

Cass County Public Safety Commission

Sheriff Darby McLaren, TAA 911 Director Rob Koppert, TAC
Cass County Courthouse
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Minutes

March 26, 2012
Basement Meeting Room

Members present: Steve Livengood, Gaylord Schelling, Marc Wedemeyer, Shawn Shouse, Julie Adams and Jeff Bohnsack (representing Anita).
Staff present: Rob Koppert, Darby McLaren
Citizens present: Mike Kennon, Alan Peterson, Captain Curt Henderson, Paul Henze

Chairperson Steve Livengood opened the meeting at 5:04pm

M/S/C Wedemeyer/Shouse to approve the agenda as published. Carried unanimously.

M/S/C Shouse/Harris to approve the February 27, 2012 Minutes. Carried unanimously.

M/S/C Adams/Shouse to approve the February 2012 financial statements and bills. Carried unanimously.

The Commission met with Captain Curt Henderson and Paul Henze of the Iowa State Patrol regarding the possible co-location of each entities dispatch center should it be determined that a new center should be built to house the Cass County 911 Center. Captain Henderson is in charge of all six of the Iowa State Patrol dispatch centers and Paul Henze is the manager for the centers in Storm Lake and Atlantic. The Commission updated the two on the efforts to relocate the Cass County 911 Center to a more suitable location, and that one of the options would be to build a new facility to house the center. If that possibility were deemed to be the more appropriate option, then the Commission would like to invite the Iowa State Patrol to co-locate their Atlantic dispatch center with the Cass County 911 Center.

Captain Henderson informed the Commission that in the future, the Iowa State Patrol would like to reduce the number of state patrol dispatch centers in Iowa from six down to three with a center located in the eastern, central and western sections of the state and that they would like the centers to be in close proximity to the I-80 corridor. Captain Henderson informed the Commission that the state patrol would be interested in exploring the option, but had some questions regarding the whether the patrol would have some representation on the Commission and how the financial arrangements would be worked out. He was particularly concerned about the financial arrangements since all of the funding the patrol receives is allocated by the Iowa Legislature. Commission members and Sheriff Darby McLaren suggested that a building could be built suitable to house both entities and space leased to the state patrol. When asked, Captain Henderson said they would need space for at least three dispatch positions with room for expansion to six total positions. 911 Director Rob Koppert said he would like a minimum of two full positions with a third position for backup and additional call-taking duties with room for a fourth for future expansion. Both Captain Henderson and 911 Director Koppert stated the centers should be completely separate, with the exception of possibly sharing break rooms, rest rooms and an equipment room. Captain Henderson also stated they would need space for a couple of offices.

Captain Henderson agreed to brief , Larry Noble, the Commissioner for the Iowa Department of Public Safety and to relate any information received from that briefing.

911 Director and TAC Rob Koppert gave his report and updated the Commission on the installation of the fiber optic line and the migration of wireless 911 calls to the new statewide VOIP network that will be utilizing the fiber optic cable. He also reported that the new CAD interface machine was installed and running perfectly, but there was an issue with the faxing module because the new system is 64-bit based, and the software only supports 32-bit. The company is working on updating the software to 64-

bit and the faxing module is temporarily running on 32-bit internet computer. He also informed the Commission that legislation has been introduced in the Iowa Senate that would eliminate the Iowa State 911 Advisory Council and merges its duties with the Iowa Statewide Interoperability Communications Service Board. Koppert informed the Commission that this is a bad move, that the duties of both, while pertaining to public safety communications, are vastly different. The 911 Advisory Council advises the Iowa 911 Program Manager on issue pertaining to 911 and the implementation of Next Generation 911, while the Iowa Statewide Interoperability Communications Service Board is working on radio and data interoperability for public safety agencies in Iowa. Koppert felt that since each entity has different and fairly large projects ahead of them, that the legislation would hurt the 911 side. He was also concerned that the merger would facilitate telephone company representatives on the board. Koppert also reported on the recent updates to the GeoLynxx mapping software, and that the surrounding counties are now included. He also updated the Commission on a meeting he attended which discussed the broadband Block D allocation and informed the Commission that the week of April 8th was National Telecommunicators week and that he would be putting out a press release. Koppert also informed the Commission of Montgomery County's intent to sell two sets of dispatch furniture that they will no longer be able to use when the move into their new center. The furniture is two to three years old. It was discussed that if we could purchase the furniture at a reasonable cost, we could store it until the 911 center was moved to a new location.

M/S/C Shouse/Adams to authorize 911 Director Koppert to contact Montgomery County and offer \$1,000.00 for the furniture. Carried unanimously.

In Old Business, the Commission discussed the results of the visits to communication centers and Chair Livengood indicated he will update his typed notes to include those of Shawn Shouse and then distribute them to the rest of the membership at the next meeting. 911 Director Koppert was instructed to place "discussion of the attributes the Commission would like to see in a communications center" on next months agenda.

In New Business, the Commission decided to table discussions on a on a contract for the 911 director and instructed him to email copies of his old emergency management contract to the commission.

Koppert was also instructed to gather cost estimates for moving the communications center to the third floor to the old conservation office.

There were no comments or concerns brought by any citizens.

MSC Schelling/Bohnsack to adjourn at 7:03pm..

Respectfully Submitted,



Rob Koppert, TAC - Recording Secretary