

MENOMINEE COUNTY 9-1-1 GOVERNING BOARD

MINUTES

Date: February 17, 2009

Location: Stephenson City Hall

Present: Don Wojakowski, Jim Gardiner, Mark Petersen, James Furlong, Jeff Jones, John Starzynski, Arnie Organ, William DeVoe, Kenny Marks, Jeremy Vandermissen, and Sharline Corrigan.

Others: Debra Wormwood, 9-1-1 Director.

Previous Meeting Minutes: A motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting was made by James Furlong, second by Arnie Organ. Motion carried.

Approval of Agenda: A motion was made to accept the Agenda by John Starzynski, second by Mark Petersen. Motion carried.

Public Comment: None

Introduction of new Governing Board Members: James Furlong, Menominee County Board of Commissioners replaced Greg Furmanski. William DeVoe, Menominee County Fire Fighters Association replaced Dan Hammerberg, David Grovdahl, Paramedic Services, replaced Kep Anderson, and Kenny Marks, Sheriff advised he would be replacing Greg Nast representing the Sheriff Department.

Election of Officers:

Chairperson: Jim Gardiner was nominated for Chairperson. There were no other nominations. Mark Petersen made a motion that nominations be closed and a unanimous ballot be cast for Jim Gardiner. Second by James Furlong. Motion passed.

Vice Chairperson: Mark Petersen was nominated for Vice Chairperson. There were no other nominations. Arnie Organ made a motion that the nominations be closed and a unanimous ballot be cast for Jim Gardiner. Second by James Furlong. Motion passed.

Secretary/Treasurer: Sharline Corrigan was nominated for Secretary/Treasurer. There were no other nominations. William DeVoe made a motion that

nominations be closed and a unanimous ballot be cast for Sharline Corrigan. Second by Mark Petersen. Motion passed.

9-1-1 Plan: The 9-1-1 Plan established the 15 member Governing Board. There has been a quorum issue for the past couple years and this has discouraged active Governing Board members from attending meetings. We need to discuss how we can get the most accomplished at the quarterly meetings by either changing the quorum or reducing the number of Governing Board members so we are able to conduct business. Discussion was held over

the quorum options. It was decided it would be a good idea to set the meetings quarterly and set the dates ahead of time.

It was decided that meetings will be on the third Tuesday: April 21, 2009, July 21, 2009, October 20, 2009 and January 19, 2010.

No other changes will be made regarding membership or quorum.

U.P. Authority: The fifteen U.P. Counties have established the Upper Peninsula 9-1-1 Authority. One of the intentions is to get more money from grants, because we're showing cooperation between communities. One grant has already been received by 911 Authority setting up the capability for interoperability between 9-1-1 centers. Another goal is to be able to work on plans, policies & procedures together, so there is continuity across the U.P.

Activities may include, but are not limited to:

1. Applying for grants on behalf of the UP 911 Authority and/or the participating municipalities, participating Dispatch Centers and Participating Agencies.
2. Assisting the participating municipalities in the identification of primary and secondary public safety answering points in County 9-1-1 Plans.
3. Assisting participating municipalities, participating Dispatch Centers and Participating Agencies in the development and sharing of standard 9-1-1 related documents, including but not limited to county 9-1-1 plans, millage and surcharge financing, equipment purchases, dispatch protocols, dispatch provider agreements, legal opinions regarding 9-1-1 issues, radio frequency applications and tower space lease agreements.
4. Joint negotiations and communication with communication equipment and service suppliers and federal and state agencies.
5. Identification of joint 9-1-1 related problems and development of regional and local solutions.

6. If its Board and the affected participating municipalities approve in the future, operating a 9-1-1 call answering and dispatch center(s) and serving as primary and/or secondary PSAP.

Debra was appointed by the County Board of Commissioners to a three year term. The first meeting was held on January 30, 2009 in Escanaba. UPCAP is assisting in the organization and establishment of the UP 9-1-1 Authority. We worked on the bylaws and election of officers Debra was elected to the office of Treasurer.

In the event Debra cannot attend a meeting she'd like to have alternative in place. Sharline Corrigan and Jeremy Vandermissen volunteered as number 2 and number 3, respectfully. Debra will follow up to see how many alternates the 9-1-1 Authority By-Laws allow and then it must go to the Menominee County Board of Commissioners for approval.

Funding: sundown was to end Feb 28th. The law was to assign 911 surcharges on each device. A request for rates different than those earmarked by law was made for \$2.12 and approved by the Emergency Telephone Service Committee and submitted to the MPSC. Telecommunications got involved and our rate was cut to \$1.30. The new legislation has set funding at .42 per device with board approval, and up to \$3.00 per device with voter approval. Our County Board won't be setting up a special election this year, but it will be placed on the ballot next year and take effect in 2011 if approved. Packet with current legislation provided to Board Members. For now we can continue to collect the \$1.30 per device. State assesses .19 surcharge and they divide up the money. The County Board has designated \$72,000 towards our 2008/2009 budget.

Red Cross: The Red Cross has purchased two 5 Watt radios to be used at a disaster. They have asked authority to have use of two frequencies for on scene communications. At this time Debra doesn't know of any available frequencies. Marinette County has authorized use of their Rescue Squad channel, County Coordinate, Fire Ground, DNR, Mark I, and the Disaster channel. We will have to think about what could possibly be provided to them.

A memo from the Red Cross was also distributed that they will only respond to a scene at the request of a ranking Fire Department Officer, a ranking Law Enforcement Officer of the County Emergency Coordinator through the Dispatch Center. They will require that the jurisdiction agency has been on the scene for at least three hours prior to the request and that they have a minimum of 3 more hours on the scene from the time of the request. Evidently, an issue with Emergency Rescue Services generated this letter to all Menominee County Ambulance Services over who can request their services.

Trac Fone: A request was received from Trac Fone for approval by 9-1-1 to provide low income people with cell phones that would allow them to call 9-1-1

and 68 free minutes. Two different certification examples used by other Michigan Counties were provided (Oakland County legal services and Doug VanEssen, Attorney used by counties for 911 legal work). Both of these examples have a modification of what was requested by Trac Fone. Debra recommended that this service be approved. A motion was made by Arnie Organ and seconded by John Starzynski to send the approval letter to Trac Fone for certification. Motion carried.

Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD): We currently use Powerphone program. Now having problems recertifying & getting new people certified. We would like to look at using Priority Dispatch for EMD. Brown County uses this program and they hold yearly training and two recert classes each year. Classes are held in Green Bay and training funds can be used towards this certification. Would like to send a team to check this program out. Powerphone has limited locations on classes and we do not have the updates to the new CPR standards. Three part-timers not EMD trained. Motioned to allow exploration of Priority Dispatch Program by Jeff Jones, second by James Furlong, Motion carried.

OTHER MATTERS:

Debra will get an updated list of Governing Board Members. Greg Nast is being replaced by Sheriff Ken Marks. Extension #143, cell# 715-923-7209. James Furlong cell phone number 715-587-7288.

Send a letter to Dan noting appreciation of years of service.

Shar is requesting a letter be sent to all agencies regarding proper use of radio's; following inappropriate comments made to Hermansville Rescue over the radio. Debra would like to have a joint meeting between rescue squads to talk about response areas. Shar will help set up such a meeting – central location.

Public Comment: None.

Adjournment: Motion made by John Starzynski to adjourn meeting, second by James Furlong. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

James Gardiner, Chairperson