

# Cass County Public Safety Communications Commission

## Minutes

June 23, 2020

Cass County Communications Conf. Room – 5 W. 7th St., Atlantic, Iowa

Present: Steve Green, CC BOS; Kathy Somers, Atlantic; Mark O'Brien, CC BOS

Absent: Jim Behrens, Atlantic

Staff present: Mike Kennon, TAC

Citizens present: None

Chair Steve Green called the meeting to order at 5:24pm.

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

M/S/C O'Brien / Somers to approve the minutes of the 5-26-2020 meeting. Carried unanimously.

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

TAC Report: Mike Kennon reported that a project to upgrade our dispatch console system had been passed by the Cass County 911 Service Board at a cost of about \$300K. The new console should be installed by the end of this calendar year. Kennon stated that this will be a big step toward full ISICS integration for Cass County emergency response.

Kennon reported that there will be a new County EMS Ambulance service starting at midnight June 30<sup>th</sup>. Kennon and other County officials have met with Midwest Medical to help with the transition. There is a concern with the amount of work that needs to be done in a short amount of time. Kennon's main concern involves paging and communications between dispatch and ambulance personnel.

Kennon briefly talked about the new Zetron phone system. The system is working satisfactorily, but there has been an issue with billing. Kennon and Andrea Goins (Cass County IT) have disputed some of the charges not covered by the State. As a result, some charges will be removed and some extra equipment will be returned.

Respectfully Submitted



Kennon gave a brief update on a couple of members of the dispatch staff who had taken time off for personal issues. Kennon had also received a request to consider a change to our longstanding dispatch schedule rotation. The Board recommended that Kennon take a look at possible changes, but try to avoid unnecessary disruptions.

Kennon reported that Test Iowa stood up a site in Atlantic. The drive-thru COVID-19 testing will occur on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. And finally, Kennon pointed out that the fiscal year ends June 30<sup>th</sup>. He pointed out that the current state of the Communications Center is very good. Cass County has a full staff of experienced dispatchers and the County has taken steps to better equip those dispatchers to support the public and emergency responders.

Old Business: Mike Kennon said he continues to work on staff performance reviews to be completed by the end of June.

New Business: None.

Public comments or concerns: None.

M/S/C O'Brien to adjourn at 5:47pm.

Respectfully Submitted

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul D. O'Brien", is written over a horizontal line.