

Cass County Public Safety Commission

Sheriff Bill Sage, TAA Jennifer Erickson, TAC
Cass County Courthouse
5 West 7th Street
Atlantic, Iowa 50022
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MINUTES

August 27, 2007

Members present: Dan Rossell, Steve Livengood, Chuck Kinen, Kern Miller, Bob Matthies
Staff present: Sheriff Bill Sage, Jennifer Erickson,
Citizens present: Dave Erickson

Chairperson Dan Rossell opened the meeting at 5:00 pm.

MSC Kinen/Livengood to approve the agenda. Carried unanimously.

MSC Kinen/Livengood to approve the minutes. Carried unanimously.

MSC Livengood/Matthies to approve the financial statement and bills. Carried unanimously.

TAC Jennifer Erickson and TAA Bill Sage reported on status of upcoming installation of the CAD system for the communications center by Shieldware and of the upcoming training on using the software.

In Old Business TAA Sage went over the severe weather policy pointing out the differences between the old plan versus the new plan that was put into effect on June 22, 2007. Commission member Livengood questioned Plan D which is a tornado warning that is locally initiated and the initial page to notify fire departments beginning with "The National Weather Service has issued...". The question was that the National Weather Service did not issue this warning but was called in by a local storm spotter and the wording of the page should be changed to state "A local weather spotter has spotted a tornado..." and include the location of the tornado when giving out page. Commission Member Miller had concerns of using the words "If Time Permits" in Plan C, D, E and F in that it is opening up the county for liability. TAA Sage stated there would be radio and phone records to show that the dispatcher was busy during the time in question and that the remainder of the plan could not be completed.

Miller advised that a public information statement needs to be made up to advise citizens that 911 is to be used for emergencies only due to the problems that occurred during the first tornado warning of the season when several citizens in Atlantic called 911 to check why the sirens were going off which prevented the dispatcher from completing the remainder of the tornado warning plan. EMA Coordinator and TAC will work on issuing public information statement. Livengood advised changes to Plan I-All Clear in that paragraphs 1-4 should be removed and paragraph 5 should be the only condition to remain where fire departments are notified that the warning has been allowed to expire. Miller further advised that "If Time Permits" should be taken out and use either/or or remove that part of the plan. Commission member Kinen/Miller advised that the County Attorney should look over the revisions that were made and the usage of "If Time Permits" and report back at next meeting.

In regards to emergency repair policy, the public safety commission will not have to draw up a policy for said emergency repairs. A three person committee was established by the 911 board consisting of the current 911 chairperson, the sheriff and a member of the board of supervisors to decide on emergency repairs to the communications center.

The next meeting was set for September 30, 2007 at 5:00 pm.

Kinen/Livengood to adjourn meeting. Carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted

Jennifer Erickson TAC

