

Mayer Fire Board
EMERGENCY MEETING SPECIAL MEETING
May 27, 2016 4:00 PM
Mayer Fire Administration Office

1 **Call to order.**

Chairman Coe called the meeting to order at 4:00 P.M.

2 **Pledge of allegiance.**

3 **Roll Call of members.**

Present were Chairman Coe, Clerk Dodge, Member Wesolowski, Member Spendley. Member Paterno was present by telephone.

4 **Agreement with MerIT on capital improvement and lease agreement with Cisco through MerIT regarding Mayer Fire District phone and microwave communication system.**

Chief Kriwer explained our internet has been down (including outgoing emails) since Thursday. He talked to Paul Giovanni from MerIT and he said he could be out Monday and the cost to fix the problem would be between four and five thousand dollars. He explained what it would be to fix the system. He said the new system will handle all phones, faxes (via computer) and long distance. The Cisco lease is a dollar buy out (end of lease you buy the equipment for one dollar). There would be no up-front money. The system upgrades will bring our current communication network to the latest standard. Microwave equipment and lines come with a one year warranty. At Paul Giovanni's recommendation we can warranty the phones and microwave at \$800 each for each additional year. If the microwave goes down the phones will continue to work (like it is now). Chief Kriwer went over the Cisco agreement and different options. Chief McGhee said he had three or four phone conversations with James at CYFD (Central Yavapai Fire District) (radio person that works at CYFD) and James said this would tie into their system better. Chief McGhee said he knows Clerk Dodge has a concern about this and getting other bids but (MerIT) is the only one that does this (microwave work). Clerk Dodge said it is not that it is his concern but it is policy (to get four bids). He went on to say that we requested alternatives to the microwave and it has never been presented. He said we are talking about internet, microwave, phone service and that information has never been presented. He talked about the service with MerIT and tying into them on a Holiday weekend for an extended time and large amount of money. There was discussion. Chairman Coe said at some point we should have done (and should do) something with a consultant that is not trying to sell us anything and who could (bring different options). He said we have been derelict about not researching these things and other things. Clerk Dodge said he understood why the microwave was brought in but it was brought in by a single source company and they are still trying to sell us another \$24,000 worth of stuff and they are going to be the only ones to deal with and work with. Chief Kriwer said he wanted to do his due diligence and after talking to Paul Giovanni he thought this was worthy of consideration and to bring it before the Board. There was discussion. Clerk Dodge said we are hampered because we are trying to piggyback onto our current system and it is only serviced by a single provider. Chief Kriwer said as being a responder he didn't see any alternative to the fire and medical response that fits Mayer best than what we currently have. He said even if we move away from MerIT and something better comes along this (situation) currently serves us the best that we have and our partners. There was discussion about radio communication and computer based communication and telephones. Captain LaGreca said (this is about) our phones, internet and intranet system that we have. Clerk Dodge asked if this affects our dispatch and radio communications for emergency responses right now. It was answered that it does not affect the 911 service. There was discussion about money for this and Bond money helping to pay for some of it. There was discussion about the internet and how it was needed. Chairman Coe said he was open to this and in between the time we should be able to do research and figure out if we have a better way to do it and more efficient. He talked about a line being down (a point to point line that was disconnected) and said we aren't going to sign this until we know that it isn't because of the line not working. Chief McGhee said we are still at the end of the life of our system (microwave and phones). There was discussion about the phones and costs. There was discussion. Clerk Dodge said currently we are paying CenturyLink for phones (service). He asked if this is going to replace those phones (service) and who are we going to pay for the monthly service. It was answered Cisco. There was discussion. Patricia said that this system is going to bundle the data so we will only need four phone lines (with new phones). There was discussion about Cisco providing the phone (service) and the plans. **Member Spendley made a motion that we sign the**

contract with MerIT to get the work started with the terms with 48 months. Member Wesolowski seconded. There was discussion. Clerk Dodge asked if there was a way to do this without the microwave and if so what the cost would be. He said that is the information that hasn't been produced. Chief Kriwer said he would get those answers for the Board.

The vote was Aye – five; No – zero. **Motion carried.**

There was discussion.

5 ***Adjournment.***

Chairman Coe adjourned the meeting at 4:56 P.M.

S.L. Wesolowski August 17, 2016
Acting Clerk Dodge Wasolowski Date