

# Cass County Public Safety Communications Commission

## Minutes

May 24, 2022

Cass County Communications Conference Room – 5 West 7<sup>th</sup> St., Atlantic, Iowa

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

Absent: None

Staff present: Mike Kennon, TAC

Citizens present: None

Chair Jim Behrens called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

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

M/S/C Sisco / Green to approve the minutes of the 4-26-2022 meeting. Carried unanimously.

M/S/C Green / O'Brien to approve April 2022 financial reports. Carried unanimously.

TAC Report: Mike Kennon reported on the status of the local Motorola enhancement project. We continue to receive small shipments of equipment. Kennon hopes that Motorola will start working on this project in June, but it is more likely that real activity won't happen until July.

Motorola has recently installed mobile radios into all FD vehicles in the County. Fire Depts. have also received two hand-held radios for each department thru a Fire Grant. The Cass County Fire Association is also requesting Cass County ARPA funds (\$120,000) to purchase 3 additional hand-held radio per fire department. There have been discussions between EMA, 911 and the Fire Association about fully integrating operationally onto the ISICS radio system.

Kennon and Bobbi Jo Steffensmeier attended a Western Iowa 911 meeting held in Harlan on May 4<sup>th</sup>. This was a great opportunity to receive training close by and meet with Cecilia Bennetti from the State and talk with Blake DeRouchey, the State 911 Program Manager.

Kennon is in the process of hiring a dispatcher to replace one that went to work in the Treasurer's Office earlier this month. He is currently interviewing candidates and hopes to start training a new dispatcher as soon as possible. The new hire will have a starting wage of 18.00/hr and will have incremental increases until they reach the dispatch base wage rate.

Respectfully Submitted



Kenyon said that he had purchased a 7X12 ft. enclosed trailer with County ARPA funds. The trailer is a County resource, but it will be insured and housed with other EMA equipment. The Auditor's Office will regularly use it to transport election equipment. Kenyon will also be working on submitting an ARPA application for an upgraded drone. The drone that EMA, law enforcement and fire are looking at has camera, spotlight, speaker and laser distance capabilities.

Finally, Kenyon informed the Board that Gov. Reynolds had just signed SF2298, a bill authorizing a local emergency management commission to assume the duties of a joint 911 Service Board. This will take effect on July 1<sup>st</sup>. Kenyon will pass along what this might mean for local 911 Communications as he learns more about the bill.

Old Business: The County Handbook will be a permanent item in Old Business until the County produces a handbook for us to review.

New Business: None.

Public comments or concerns: None.

M/S/C O'Brien / Sisco to adjourn a 6:02pm

Respectfully Submitted

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