

Cass County Public Safety Communications Commission

Minutes

September 30, 2019

Cass County 911 Center – 705 Poplar, Atlantic, Iowa

Present: Steve Green, CC BOS; Chris Jimerson, Atlantic; Mark O'Brien, CC BOS
Absent: Kathy Somers, Atlantic

Staff present: Mike Kennon, TAC and Philip Davis, Dispatcher
Citizens present: Devin Hogue, APD

Chair Chris Jimerson called the meeting to order at 5:23pm.

M/S/C Green / O'Brien to approve the agenda. Carried unanimously.

M/S/C O'Brien / Green to approve the minutes of the 8-27-2019 meeting. Carried unanimously.

M/S/C O'Brien / Green to approve August 2019 financial reports. Carried unanimously.

TAC Report: Mike Kennon reported on recent orders for radio equipment to advance local access onto the Statewide ISICS Radio Platform. The Dispatch Center is waiting on two consolettes and a combiner unit. County Fire Departments may also soon have a dual-band portable radio for each agency supplied by 911 Surcharge Funds. CHS Hospital and Cass Co PH are currently working with Motorola and their Region to secure funding and order radios to have access to the ISICS system.

Kennon said that Iowa DPS had put out an official statement saying that LEA would not exist past October 2020. There were also statements indicating that VLA31(Mutual Aid) and Point-to-Point would never go away as VHF Radio Channels. Cass County has no plans to abandon it's VHF emergency radio system. We still depend on it for paging and as a redundant radio platform. Kennon said that the next step in the process will be to develop a fleetmap of talk groups. A fleetmap is how talk groups are organized within the channels and banks of channels in radios used by County emergency response agencies.

Mike Kennon said that he had been working on the Public Safety Communications budget for YE2021. He had "cleaned up" many of the budget lines that had not had entries in the last couple of years. Much of those claims had been shifted to 911 Surcharge for payment. The new budget should be much easier to read and follow without the unnecessary lines.

Kennon stated that the Atlantic Firemen's Parade will be Saturday, October 12th and he will attend the NENA Fall Conference on October 15th. The water heater that supplies hot water for the Dispatch Center was replaced today. The building had been without hot water for

Respectfully Submitted



nearly a week. Kennon had also recently been in contact with Josh Peach from Anita State Park. They are wanting to name their roads and possibly identify or address shelters, campsites, beach, etc. in the park. Kennon, Peach and Andrea Goins (Cass Co GIS) will work together on this project. Finally, there was a Blizzard Warning false alarm issued on Saturday by the contractor that operates the State Emergency Notification System. These weather alerts are generally automatically transmitted from the NWS and we have no ability to control them locally. We have been assured that precautions have been made to avoid further false alarms.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Public comments or concerns: Devin Hogue said he attended the meeting in hopes of hearing more about the progress that is being made to join the ISICS Statewide Radio System.

Philip Davis addressed the Board with concerns that Dispatchers have regarding rate of pay and employee benefits for the budget YE2021. He also voiced some more immediate concerns involving the Dispatch Center.

M/S/C O'Brien / Green to adjourn at 6:37pm.

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A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "A. H.", is written over a horizontal line.