

MASON-OCEANA 911 BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
January 15, 2020

PRESENT: Mark Barnett Laude Hartrum Bob Walker
 Kim Cole Jim Herrema Jeff White
 Jim Duram Chuck Lange
 Greg Frick Craig Mast

ABSENT: Matt Bryant

STAFF: Ray Hasil
 Todd Myers
 Connie Blaauw

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: Meeting called to order by Barnett at 10:12 a.m.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION: None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Agenda was presented as part of the Board packet. Hasil requested to change April and May Board meeting dates under new business.

Motion by Lange and supported by Mast to approve the agenda with the above changes. Voice Vote. Motion Carried.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING: December Board minutes were presented with the Board packet. It was noted that Barnett's name was spelled incorrectly under Meeting called to order by Barnett.

Motion by Lange and supported by Mast to accept the December 18, 2019 Board Meeting Minutes with the above correction. Voice Vote. Motion Carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Walker presented the Treasurer's report for December, 2019.

Total Revenues: \$15,896.73

Total Expenditures: \$254,052.82

Fund Balance as of December 31, 2019: \$1,014,677.79

Motion by Cole and supported by Duram to accept the Treasurer's report and to approve the payment of claims for January in the amount of \$217.80. Voice Vote. Motion Carried.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Personnel

- Patrick Soper is in step 2 of training and doing well.
- Center personnel have been rocked by illness and have gone well above and beyond to ensure we maintain minimum staffing. Many have fallen ill twice. Staff has cancelled plans, cancelled vacation days, gone home early so they could come back in hours later, and everything in-between.

Approved: 02/19/2020

Collaboration Projects

- Mid Mitt- all parties have signed the intergov. Gratiot and Lake come online this year.
- CAD- our kickoff meeting took place last week.

Other Updates

- Console Replacement- we are scheduled for installation on 2/18 & 2/19.
- 800 MHz Paging- the last few weeks have consumed much of Ray and Todd's time and we went live on Monday 1/13 at noon. Overall, there have been a few missteps but overall things have gone well. Our efforts are now focused on pager re-programming and getting trade-in pagers from agencies.
- 911 Plan Update- no update.
- Future radio projects:
 - Addition of TTA's to all area towers- (update per communications committee)
 - Path diversity connecting Bucks Corner site to Ludington- no update
 - Directional Hamlin improvement from the Ludington site- no update
 - Free Soil TTA install- no update
- 911 Millage- a renewal would need to be on the August 2020 ballot. Language is due 4PM on Friday, May 15, 2020. Ray confirmed there are no other millage renewals on the August 2020 ballot for Mason Co, but there are 4 millage renewals on the August 2020 ballot for Oceana Co. To meet the May deadline, it needs to go through county board approvals so we need to be looking for a January 15, 2020 911 Board approval for it to be to the County Boards by February 2020 and to the Clerk offices by March/April 2020.

OLD BUSINESS:

Millage renewal for the August 2020 ballot

Hasil stated he went back to the minutes regarding our original 2014 millage, at that time the Board motion was to request a 6 year millage in the amount of 0.14 mils from both Mason and Oceana Counties and also give the Director the authority to meet with both County Clerk's offices for approval of the ballot language and to correct or amend the ballot wording as directed by County officials. Hasil is asking for the same approval. Walker stated Hasil should check with the County Assessors for the language to override any Headlee rollback. After further discussion a motion was heard.

Motion by Walker and supported by White to approve Mason Oceana 911 Board to seek a renewal millage at the rate of 0.14 mil at the August 2020 election. Also, give Director Hasil the authority to work with both County Assessors for approval of the ballot language. Voice Vote. Motion Carried.

Compensation for Board members to attend meetings

Walker stated he would like to take his previous motion off the table for consideration. Lange stated he is open to a discussion, as other boards that he sits reimburse their members, Walker then made a motion.

Motion by Walker and supported by Lange to allow any Mason-Oceana 911 Board member who is not eligible for compensation by any other source, to collect a per diem of \$45. per meeting along with mileage to and from their home in Mason or Oceana County. Payment will be made quarterly, upon submission of an expense claim and approval by the Board of Directors.

Lange asked Hasil if he made contact with our legal representative to discuss this issue. Hasil stated he received an email from our attorney stating there is no issue with paying per diem and mileage to Board members attending meetings. After further discussion a vote was taken.

Roll Call Vote: Barnett – yes; Cole – yes; Duram – yes; Frick – sustain; Hartrum – yes; Herrema – yes; Lange – yes; Mast – yes; Walker – yes; White – yes. Not present Bryant.

