

Cass County
E911 Governing Board
Meeting Minutes
16 October 2023

The E911 Governing Board met at 10am at the Offices of the Cass County Central Dispatch Center. The meeting was called to order by Vice President Rick Bair.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Rocky Buffum, John O'Connor, Mike Deitrich, Rick Bair

MEMBERS ABSENT: Ed Schroder, Travis Yike, Tracy Williamson

STAFF PRESENT: Tara Grigsby

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the 21 August 2023 meeting were reviewed. Mike Deitrich made a motion to approve as presented which was seconded by John O'Connor. Approved unanimously on a motion duly made and seconded.

DIRECTORS REPORTS

Directors reports were presented in the areas of Finance, Calls/Equipment/etc, Ledger and Training (attached).

There appears to be a large amount of funding on the Insurance line. Tara Grigsby reports the auditors office has not yet processed this. There have been problems with claims being missed or paid multiple times. Rocky Buffum reported Emergency Management has also experienced these issues.

The dispatch center is at full staff with no one in training. Tara Grigsby reports this is the first time this has happened in at least five years.

There were map issues since the last meeting, however those have been resolved.

OLD BUSINESS

BUILDING MAINTENANCE

There have been elevator problems for some time. Tara Grigsby has learned how to do the reset since the county is currently without a building superintendent. We are waiting for training from the maintenance vendor. The fire department would also like to participate.

POLICY REVIEW

Policies were not distributed ahead of the meeting, review tabled until next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

MAPLE GROVE FIRE

Tara Grigsby discussed the behind the scenes support and coordination, and lessons learned, from the Maple Grove fire in Galveston.

OVERTIME AND OVERTIME SHIFTS

Tara Grigsby reported she is not doing overtime right now, and the dispatch center as a whole is doing significantly less overtime. We currently have 4 part time staff who are all former full time dispatchers. We have received applications from full time dispatchers in other counties that want to work in Cass County part time. Tara Grigsby reports it is not time effective to try to train people off the street to work part time. There is no mandatory overtime right now.

BOARD COMMENTS

Mike Deitrich, speaking for Clymers Fire Department, requested District 1 be dispatched to Clinton Township for structure fires, not for field fires unless requested.

Discussion was held regarding transition to 800 radios. Biggest recurring issue is channels not being assigned, however personnel have been good about asking for the channel if not given. Rick Bair reports it has been going well for the short amount of time. Rocky Buffum asked if ERS had programmed in the radio alias so panic button activations could be tracked, Tara Grigsby will check and report back. Dispatcher feedback has been mixed. There are things it makes easier, however it is more work to monitor additional channels when multiple things are going on at the same time. There are still departments that have not yet headed request to move non-essential traffic such as POV traffic and water shuttles off of the TAC channels to decongest radio traffic.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING

The next regular meeting is scheduled for December 18, 2023 at 10am, Cass County Central Dispatch Center.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

John O'Connor made a motion to adjourn which was seconded by Mike Dietrich. Approved unanimously on a motion duly made and seconded.

Respectfully submitted,

Rocky Buffum
E911 Board Secretary