

Cass County Public Safety Communications Commission

Minutes

October 24, 2023

Cass County Courthouse Meeting Room – 5 West 7th Street, Atlantic, Iowa

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

Absent: None

Staff present: Mike Kennon, 911 Services Coordinator; Bobbi Jo Steffensmeier, Dispatch Supervisor; Darby McLaren, CCSO

Citizens present: John Westering, CCSO

Chair Jim Behrens called the meeting to order at 5:18pm.

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

M/S/C Sisco / Green to approve the minutes of the 8-22-2023 meeting. Carried unanimously.

Kennon stated that the Dispatch Center has been fully staffed since the beginning of the fiscal year. That is good news, but it has put total expenses very close to budget limits.

M/S/C Sisco / Green to approve Aug-Sep 2023 financial reports. Carried unanimously.

Coordinator's Report: Mike Kennon reported on the status of the local Motorola enhancement project. The project is basically complete. Coverage testing went well, with vast improvement to radio coverage in Atlantic. The Interstate, Marne and Cumberland also had improved coverage.

Local schools are still in the process of getting ISICS base radios installed in their buildings. There does not appear to be a statewide or regional plan for SOPs for use of these new radios, so we will need to come up with plans of our own. Area schools may also need on-site training.

Respectfully Submitted



Steffensmeier has completed the IOWA System audit and follow-ups she has been working on. She and some other dispatchers have recently attended a Leadership class in Harlan and another class on Mental Health Crisis Intervention. New GeoComm mapping has been installed and is working well. Steffensmeier has also been working on getting a caller ID issue resolved.

Finally, Kennon reported on the status of the Rural First-Aid project. The vendor will soon be integrating their notification system with our CAD system. Erik Johnson is Administering the program. Kennon has some oversight obligations for AmeriCorps. There are currently about a dozen volunteers that are equipped and trained. There was a brief discussion about what type of calls these volunteers will be allowed to respond to. We don't want to put volunteers in harm's way, but we want to give the project the opportunity to succeed as it is designed.

Old Business: Kennon has talked to the Atlantic Fire Department about inspecting fire extinguishers in the courthouse and Comm Center. They appear to be behind schedule for inspection. Kennon would like the AFD to complete the inspection to determine if ICAP grant funds could be used cover some of the cost.

Kennon has also ordered replacement key fobs for the Comm Center. He explained that he may have to enter into a maintenance program with Johnson Hardware to add these fobs and to update software for the door control system.

New Business: None.

Public comments or concerns: None.

M/S/C O'Brien / Green to adjourn a 5:58pm

Respectfully Submitted

