

Cass County Public Safety Communications Commission

Minutes

October 26, 2021

Cass County Courthouse Basement Meeting Room – 5 West 7th St., Atlantic, Iowa

Present: Mark O'Brien, CC BOS; Steve Green, CC BOS; Jim Behrens, Atlantic

Absent: Kathy Somers, Atlantic

Staff present: Mike Kennon, TAC

Citizens present: None.

Chair Steve Green called the meeting to order at 5:18pm.

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

M/S/C Behrens / O'Brien to approve the minutes of the 9-28-2021 meeting. Carried unanimously.

M/S/C O'Brien / Behrens to approve September 2021 financial reports. Carried unanimously.

TAC Report: Mike Kennon reported that there will be a Public Hearing on Friday, October 29th at 9:00am in the BOS meeting room to authorize issuance of bonds not to exceed \$2 million for local enhancement to integrate onto the Statewide ISICS Public Safety Radio System. Letters of Support from across the County will be presented to the BOS. Motorola representatives will attend to help answer questions. Numerous emergency responders will also likely be in attendance in support of this project. Kennon added that there has been talks between the County, the Bonding Co. and Motorola about contract details. These discussions will not derail the Public Hearing or the current bonding process.

Kennon stated that he will be involved in final interviews for the open courthouse IT position over the next couple of days. He wants to get somebody in place as soon as possible to learn about the various systems in the Communications Center and be able to start troubleshooting and performing regular maintenance.

Kennon and a couple of dispatchers attended APCO/NENA training in DM recently. Shelby County will be offering Tactical Dispatch course in November. Also next month, one dispatcher will be sent to required "40-Hour" weeklong dispatcher training at the Law Enforcement Academy at Camp Dodge. When she returns, Cass

Respectfully Submitted



County will have one of the very few Dispatch Centers with a full staff of fully trained dispatchers in the State. Cass County is very fortunate to be in this position. Kennon feels that we should not be complacent and should develop strategies to help retain our current dispatchers.

Trunking fees from local telephone companies may soon come to an end for our PSAP. They are required to route 911 calls in a certain way and there may not be a justification for local PSAPs to pay invoices for these services. The State has long indicated that these fees would eventually go away for local PSAPs. Kennon said that he will stay on top of this issue and stop paying these fees as soon as the State gives the ok.

Kennon went to a Motorola User Group meeting in Carroll on Oct. 20th. He met with some IDOT officials and discussed their tower at H71 and Oxford Rd. They will keep us informed on if that tower would ever become available to rent or buy. Pursuit protocols and EMS Helicopter protocols were some of the main topics at this meeting.

Jeff Lewis, from Schneider, will be in the office the first week of November. He will get us up-to-date with our GIS data. This should allow us to meet our benchmark from the State and qualify for grant funding for GIS. Finally, Kennon said he continues to get PPE distributions from the State. He must go to CB periodically to physically pick up these items.

Old Business: Kennon said that we are still waiting for the Cass County BOS to adopt an updated County Employee Handbook. As soon as the County approves the new handbook, this board can consider adopting it.

New Business: Kennon handed out a spreadsheet document that is used to produce the annual budget for Public Safety. Board members need to review this document to discuss the overall budget at next month's meeting.

Public comments or concerns: None.

M/S/C O'Brien / Behrens to adjourn a 6:00pm

Respectfully Submitted

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Paul R.", written over a horizontal line.