

## ACTION FORM BRYAN CITY COUNCIL

<b>DATE OF COUNCIL MEETING:</b> August 27, 2013		<b>DATE SUBMITTED:</b> July 29, 2013	
<b>DEPARTMENT OF ORIGIN:</b> Info Technology		<b>SUBMITTED BY:</b> Bernie Acre	
<b>MEETING TYPE:</b>	<b>CLASSIFICATION:</b>	<b>ORDINANCE:</b>	<b>STRATEGIC INITIATIVE:</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> BCD	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC HEARING	<input type="checkbox"/> 1ST READING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC SAFETY
<input type="checkbox"/> SPECIAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CONSENT	<input type="checkbox"/> 2ND READING	<input type="checkbox"/> SERVICE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> REGULAR	<input type="checkbox"/> STATUTORY		<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMIC DEVELOP.
<input type="checkbox"/> WORKSHOP	<input type="checkbox"/> REGULAR		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INFRASTRUCTURE
			<input type="checkbox"/> QUALITY OF LIFE
<b>AGENDA ITEM DESCRIPTION:</b> Consideration to approve the Renewal of the Inter-Local Agreement (ILA) between the Brazos Valley Council of Government (BVCOG) and the Brazos Valley Wide Area Communications System (BVWACS) designating BVCOG as the Managing Entity for BVWACS effective October 1, 2013, until September 30, 2018.			
<b>SUMMARY STATEMENT:</b> The BVCOG was designated as the managing entity of BVWACS as set forth in the BVWACS-BVCOG ILA dated September 25, 2008.			
<p>The existing ILA terminates September 30, 2013. Each entity, with assistance from their legal departments reviewed and modified the current BVWACS ILA in anticipation of renewing the agreement effective October 1, 2013. Each entity, with assistance from their legal departments, reviewed and modified the existing BVWACS-BVCOG ILA. Only minor changes were made to the document. Changes were made to Scope of Services to represent the current status and responsibilities of the managing entity. The Managing Entity is to manage the BVWACS on a day-to-day basis and no longer be the sub-recipient of grant funds, as the grant funds have already been utilized. Other minor changes were made to make the document consistent throughout.</p> <p>The BVWACS Governing Board approved the BVWACS-BVCOG ILA during their meeting of July 17, 2013, and requested it be presented for approval to each entity's governing body.</p> <p>BVWACS was created through an ILA signed by the City of Bryan on September 25, 2008, between the City of Bryan, Brazos County, City of College Station, Texas A&amp;M University (TAMU), Washington County, and the City of Brenham. A Restatement of this ILA is up for consideration for approval under a separate agenda item at this meeting. The additional components of the communication system were initially funded through a \$2.8 million Public Safety Interoperable Communications (PSIC) grant to help maintain a wide-area public safety radio system that is expandable to the entire seven county regional area. This grant was given to BVCOG, as a sub-recipient from Houston Galveston Area Council (HGAC), through one of the federal government's Homeland Security's programs.</p> <p>By using this grant in the proposed manner and acting through BVWACS, the City of Bryan ensures that our area public safety and emergency management personnel can maintain communications while traveling throughout the region. The system allows local first responders (i.e., police, fire, EMS) to immediately and easily communicate with other entities that may be called into an area to assist during major incidents. The interlocal partnership decreases technology gaps that have occurred as Bryan, College Station and Texas A&amp;M University developed their separate radio systems over the past fifteen (15) years. BVWACS provides financial savings through shared costs of infrastructure, operations and maintenance.</p> <p>BVWACS has cooperated with the Harris County consortium, which includes 14 counties, to establish a regional</p>			

interoperable radio system. During events such as hurricane evacuations, operators in Galveston can talk via radio with users in the Brazos Valley and many other counties. This wide-area radio system shares the Harris County consortium's central controller in Tomball, Texas, which has saved all entities \$2.5 million in initial investment costs. The City of Bryan's portion of the initial savings was approximately \$500,000.

BVWACS is comprised of two boards, the Governing Board and the Operating Board, which oversee the management and operations of the partnership and the system. The Governing Board sets forth the policies for the BVWACS. The Governing Board consists of one member of each of the BVWACS parties (City of Bryan, Brazos County, City of College Station, TAMU, Washington County and the City of Brenham). Members are public officials or senior executive level employees. The City of Bryan's member is Councilmember Greg Owens who is presently the Board Chair. The Operating Board manages the technical operation of the BVWACS. Operating Board members are appointed by each of the BVWACS partner entities.

**STAFF ANALYSIS AND RECOMMENDATION:** The Information Technology Department respectfully requests that the Bryan City Council authorize the approval of the ILA between the BVCOG and the BVWACS, designating BVCOG as the Managing Entity for BVWACS effective October 1, 2013 until September 30, 2018. Approving the BVCOG/BVWACS ILA better ensures radio communication interoperability between the BVWACS ILA parties.

Approval of the BVWACS-BVCOG ILA better ensures radio communication interoperability between the BVWACS ILA parties and continues the ongoing day to day management of the BVWACS. The regional-wide concept includes a State-wide system at some undetermined time in the future. Approval of the BVWACS-BVCOG ILA results in the BVWACS committing to the BVCOG as the Managing Entity for five more years.

To staff's knowledge, all participating entities are taking similar action items to their respective governing bodies. Staff also believes all partner entities' staffs are recommending continued participation in BVWACS.

**OPTIONS (In Suggested Order of Staff Preference):**

1. Approve the BVWACS-BVCOG ILA.
2. Modify the BVWACS-BVCOG ILA, which may require consideration at a future City Council meeting, negotiation with the other partners, negotiation with the BVCOG, and consideration by the BVWACS Board
3. Do not approve the BVWACS-BVCOG ILA, and provide direction to staff and the City Council's BVWACS representative.
4. Take other action.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. New BVWACS-BVCOG ILA

**FUNDING SOURCE:** No funding source required for this Council Action. Funding was previously approved at the May 14, 2013 City Council meeting.

**APPROVALS:** Hugh R. Walker, 08/02/2013

**APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL:** Kean Register, 08-08-2013

**APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL:** Janis K. Hampton, 08-12-2013