



Tama County Communications

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The Tama County 911 Service Board meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM on July 14, 2020 by 911 Vice Chair Van Egmond (Dysart).

Members present: Gordon Fassett (Clutier), Billie Van Egmond (Dysart), Alicia Lidtke- via Zoom (Elberon), Trent Wentzien (Lincoln), Chief Jacob Molitor- via Zoom (Meskwaki Nation), Brian Staker (Montour Primary), Charlie Bidwell (Montour Alt), Sheriff Dennis Kucera, Chief Jason Bina (Tama), Shawn Kennedy (Traer Primary), Tyler Sell (Traer Alt), Kendall Jordan (Emergency Management).

Guests in attendance: Mindy Benson (Emergency Management Coordinator), Mary Wankowicz, Via Zoom- Pete Holden, Carrie Holst, Jacob Reineke, Cheyanne Packer, Jackie Lasley, Rylie Davis

Motion by Kennedy second by Fassett to approve agenda, motion carried.

Motion by Staker, second by Bina to approve meeting minutes from June 3, 2020 all aye, motion carried.

Motion by Kucera, second by Bina to approve Claims. All ayes, motion carried.

Jeremy and Mindy gave an update as to the progress of the radio project. It was discussed on the last conference call on Monday, July 13, 2020 that all tower locations have been purchased, self-supported towers have been purchased, discussions are being held with Iowa Generators for the purchase of new stand-by generators and quotes have been sent to the Board of Supervisors. There was clarification that RACOM was going to get as to the actual size of the generators needed at each tower location. A soft schedule of dates was also included in the packet for reference as to the benchmarks of the system build. Determination of radio and pager count per agency/department is ongoing and will be worked out in the coming weeks, working with the Board of Supervisors, Mindy, and Jeremy. Molitor inquired as to the cost portion for Meskwaki Nation as he is currently working on their budget. No final numbers have been determined yet but, should be coming in the next few weeks. RACOM will be having an equipment show and tell towards the last part of August. Invites will be sent out when a date is solidified.

Jeremy discussed with the board that the 911 budget, as it stands currently, does not have an operation side to it. Prior to the separation of departments, the operation portion of the budget was done under Emergency Management. Currently, the 911 budget only has surcharge money coming in from the Telecom's and the State which can only be spent on the receipt and disposition of 911 calls per Iowa Code and not the operational aspect of the Department. It was agreed upon that Mindy and Jeremy will work on getting the Emergency Management budget numbers separated between the two Departments and then do budget amendments and public hearings to reflect these changes to each budget.

Jeremy presented a quote provided by RACOM for \$6,501.25 to incorporate the ISICS radio that is currently on the back shelf in the Communications Center. This will allow some functionality of the radio at the dispatch consoles while we are on the legacy system. Once the cutover is made to the SARA



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system, full functionality will be utilized on the Symphony Consoles with the ability to patch channels and more. End of life for the LEA channel is the end of October which this radio will be replacing to allow interoperability between agencies during responses. Sheriff made a motion to accept the quote and proceed with the ordering and installation of the equipment, second by Montour. Rollcall vote with all ayes, motion carried.

With the new system build, the board currently owns four stand-by generators at each of the outlying tower locations that will not be needed once the build out is complete. There has been some interest by other county departments expressed in these generator. Because these were purchased with 911 grant funds, it was determined after speaking with the State 911 Program Manager that these need to either be used for the receipt and disposition of 911 calls or the proceeds from the sale need to be deposited back into the 911 budget to be used for the receipt and disposition of 911 calls. No action was taken at this time. Members will take this back to their respective jurisdictions to see if they would need or have interest in a stand-by generator. Jeremy was directed to get the value of the generators for the possibility of selling them.

Jeremy advised that the Communications Center is back to full staff after hiring Jamie Youngbear back to full-time status. There were six applicants for the posted full-time position. Due to conflicts, three were interviewed.

Old Business- No old business was brought to the table

New Business- Mindy brought up that the Vining tower location will no longer be utilized after the new radio system cutover. This was brought up for something to think about in the coming months. There was a discussion on the proper disposal process of this property with possibilities of having someone possibly purchase the old tower. No action was taken at this time.

Next regular 911 Board meeting will be held Tuesday August 11, 2020 at 630PM. Motion for adjournment by Sheriff, second by Fassett. Meeting adjourned at 6:56 PM

Respectfully Submitted

Jeremy Cremeans, Director