

Minutes May 9, 2000

Members Present: Dave Jones, Chuck Kinen, Lynn Crozier, Don Volk, and John O'Brien
Members Absent: Griswold Representative
Staff Present: Rob Koppert, Jeff Richter
Others Present: None

Chairman Chuck Kinen called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.

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

MSC Volk/Jones to approve the April minutes. Carried unanimously.

MSC Crozier/Jones to approve the April 2000 Financial Statement. Carried unanimously.

TAC Koppert discussed the hiring of second part-time dispatcher. TAC Koppert stated many of the applicants were not returning phone calls to interview and suggested taking applications through Iowa Workforce Development. The Commission agreed to allow TAC Koppert to check into all available possibilities.

The Commission tabled the Hours of Work Limitations Policy pending further investigation.

In New Business, dispatcher Jeff Richter had several questions regarding the recently adopted policy of allowing the on-duty dispatcher to call in a second dispatcher in times of high radio and phone traffic. Mr. Richter's chief question was why the on-duty dispatcher couldn't make the choice of who to call in, based upon proximity of dispatchers residing to the communications center. TAC Koppert stated the choice of who to call in, was outlined in the Union contract, and the policy was written to correspond to and not conflict with the Union contract. Mr. Richter stated he felt the Union contract didn't apply to emergency situations such as those presented in the policy, and that when a situation arises for a second dispatcher to be called in, the first to be called live well outside of the city limits of Atlantic and would take a while to arrive in the communications center, and that dispatchers living within the city limits could be in the communications center much quicker. TAC Koppert was asked by the Commission to contact the Union regarding this issue.

TAC Koppert presented the Commission with a letter signed by himself and TAA Sheriff Larry Jones, which stressed the need for a second radio console in the communications center, and the potential liability that exists currently. The Commission had several questions for TAC Koppert, including backup facilities should the communications center fail, what happens to the radio traffic, what happens to the telephone traffic, etc. TAC Koppert stated if the 911 trunks fail, 911 calls are diverted to Montgomery County. If the radio fails, the police department can handle some traffic, but cannot page fire or EMS squads. If the telephone lines fail, antennas have been placed on the roof of the communications center to allow the use of cellular phones in the communications center, and there is also a back up phone should the internal PBX systems fail.

MSC Jones/O'Brien to replace the primary console's touch screen. Carried unanimously.

MSC Jones/Volk for TAC Koppert to write a contingency or backup policy should the communications center fail, with regards to incoming telephone and radio traffic. Carried unanimously.

MSC Crozier/O'Brien to allow TAC Koppert to get firm estimates on the second console, and place it on the agenda on for the meeting on June 20, 2000. Carried unanimously.

MSC Jones/O'Brien to adjourn at 5:42pm. Carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rob Koppert, Secretary, TAC