

MENOMINEE COUNTY 9-1-1 GOVERNING BOARD

MINUTES

Date: August 15, 2006

Location: Stephenson City Hall

Present: Dan Hammerberg, James Gardiner, John Starzynski, Don Wojakowski, Stacie Kubick Snively, Arnie Organ, John Kuklinski, Kep Anderson, Mark Petersen and Sharline Corrigan.

Excused: Greg Furmanski

Absent: Jeff Jones, Robin Halfaday, Greg Nast and Karen Provost.

Others: Debra Wormwood, 9-1-1 Director, Rose and Jeff Gagne; Faithorn Rescue Squad

Previous Meeting Minutes: A motion to approve the minutes from the april 18, 2006 meeting was made by Arnie Organ, and seconded by John Kuklinski. Motion carried.

Approval of Agenda: A motion was made to accept the Agenda with the addition of f. CUPPAD Mapping, G. Alltel Towers, and H. Helicopter communications channel, by John Starzynski, and second by Don Wojakowski. Motion carried.

Public Comment: Jeff Gagne, Faithorn Rescue Squad, expressed a concern thatn on June 8, 2006 the wrong ambulance was dispatched on a person injury accident in Gourley Township because Mid County Rescue Squad was on another call.

800 Radio Coverage Testing: Director Wormwood advised that she had scheduled testing with the State of Michigan for the 800 Mhz radio for our county. Our County system is still the primary radio system in Menominee County, but radio interoperability has peaked interest in the 800 Mhz system, and with the number of radios being purchased, it is important to get as much information as possible so everyone will be aware of the strengths and weaknesses of the system and what is required to make it work in Menominee County. The testing will be conducted the week of October 2, 2006. She is waiting for additional information from the State regarding the hours and what is expected.

At least six (6) people are needed each day to conduct the test. Everyone involved will have to attend an orientation for one (1) hour on that Monday, and commit to at least one full day of testing. Marge Bramschreiber, Emergency Management, has volunteered to help with the testing. A copy of the MPSCS (Michigan's Public Safety Communications System) Coverage Testing Information was provided to those who did not receive the email asking for people to help with the testing. If there is not enough volunteers we will have to cancel the testing. Director Wormwood advised we are also looking to make a list of specific test locations in buildings that are frequented by public safety. This information is covered in the Testing Information Book. Several locations were mentioned. Stacie Kubick Snively said that

Stephenson Police could help with testing in the area covered by Stephenson Fire Department, and Mark Petersen said he would be available for testing in the city of Menominee. Director Wormwood will be attending a symposium at NMU on Thursday regarding the MPSCS.

Homeland Security/Interoperability Funds: Director Wormwood advised that next year's Homeland Security allocation was awarded by Region. The U.P. is Region 8, and is comprised of a representative and an alternate from each of the fifteen (15) counties. Region 8 representatives have been meeting to determine how the allocation will be spent in each of the eleven (11) categories defined by the state. A copy of the list was provided to the Governing Board members present. These figures are preliminary, and can be adjusted as necessary. Marge Bramschreiber, Emergency Management is the Menominee County representative, and Director Wormwood is the alternate. The next meeting is September 8th in Marquette.

The \$22,000 Interoperability money was used to make improvements to county radio equipment, which included a new antenna at the Sheriff Department (present one was over 20 years old), replacement radio equipment for 9-1-1 center back up at the State Police post, updated and replaced equipment at the hospital voting sited to improve local law enforcement coverage and improve paging coverage. There were a couple projects suggested that did not qualify. The remainder of the money went toward portable radios in the county.

9-1-1 Funding: Menominee County has not raised the land line 9-1-1 operational surcharge since 1999. We are currently at \$2.38 total operational surcharge. The maximum charge for a land line in Michigan is \$4.00. For the 2004-2005 budget year it was necessary to use approximately \$46,000 of the fund balance to operate 9-1-1. With the number of cellular phones and the number of people switching to digital phone or VoIP, we have seen a decrease in the land line surcharge.

The ETSC (Emergency Telephone Service Committee) has formed a committee to explore funding mechanisms for 9-1-1 statewide, and provide parity among the devices that access 9-1-1.

LEIN/Talon Desktop: The Menominee Police Department is going to change the way they access LEIN from the CTC Bridge for LEIN which goes through the Point of Presence (POP) at the Sheriff Department via a telephone line that we share, to the Talon desktop which will provide access through an internet connection.

The telephone line that we currently share with Menominee Police Department costs \$176.00 per month, or \$88.00 each. Menominee Police Department has the contract with AT&T for this line, which does not expire until 09/23/07. For them to break the contract, it would cost half of the total on the remaining months. The PD has indicated that they will be switching over regardless, and would fulfill their obligation until the contract expires if we chose not to switch now.

The connection for Talon Desktop is \$600 per year for each license that is purchased. We would need one license.

I have checked with various dispatch agencies that currently use Talon Desktop, and the advantages will far outweigh the disadvantages. I would like the Governing Board to make a recommendation that we pay half of the cost of the monthly charge for the city to break their contract, and switch over to the Talon Desktop.

If there were twelve (12) months left in the contract, it would cost \$1,056.00 to break the contract. The cost for 9-1-1 would be half of that amount or \$528.00. We would only pay an additional \$72.00 for the year to make the switch now.

A motion was made by John Starzynski to break the AT&T contract and switch to Talon Desktop with Menominee PD, seconded by Jim Gardiner. Motion carried. Mark Petersen abstained.

91-1 Software and Equipment Upgrades: Positron representatives were at Central in July and recommended that we update the Power 9-1-1 and Power Map software. A preliminary cost for the upgrade was received, however there are some questions on the expenses and they will be getting back with Director Wormwood. This issue will be tabled to the next meeting.

CUPPAD Mapping: A copy of the proposal from CUPPAD for updating and maintenance on the digital map was provided to the members present. The member hourly price is \$25.50 per hour. Director Wormwood recommended that we stay with CUPPAD for mapping, and that she would work with them in getting the necessary corrections done. A motion was made by Sharline Corrigan to recommend entering into a maintenance agreement with CUPPAD for the digital map, second by John Kuklinski, motion carried.

Alltel Towers: Director Wormwood advised that today she obtained the contact number for Alltel to check further into possibly putting equipment on their towers to improve communications in the Cedar River area and northern end of the county.

Helicopter Communications Channel: Kep Anderson advised we have not resolved the issue of a radio channel to communicate with Eagle 3 if they need to respond to a scene in Menominee County. After much discussion, it was decided that the fire ground channel 154.295 would be the most logical choice. Kep Anderson will check with Eagle 3 and get back to Director Wormwood.

Correspondence: None

Other Matters: The next meeting date is October 17, 2006.

Public Comment: None

The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Hammerberg, Chairperson