

# Cass County Public Safety Communications Commission

## Minutes

October 27, 2020

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

Present: Steve Green, CC BOS; Kathy Somers, Atlantic; Jim Behrens,  
Atlantic; Mark O'Brien, CC BOS  
Absent: None

Staff present: Mike Kennon, TAC  
Citizens present: None

Chair Steve Green called the meeting to order at 5:19pm.

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

M/S/C Somers / Behrens to approve the minutes of the 8-25-2020 meeting.  
Carried unanimously. \*No meeting in September 2020.

M/S/C O'Brien / Somers to approve August and September 2020 financial  
reports. Carried unanimously.

TAC Report: Mike Kennon reported on progress of the Motorola console  
project. The project is on track to be completed by the end of January 2021.  
Motorola techs recently hooked up a prototype workstation to the ICN  
network portal in the server room. This is a workstation that dispatch can  
"play" on to transmit and receive test calls with local emergency responders.  
Techs will come back soon to flesh out the console configuration and set up  
additional workstations in preparations to convert away from our current  
Avtec console. Dispatch training is scheduled for January 2021.

Kennon continues to contact surrounding counties for options to partner with  
on 911 log recording. The new console will require a move away from our  
current system. Cass County can spend approx. \$75K for our own equipment  
or come to an agreement with another county to share their system. Eventide,  
the call recording company, has encouraged these partnerships. There is  
plenty of capacity in the equipment to share its use. Montgomery County has  
indicated that they would be willing to entertain this arrangement with a \$5K  
one-time charge.

Respectfully Submitted



Kennon said that the Communications Center was involved with an annual intruder drill at IWCC-Atlantic Campus last month. He has fielded some unique rural address applications in the last couple of months (T-Bone Trailhead, controversial AT&T tower close to Griswold and some dual addresses on a single parcel). Kennon has also received inquiries from the Auditors Office and BOS to start the budget process early. The State has also recently sent an annual PSAP expense data collection form.

Kennon continues to pass local requests from nursing homes, hospital and EMS crews to the State for PPE. He also makes requests for test kits for Test Iowa. The National Guard has been replaced by the Iowa DOT to deliver these supplies. Kennon has been working with Mark McNeese on a Fire grant submission for Cass County. They are seeking ISICS radios. Kennon has been working with CCSO, Atlantic PD and Atlantic FD on a new drone program. They have purchased a drone and will soon be training local pilots.

Finally, Kennon gave updates on dispatch staff. Recent events have led to many changes to the schedule. Fortunately, these issues did not happen all at once and the remaining dispatchers have been able to cover unscheduled time off.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Public comments or concerns: None.

M/S/C O'Brien / Behrens to adjourn at 6:02pm

Respectfully Submitted

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "M. O'Brien", written over a horizontal line.