

# Cass County Public Safety Communications Commission

## Minutes

July 22, 2025

Cass County Courthouse Basement Meeting Room – 5 West 7<sup>th</sup> St., Atlantic, Iowa

Present: Steve Green, CC BOS; Shawn Sarsfield, Atlantic; Jim Behrens, Atlantic

Absent: Mark O'Brien, CC BOS

Staff present: Bobbi Jo Steffensmeier, Dispatch Supervisor, John Westering, CCSO

Guests: None.

Chair Steve Green called the meeting to order at 5:15pm.

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

M/S/C Behrens / Sarsfield to approve the minutes of the 6-24-2025 meeting. Carried unanimously.

M/S/C Behrens / Sarsfield to approve the June 2025 Financial Reports. Carried unanimously.

Dispatch Supervisor's Report: Bobbi Jo reported that there were no new staff updates. Dispatch has been running smoothly.

911 Services Coordinator's Report: Kennon said that there had been a number of maintenance issues dealt with recently. The perimeter lights on the building had been replaced. There had been a small tree removed from near the front door of the Law Offices. And there had been a hole repaired and repainted in the foyer entrance to Dispatch. Kennon stated that the next maintenance request may be for painting the wood exterior to the building at some point.

Kennon said that there has been more scrutiny toward mass notification systems since the recent Texas flood disaster. Emergency Alerts were issued, but young children at summer camps had no way of receiving those alerts. Also, adult campers from outside the area and in remote areas without good cell service may not have gotten notifications. Finally, some of those who did receive the alerts did not act upon them in time. Kennon said that he had been thinking about Cass County's potential vulnerabilities in light of the Texas flooding. He believes that Severe Thunderstorms with high winds and Tornados are a top concern, especially at night. There are also protocols in place to physically notify people in established campground areas throughout the County.

Respectfully Submitted



Kennon reported that our worker's comp representative had performed a site visit earlier in the day. The Dispatch Center has not had a claim for years, but the County has had a few incidents. Even though we don't have many claims, we need to be very aware of how to handle an incident if one occurs.

Finally, Kennon said that he had talked to the EMA/911 Director from Shelby County about EMS issues. We need to get EMS, Dispatch and EMA representatives from both Counties together to come up with protocols that don't just put the Dispatchers in a position of having to decide if an ambulance is dispatched out-of-county or not.

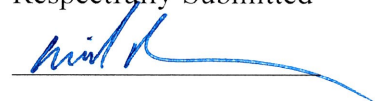
Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Public comments or concerns: None.

M/S/C Sarsfield / Behrens to adjourn at 5:50pm

Respectfully Submitted

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mint R", is written over a horizontal line.