometimes they are hiking to remote areas. Commissioner Brown made a motion to approve the quote, seconded by Commissioner Hughes, all approved.

Interim Director Jackson recommended approval of a quote from Law and Order Technology for MDTs for Mobile Fire Rescue Department. He stated that this quote was discussed last month but was not ready for approval at that time. These MDTs are a little bit different than the ones for Mobile Police Department and better fit the needs of MFRD. Commissioner Hughes made a motion to approve the quote, seconded by Commissioner Brown, all approved.

Interim Director Jackson recommended approval of a quote from LMR Strategies for the radio system RFP. He stated that he asked LMR to give him the worst-case scenario pricing in the quote and that figure does not necessarily mean that that will be the actual cost. They will send an itemized invoice as work is completed and we will pay for the work at the hourly rate that is included in the quote. He stated that this is a different type of RFP because it is very complex and requires a lot of engineering. Commissioner Brown made a motion to approve. Commissioner Hughes asked what the timeline was to which Interim Director Jackson stated that we do not have an exact timeline but most likely a couple of months. He reiterated that it is very complex and there are lots of things that will need to tie into this. Commissioner Linsley stated that page 14 talks about the project phases and that they will have to get with us to build a specific timeline but that they estimate 820 hours to complete, which is a couple of months. He stated that once we approve this, they will probably create a timeline for completion for us. He stated that this ends at the RFP development process and begins with their scope of work for us outlying what all they have to do. He stated that he would like to see an addendum to include administration and project testing but speaking of time, the board could go ahead and approve this and then do an addendum for that later. Interim Director Jackson stated that he actually spoke to them regarding that and they do not have a true scope of work yet and including those tasks would make the cost astronomical. They consider the administration and testing portions different from building out the scope of work. Commissioner Linsley stated that they have an hourly rate, and they do not expect it to go higher than that to which Interim Director Jackson confirmed. Commissioner Linsley stated that once they start building it is when you really want to have someone involved and watch to which Commissioner Brown stated that a project this size needs an extra eye. Commissioner Linsley stated that while we can do that in house, it is nice to have a third party do this as well to which Interim Director Jackson agreed, stating that the intention is to do this efficiently. Commissioner Linsley asked if Mr. Hartley has reviewed this to which Interim Director Jackson stated that Mr. Hartley has not reviewed this, but he would be heavily involved in the actual RFP. Mr. Hartley and the board would be involved once it's created and prior to the RFP being issued. Commissioner Linsley asked if the motion could be amended to state that this is approved pending legal review to which Commissioner Brown stated yes. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hughes, all approved.

Interim Director Jackson recommended approval of the RFP from Lee Moore for the 911 phone system. He stated that Lee Moore created this RFP to upgrade to a new 911 phone system. The current system was installed in 2016, and it is rapidly aging. We actually had a total failure of the system not long ago and that is a very rare thing to happen. He highly suggests replacing the whole system and stated that Lee is very knowledgeable about 911 phone systems as he works with districts across the state. Interim Director Jackson would like to request approval of this RFP pending legal review and Lee would handle the RFP and accepting of the bids. Commissioner Hughes asked how long it would be published to which Interim Director Jackson stated that he believes Lee likes to advertise for 30 days and he follows the bid law process as required. Commissioner Brown asked what the cost was to which Interim Director Jackson stated that we did not have actual numbers but thinks it will stay under $2,000,000 but probably somewhere between 1 and 1.5. This project is replacing all the equipment and smartphone consoles we operate to answer 911 calls. Commissioner Brown asked if we had the money in the budget for this to which Interim Director Jackson stated that it has not been budgeted for, but we do have the money. Commissioner Linsley stated that Lee will give a recommendation once the RFPs are open and he has analyzed them, and then he will present them to Interim Director Jackson for consideration, and he will let us know if it is a reasonable cost and responsible bidder. Commissioner Brown made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Hughes, all approved.

