

Cass County Public Safety Communications Commission

Minutes

January 26, 2021

Cass County 911 Center – 705 Poplar, Atlantic, Iowa

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

Staff present: Mike Kennon, TAC; Darby McLaren, TAA
Citizens present: None

Chair Steve Green called the meeting to order at 5:20pm.

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

M/S/C Somers / Behrens to approve the minutes of the 12-22-2020 meeting. Carried unanimously.

M/S/C O'Brien / Behrens to approve November-December 2019 financial reports. Carried unanimously.

Election of Officers

M/S/C O'Brien / Behrens to nominate and elect Steve Green as Chair.

M/S/C O'Brien / Behrens to nominate and elect Kathy Somers as Vice Chair.

M/S/C O'Brien / Behrens to nominate and elect Mike Kennon as Rec. Secretary.

TAC Report: Mike Kennon reported that technicians were currently in the process of replacing the Avtec dispatch consoles with new Motorola consoles. The operational cutover should happen this week. This has been a big project that will greatly increase the capabilities of dispatchers to communicate with law enforcement, fire, EMS and others.

Kennon stated that talks with Montgomery County continue regarding the sharing of a logging recorder. The Mont. 911 Director wanted to make sure that she had the support of her 911SB before entering into this agreement. Kennon said that this agreement will most likely still happen, but we can approach other counties if negotiations fall apart.

The cutover of 911 Shared Services for Cass County is scheduled for Feb. 2nd. There should be no noticeable change to how our dispatchers answer 911 calls.

Respectfully Submitted



Kennon continues to work closely with Cass County Public Health on COVID-19 response. We still receive periodic lists of active cases at the Communications Center. Dispatchers have also been encouraged to complete a local online survey to schedule a vaccination appointment. And Kennon continues to order PPE supplies from the State every couple of weeks. He will pick up Test Iowa supplies in Council Bluffs later this week.

Finally, Kennon said that he has been working with other response agencies to start up a drone program in Cass County. Pilots are getting required certifications and training. Two drones have been purchased and will be housed at the Communications Center.

Old Business: Kennon handed out a list of 911 Communications Center responsibilities outside of Lead Dispatcher duties as requested from Board members. There was a discussion about the possibility of promoting or hiring someone to assist with these responsibilities and how this position might be compensated. No action was taken.

Kennon handed out copies of the latest proposed budget FYE2022. The budget reflects an increase of 2.0% in dispatch wages and Director's salary. These salary/wage increases were totally offset with reductions in other line items.

M/S/C O'Brien / Somers to approve proposed FYE2022 budget for Public Safety Communications Board. Carried unanimously.

New Business:

Public comments or concerns: None.

M/S/C O'Brien / Behrens to adjourn a 6:22pm

Respectfully Submitted

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "W. A. D.", is written over a horizontal line.