

Cass County Public Safety Communications Commission

Minutes

September 28, 2021

Cass County Communications Center – 705 Poplar St., Atlantic, Iowa

Present: Mark O'Brien, CC BOS; Steve Green, CC BOS; Kathy Somers, Atlantic;
Jim Behrens, Atlantic
Absent: None

Staff present: Mike Kennon, TAC; Darby McLaren, TAA
Citizens present: Devin Hogue, APD Officer

Vice Chair Kathy Somers called the meeting to order at 5:16pm.

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

M/S/C Behrens / O'Brien to approve the minutes of the 8-24-2021 meeting. Carried unanimously.

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

TAC Report: Mike Kennon said that he has been working on getting letters of support from cities and emergency response agencies throughout Cass County for the Motorola ISICS Enhancement Project. It has been determined that a vote of the BOS to bond for this project is the most appropriate course. Steve Green said that he would like to see as many letters of support as possible at the BOS meeting on Thursday when they discuss this matter. Kennon stated that a rep from Motorola had recently contacted him to say that there were time constraints on accepting the project proposal. Kennon felt that the deadline for acceptance would not extend into November.

Kennon has not heard back from the HSGP Reallocation Grant application for ISICS radios. There was also no change in the status of the vacant County IT position. There was progress on some facility maintenance issues. The driveway and parking area was in the process of being repaired. There is still a downspout onto the sidewalk issue and some windows are going to need attention soon.

Respectfully Submitted



Kennon passed out documentation that showed an increase in local annual 911 Wireless calls from 2018 thru 2020 (4,199 to 4,758). He also said that he is concerned about retention of dispatchers. There are many job opportunities available that pay just as well and don't require working nights, weekends, holidays, etc. and are not nearly as stressful. Kennon said he would be very disappointed to lose dispatchers over wages from jobs that are much less challenging and stressful.

Kennon has a lot on his calendar for October. The Atlantic Firemen's Parade will be Oct. 9th. The APCO/NENA Conference is Oct. 11-12. The Homeland Security Conference is Oct. 13-15. A Motorola User Group meeting will be held in Carroll on Oct. 20th and the quarterly meeting of Public Safety, 911 Service Board and EMA will be Oct. 26th.

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: None.

Public comments or concerns: None.

M/S/C O'Brien / Green to adjourn a 6:27pm

Respectfully Submitted

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