

Cass County Public Safety Communications Commission

Minutes

May 27, 2025

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

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

Absent: None.

Staff present: Bobbi Jo Steffensmeier, Dispatch Supervisor

Guests: None.

Chair Steve Green called the meeting to order at 5:27pm.

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

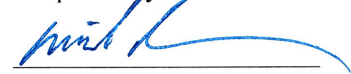
M/S/C Sarsfield / O'Brien to approve the minutes of the 4-22-2025 meeting. Carried unanimously.

M/S/C Sarsfield / O'Brien to approve the April 2025 Financial Reports. Carried unanimously.

Dispatch Supervisor's Report: Bobbi Jo reported that there were no staff issues to pass along. However, there are a few equipment needs for Dispatch. Sean Berens (IT) says that new workstation computers will soon be necessary due to outdated operating systems. We have a quote for \$6,000 per computer for three workstations. This money will come out of the 911 SB fund. Berens is also looking into replacing the fax/scanner/printer unit in Dispatch. Additionally, the dedicated phone with a direct line to the Atlantic FD has been shorting out due to stretching of the phone cords. The cords and/or hand sets may need to be replaced to get them working properly again.

911 Services Coordinator's Report: Kennon stated that recently passed legislation is threatening 911 funding. Without a Governor's veto, the State will be able to bill individual PSAPs to deliver "911 traffic". The State will already be taking an additional percentage of the surcharge that funds most of the Statewide 911 System. Kennon said that he does not know where all of this is headed, but he thinks Cass County should maintain a well-trained, fully staffed Dispatch Center with updated equipment and systems. If the State looks at something like consolidations, Cass County needs to be in a strong position to keep a Communications Center here.

Respectfully Submitted



Bobbi Jo reported that the Zetron phone system hardware refresh occurred last week, and Language Line was installed on the phone system as well. We continue to work on getting live video feeds from area schools. And Kennon stated that the 35 - 700Mhz pagers that were ordered for County FDs had been delivered as well as 20 – dual-band pagers ordered by the Atlantic FD.

Kennon said that the intercom system into Dispatch is still not working, but Electronic Engineering has been contacted to fix it. Bulbs have been replaced in the light fixtures on the outside of the building, but Mark O'Brien stated that these fixtures will soon be replaced. Kennon reported that a small tree outside of the law office entrance needs addressed. About half of the limbs are dead. He recommended it be cut down and replaced with a small tree closer to the corner of the lot.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Public comments or concerns: Jim Behrens said that Heritage House will hold an Evacuation Exercise on June 17th. Kennon said that the nursing home in Anita is planning to hold an Active Shooter Exercise later this year.

M/S/C Behrens / O'Brien to adjourn at 6:20pm

Respectfully Submitted

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "M. Behrens", is written over a horizontal line.