

Cass County Public Safety Communications Commission

Minutes

April 23, 2024

Cass County Courthouse Basement Meeting Rm – 5 W. 7th St., Atlantic, Iowa

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

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

Chair Mark O'Brien called the meeting to order at 5:19pm.

M/S/C Green / Behrens to approve the agenda. Carried unanimously.

M/S/C Green / Behrens to approve the minutes of the 3-26-2024 meeting. Carried
unanimously.

M/S/C Behrens / Green to approve the March 2024 Financial Reports. Carried unanimously.

911 Services Coordinator's Report: Bobbi Jo reported that our part-time dispatcher was no longer working for the County. The dispatcher met with Mike Kennon in early April and submitted a letter of resignation. There is no current plan to replace this part-time position.

On April 2nd a vehicle jumped the curb on Poplar St. and struck the Comm Center building. There were no injuries and the only damage to the building was a broken drainpipe for the sump pump. There has also been a long-standing plumbing issue in the building. The issue has never affected dispatch operations. A portion of the sewer line under the building was dug up and replaced in the basement public restrooms.

RAGBRAI will overnight in Atlantic on Monday, July 22nd. Also, an official announcement was made that Griswold, Lewis, Wiota, Cumberland and Massena are pass-thru towns on the bike route. Kennon met with RAGBRAI and Atlantic officials early this morning to discuss Public Safety and some Operational planning topics. Kennon will soon need to meet with pass-thru towns to discuss their individual emergency plans and incorporate this information into a Countywide Comprehensive Emergency Plan which will be used by the Comm Center and RAGBRAI officials. Kennon stated that cooperation from all stakeholders has been excellent.

Kennon said that he will be attending an IMWCA Active Shooter Exercise tomorrow morning, 4/24/2024. He also encouraged Public Safety Board members to attend a State facilitated HazMat exercise on 5-16-2024 at the Atlantic Fire Station.

Respectfully Submitted



Kenon then briefly talked about the Rural First Aid Project and the AmeriCorps representative we have working on this project. There is an opportunity to continue the First Aid project as well as the AmeriCorps support. There is also a need to spend about \$20,000 in grant and matching funds before a grant period ends in a couple of months.

Old Business: Bobbi Jo talked briefly about school video feeds. We are receiving video feeds from 2 of our 3 school districts in the County. Bobbi Jo said that she will continue to work with the last remaining school district. Sheriff McLaren may be asked to approach the administration of the school district to convince them to share their video feeds.

New Business: None.

Public comments or concerns: Bobbi Jo said that Dispatch has issues with the admin phone system. For some reason, calls from our CenturyLink system will not complete calls to cell phones. Kenon stated that this is not an issue just for the Comm Center. He had heard that other businesses have sporadically had the same issue, but it has gotten much worse lately. Dispatchers do have access to the courthouse phone system and calls to cell phones are not restricted at this time.

M/S/C Green / Behrens to adjourn a 6:04pm

Respectfully Submitted

