

Cass County 911 Communications Center

Sheriff Larry Jones, TAA Rob Koppert, TAC
Cass County Courthouse
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MINUTES

November 28, 2005

Members present: Chuck Kinen, Don Volk, Dave Jones, Mike Waters and Jon Oakley.
Staff present: Rob Koppert
Citizens present:

Chairperson Chuck Kinen opened the meeting at 5:00pm.

MSC Waters/Jones to approve the agenda as published. Carried unanimously.

MSC Waters/Oakley to approve the October Minutes. Carried unanimously.

MSC Volk/Waters to approve the October financial statements and bills. Carried unanimously.

TAC Rob Koppert gave his report and updated the Commission personnel changes in the communications center. Ranae Krueger is currently going through on-the-job training, and per an agreement with the Cass County Board of Supervisors, part time dispatcher Leslie Lee will also be working part time in the jail with each entity paying ½ of her benefits. TAC Koppert also informed the Commission that various internet service providers were wanting to route emergency 911 calls from their clients to the non-emergency number. All communications centers in the state are not allowing this at this time. The FCC has mandated that internet based telephone services be routed to the existing 911 trunks and Iowa is working on a plan to use the cellular 911 trunks to accomplish this.

In Old Business, the Commission tabled further action on the HVAC problems until Spring

In New Business, the Commission discussed the proposed FY06-07 budget. TAC Koppert presented a proposed budget of \$217,265.00 which represents a slightly more than 5.5 percent increase due largely to insurance and wage adjustments. He also indicated that he entered wage adjustments of 3.5 percent to make up for the lost ½ percent that the dispatchers didn't receive last year. Last year, the Commission was the first to adopt a budget, with a wage increase of 2.5 percent. Later, non-union courthouse employees were given a 3 percent increase. He also indicated he had not received a wage increase for several years and proposed a 3.3 percent increase for himself.

Commission member Don Volk stated he would like to see a budget as close to zero percent increase as possible. TAC Koppert pointed out that the current budget was a zero percent increase budget and he didn't think it could be done two years in a row without causing some hardship. Volk and Commission Chair Chuck Kinen both objected to the 3.5 percent increase in wages for the dispatchers saying that would cause other departments to seek the same rate.

Volk began discussions of regionalizing law enforcement in the county. He suggested that the Atlantic Police Department be merged with the Cass County Sheriff's Office, and the same could be done with the cities of Anita and Griswold, since both just have one man departments. This was something he could see would save a considerable amount of money for both the cities involved and the county

The Commission discussed the date of the next meeting, since it would fall on the day after Christmas. All opted to meet one-week early on December 19, 2005.

There were no comments or concerns brought by any citizens.

MSC Waters/Oakley to adjourn at 5:24pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rob Koppert, TAC
Recording Secretary