NEW BUSINESS:

Barnett stated there is questions regarding Geo Files with Grant Township/Village of Rothbury, and requested our Communications Committee to address the issue. Barnett asked that Walker attend this meeting to have his concerns addressed.

Election of new Officers

Barnett made the nomination of Lt. White as Chairman, Cole remain as Vice Chairman, Lange as Treasurer and Frick as Secretary. Barnett stated he has asked the above their willingness to be nominated as well as the persons in the current positions, Bryant and Walker, being informed of possible change. Walker stated he believes this is a possible violation of Open Meeting Act under our By Laws Article IV. Walker stated under Article IV of the By Laws it states: "Officers of the Executive Board shall be elected by the Board during its first meeting following the annual installment of the Boards of Commissioners of both Mason and Oceana Counties, or at such time as needed during the calendar year to fill vacancies." Walker stated Oceana County have their Commissioners installed and sworn in every other year. Lange stated Mason County installs their Commissioners annually but they are sworn in every other year. Walker requested that our Executive Board remain the same at this time and a new Chairman is elected at the time our current Chairman retires in April. Frick stated it's his understanding that our current Secretary (Bryant) has chosen to resign his position due to new employment and his availability. After further discussion a motion was heard.

Motion by Walker and supported by Frick to nominate Frick as Secretary. Barnett asked if there were any other nominations for the Secretary position, hearing none.

Motion by Hartrum and supported by Mast to close the nomination of Secretary.

Voice Vote. Motion Carried.

Barnett asked for further discussion on the election of Chairman, Vice Chair and Treasurer.

Motion by Walker and supported by Duram to have no elections this year and have the Board address our By Laws.

Hartrum stated he questions the intent of the wording of our By Laws and stated are practice has been to have annual elections regardless of what our By Laws state. Lange stated Mason County conducts their installments annually so they can change Chairman as needed. Walker stated we may want to change our By Laws removing "Annual installment of the Boards of Commissioners of both Mason and Oceana Counties". Mast stated there is some talk of the Oceana County possibly going to 4-year terms, if they do that, we would not want to go four years on this Board before being able to make changes to the Executive Board. Walker stated he sees the benefit of changes to the Treasurer between Mason and Oceana County. Barnett asked how long Walker has been Treasurer. Walker stated he believes 5 years. Duram asked if we should re-visit the By Laws for needed changes. Herrema stated proposed amendments can be made today but must be mailed to each member at least 10 days prior to the meeting where a vote is taken. Lange stated the word "annual" is in our By Laws and we have treated the elections that way in past years, Mast agreed with Lange. Hartrum stated we could hold off on the elections, address our By Laws the revisit the election discussion.

Motion by Walker and supported by Lange to take no action on the election at this time.

Further discussion was held.

Lange rescinds his support on above motion. Walker rescinds above motion to take no action at this time.

Discussion continued.

Motion by Lange and supported by Walker to remove from ARTICLE IV, Executive Board, By Laws, the following words: “following the annual installment of the Boards of Commissioners of both Mason and Oceana Counties”

Discussion continued. Barnett asked Lange and Walker how frequently their County Boards appoint a Commissioner to the 911 Board. Lange stated annually, Walker stated the appointment remains each year until a replacement is desired. Hasil stated if we make the above change to Article IV, we would not be able to make any changes after today until our first meeting in 2021.

Sub-Motion by Herrema and supported by Mast to table the 2020 Executive elections until the By Law changes have been addressed at our February meeting. Voice Vote. Motion Carried. Walker and Duram both opposed this motion.

Roll Call Vote on Motion by Lange and supported by Walker to remove from ARTICLE IV, Executive Board, By Laws, the following words: “following the annual installment of the Boards of Commissioners of both Mason and Oceana Counties”.

Roll Call Vote: Barnett – yes; Cole – yes; Duram – yes; Frick – yes; Hartrum – yes; Herrema – yes; Lange – yes; Mast – yes; Walker – yes; White – yes. Not present Bryant.

Hasil requested to change April and May Board meeting dates due to conflicts in the schedule. Both meetings will be moved up one week, April’s meeting will be Wednesday, the 8th and May’s meeting will be Wednesday, the 13th.

Barnett stated he wished to address Walker’s concerns regarding violation of the Open Meetings Act. Barnett stated he had spoken one-on-one to potential 911 Executive Board candidates to see if they would be willing to serve on 911’s Executive Board. He also spoke one-on-one with existing Executive Board members regarding potential changes. Barnett stated he did not believe a violation of the Open Meetings Act had occurred. Discussion was held and no action resulted.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

NEXT SCHEDULED meeting will be February 19, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. at the Mason-Oceana 911 Conference room, located at 9160 N. Oceana Drive, Pentwater.

Respectfully Submitted,

Connie Blaauw, Secretary