Interim Director Jackson informed the board about a lawsuit that several 911 districts, including MCCD, have been a part of since 2013 with Bellsouth. Mobile, Birmingham, and Autauga County filed the suit together against Bellsouth because it was alleged that Bellsouth was not charging users the correct 911 fees and then submitting it to the state board. Bellsouth has agreed to a settlement and has a figure they are willing to pay. The funds would be a percentage of the total figure after fees and split between the counties based on landlines in the county. MCCD would receive 42%, which is $86,000-$87,000. Mr. Hartley stated that the motion needed to reflect that Robert is authorized on behalf of MCCD to make this decision. Commissioner Brown stated that that was his motion, seconded by Commissioner McLean, all approved.

Old Business – Commissioner Linsley stated that the CAD system was down for 8-9 hours one day last week and there was a lot of agencies using cards while working. He stated that he was told there were no calls missed during this time and everyone worked well together. He commended all the agencies for working hard and being patient.

New Business – Commissioner Brown stated that he spoke with Interim Director Jackson last week regarding a new bill and he would like Interim Director Jackson and possibly some members of the staff and board to go to Montgomery and sell our case and find out more about this to see if it will affect us or not. Interim Director Jackson stated that this was caught thanks to Commissioner Brown and he has looked into it. He stated that it is a House Bill that would penalize agencies dependent on response times. He stated that we do not determine response times in Mobile because we are not dispatching and the problem with this bill is that it would hold the 911 districts accountable. He stated that having an unknown agency determining the metrics for response times is incredibly scary. He found out that it seems this bill is coming out of the wiregrass region and seems that someone has an issue with their local fire or police department and has maybe got the ear of a legislator. Commissioner McLean stated that the Chiefs Association has a lobby that stays there while legislation is in session and he will try to reach out to get more information about the bill. Commissioner Linsley stated that speaking of lobbyist, we need to get with Beth Lyons. Commissioner Brown stated that he told Interim Director Jackson to get him a synopsis of what is going on and he would make sure that the local delegation knows what is going on to which Interim Director Jackson stated he would draft a letter and get it to any board members that wanted it. Commissioner Linsley asked Mr. Hartley if the board needed a motion to hire Beth Lyons to which Mr. Hartley stated if the board was going to hire her, then yes. Commissioner McLean asked if she was a 911 lobbyist to which Commissioner Linsley stated she's not a 911 lobbyist, but she is a lobbyist that this board has hired in the past to work on legislation and she's very knowledgeable about 911 and 911 laws. Commissioner McLean asked if there was anyone who lobbied for 911 up there to which Interim Director Jackson stated that we typically fall under the ACCA, so a lot of stuff goes through them, but their primary goal is to look out for the County Commissions. There have been many conversations over the years to have 911 lobbyists because of

how much more advanced 911 is now than it used to be and even Director McNichol was a big advocate for 911 to have their own lobbyist. Commissioner Brown stated that he feels like it would be money well spent to have her lobbying for 911. Commissioner Brown made a motion for Interim Director Jackson to get in touch with Beth Marietta Lyons, seconded by Commissioner Hughes, all approved.

Mr. Hartley stated that he had two items that he needed to go into executive session with the board about. Both are concerning potential litigation and fall under Alabama code 36-25A-2 concerning litigation threats. He stated that it is in his opinion that this meets the parameters for executive session and recommended that someone make a motion to enter into executive session for discussion only so that he may brief the board on a couple of matters and get some direction from the board. He stated that the meeting can be adjourned prior to executive session beginning and the board will not need to reconvene. Commissioner Hughes made a motion to go into executive session, seconded by Commissioner Brown, all approved. A roll call vote was taken and all approved to go into executive session.

Announcement – Next board meeting to be held on February 19, 2026.

Adjournment – The meeting adjourned by 9:39 AM.

Respectfully Submitted:

Pat Mitchell, Chairman

Hayley Clough, Recording Secretary