

Cass County Public Safety Commission

Sheriff Darby McLaren, TAA 911 Director Rob Koppert, TAC
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Minutes

October 21, 2013

Board of Supervisor's Room – First Floor

<u>Member</u>	<u>Representing</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Gaylord Schelling	Cass County	X	
Mark Wedemeyer	Cass County		X
Steve Livengood	City of Atlantic	X	
Shawn Shouse	City of Atlantic	X	
Julie Adams	City of Griswold	X	
Tom Harris	City of Anita - Primary	X	
Jeff Bohnsack	City of Anita - Alternate		X

Staff present: Rob Koppert

Citizens present: Ryan Askeland, Ric Hanson, Tom Robinson, Dale Sunderman

Due to the length of the preceding Cass County Emergency Management Commission meeting, the Cass County Public Safety Commission meeting began 28 minutes later than advertised.

Chairperson Shawn Shouse opened the meeting at 5:58pm.

M/S/C Schelling / Adams to approve the agenda as published. Carried unanimously.

M/S/C Schelling / Harris to approve the September 2013 Minutes. Carried unanimously.

M/S/C Livengood / Schelling to approve the September financial statements and bills. Carried unanimously.

911 Director and TAC Rob Koppert presented his Monthly Hour and Work-log Report. There were no questions by the Commission. He updated the Commission on the training of Roxann Petersen and Dacee Stacy. Koppert also updated the Commission on the latest with the AFG grant. He reported that the final project had been completed. He advised he was waiting for the Atlantic Fire Department to file a yearly report, and that the recent federal government shutdown had caused a three to four week delay in completing the project. He also invited those that might be interested to attend the upcoming Iowa NENA conference on October 29th in Des Moines.

In business regarding the re-location of the communications center, Commission member Gaylord Schelling reported that an offer had been made to Dave Chase to purchase the Cambridge Law Firm building, located across the street from the courthouse to the southwest. As of his report tonight, Schelling advised that neither he nor Commission member Wedemeyer had received a reply or counter-offer from Chase on an offer that had been made. Commission member Adams asks Schelling when the board (Cass County Board of Supervisors) is going to stick with a building and go for it.

M/S/C Adams / Livengood to direct members Gaylord Schelling and Mark Wedemeyer (who represent the Cass County Board of Supervisors) to contact Dave Chase of the Cambridge Law Firm regarding the latest offer by the county and to secure a response from Chase and present it to the Cass County Board of Supervisors with the addition that the Cass County Public Safety Commission feels that is the ideal site for the 911 center. Carried unanimously.

The Commission also discussed the privatization of the 911 dispatch services. Commission member Schelling reported that the board of supervisors are considering participating in a conference call with IXP Corporation to determine the basic needs and see if it's even feasible for the board of supervisors to enter into an agreement with IXP Corporation for a study of the county, which would cost \$12,500.00. Schelling advised the privatization is being done at a couple of locations in the eastern United States, but not in the Midwest. He didn't have any information on when the conference call would take place but a few other Commission members expressed interest in participating or at least being present during the conference call.

On the topic of privatization, E911 Services Director Rob Koppert expressed his concern on the issue of privatization, specifically with how it was affecting his professional reputation in the state. He related to being asked by several other 911 center directors as to why the county was looking into the option of privatization and inquired if the reason was somehow related to Koppert's management of the center. Koppert was advised the investigation of privatization of the center was in no way related to his management of the center. Commission Chair Shouse stated he believed it is more of a space issue and that if (we) can't find a suitable location, then maybe outsourcing could be looked at as an option.

The Commission didn't make any formal action either way on the issue.

Commission member Livengood also reported to the Commission on a recent last minute tour of the law offices at 2410 East 7th Street. The building is for sale at \$198,000 but does have some issues. Commission member Julie Adams expressed her displeasure with not being informed of the tour of the building as she would have liked to have attended it. Apologies were offered to Adams by Gaylord Schelling and Rob Koppert, who explained this was a "kind of last minute" scheduled tour and that if there was further interest in the building, a more formal tour could be made.

There was no Old Business discussed.

In New Business, Cass County Auditor Dale Sunderman discussed issues with the monthly fund balance for the Cass County Public Safety Commission. Sunderman reported that the Commission is generally \$3,000 to \$4,000 in the red, and that the county fronts these additional funds from month to month. The fund is much like an escrow account that doesn't have a proper fund balance to meet the obligations of the Commission. In the past two years, the Commission has added two fulltime positions whose expenses have caused this deficit in the fund. Sunderman suggested maintaining the fund balance at a level of 10% of the yearly budget of the Commission. Several Commission members asked how this could be accomplished and Sunderman's suggestion was to bill an additional amount to each of the entities who belong to the Commission and that he would be able to instruct his staff to send out the proper billing and information. It was the consensus of the Commission to go along with this plan.

There were no public comments or concerns.

MSC Schelling / Adams to adjourn at 6:57pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Rob Koppert, TAC - Recording Secretary