

Approved, 15 April 2015

The following meeting was neither audiotaped nor videorecorded.

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN AND FALL RIVER POLICE CHIEF
DANIEL RACINE**

Special Meeting

Tuesday, 14 April 2015, 1:00 P.M., Hearings Room

Town Hall, 979 Somerset Avenue, Dighton, Massachusetts

The Dighton Board of Selectmen convened at 1:20 P.M. in the Town Hall Hearings Room at 979 Somerset Avenue, Dighton, for a special meeting with Fall River Police Chief Daniel Racine concerning 911 Emergency Dispatch Regionalization, on Tuesday, April 14, 2015. Present were Chairman of the Selectmen Dean V. Cronin, who called the meeting to order, and Clerk of the Selectmen Patrick W. Menges, and Chief Racine who apologized for arriving late due to a department heads' meeting in Fall River which had been longer than anticipated in duration.

Chairman of the Selectmen Cronin summarized the tenor of public comments about possible Dighton-Rehoboth-Fall River 911 Dispatch Regionalization, at a public forum at which The Skyline Group's Sheldon Cohen, and the firm's President Mr. Higgins, and Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District representative Ross Perry had presented feasibility study conclusions, held at town hall on April 1st.

Selectman Menges told Chief Racine that four questions had emerged from the forum that needed to be addressed before the 911 Regionalization initiative should proceed: (1) Is the Chief comfortable with the proposed number of dispatchers in a regionalized dispatch hosted by Fall River? [He replied that the four additional dispatchers inveighed by the feasibility study would not be enough; eight more than the present thirty-five Fall River dispatchers would be needed to assure "better service than present".]; (2) Employment for Dighton full-time

dispatchers? [Chief Racine said that if eight additional dispatchers are added to facilitate Fall River hosting a regionalized 911 communications center, Dighton's full-time dispatchers would receive hiring priority; Selectman Menges added that the Dighton board understands that they will have to agree to undergo training in urban dispatching, &c. Assurance was taken, that they will have a job.]; (3) Will the region have expandability for another community or two? [Chief Racine said that in the future perhaps Freetown or Westport might have an interest and he understands possible expansion of the region by the addition of another town. There was discussion; some towns do not at present have an interest in 911 regionalization.]; (4) Draft intermunicipal agreement? [The Dighton selectmen and Chief Racine agreed that an unexecuted draft regional agreement should be prepared by researching similar communities' existing 911 region intermunicipal agreements, and that an agreeable draft and a budget for a Dighton-Fall River or Dighton-Rehoboth-Fall River 911 Regional Emergency Communications Center should be forwarded to the 911 Regionalization Board ⁱⁿ Boston to obtain from that authority an indication of the probable extent of its financial support to regionalization here, as a predicate to execution of an agreement and implementation of regionalization.]

Chief Racine will contact Fall River Corporation Counsel and the Dighton Selectmen will contact Town Counsel to begin research for drafting of an intermunicipal (draft) agreement, and Chief Racine shared his contact information so that progress could continue.

Adjourned by participants' withdrawal, at 2:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



PARICK W. MENGES

Clerk of the Board of Selectmen

TOWN CLERK
DIGHTON, MA
BY _____

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