

MASON-OCEANA 911 BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
April 26, 2023

PRESENT: Kim Cole Jody Hartley Troy Maloney
Jim Coleman Laude Hartrum Craig Mast
Brad Fritcher Jim Herrema Tom Trenner
Craig Hardy Chris Jones Ryan Schiller

STAFF: Ray Hasil
Todd Myers
Chris Ernst
Connie Blaauw

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: Meeting called to order by Chairman Mast at 10:00 a.m.

GUEST/CITIZEN PARTICIPATION: Garry McKeen

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Agenda was presented as part of the Board packet.

Motion by Trenner and supported by Fritcher to approve the agenda, adding CIT Training for Dispatcher to New Business, per request of Hartrum. Voice Vote. Motion Carried.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

March 2023 minutes were presented as part of the Board packet.

Motion by Cole and supported by Maloney to accept the March 15th, Board Meeting Minutes. Voice Vote. Motion Carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Hartley presented the Treasurer's report for March 31, 2023.

Total Revenues – March 31, 2023: \$245,206.94

Total Expenditures – March 31, 2023: \$124,414.69

Fund Balance as of – March 31, 2023 \$ 1,788,255.91

Motion by Hartrum and supported by Trenner to accept the March Treasurer's report and approve the payment of claims for April 2023 in the amount of \$195.39. Voice Vote. Motion Carried.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS: none

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Personnel

- National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week was April 9-15. Chris, Todd and Connie did a particularly good job to make it a special week for staff. I appreciate everything they (and other agencies) did to recognize the difficult job our staff does every day.
- Full-time employee Cristine Ortwine completed her training shortly after our last 91 Board meeting.
- Two other part-time employees are progressing as expected. One is on track to complete her training just in time for summer.
- Ray presented at Michigan's annual APCO/NENA conference in Kalamazoo. His presentation was about Michigan's Communications Unit Work Group, which Ray has been Vice-Chair since 2015 and Chair since

early 2022. The presentation centered on Michigan's efforts to begin training our Public Safety Telecommunicators on the NIMS/ICS Incident Tactical Dispatcher position.

Collaboration Projects

- **Lake County CAD-** Lake Co was provided a brief summary on how Mason-Oceana 911 arrived at their proposal cost. Lake is actively engaging with other 911 centers to explore joining other county CAD systems.
- **Dune Community Meeting Date-** this year's Dune Communities meeting is set for Thursday, June 15 at 10:00 AM at the Oceana Co Services Building in Hart.

Radio Communications Updates

- **Lakeshore Coverage-** an analysis and summary of options to enhance coverage along the shores of Lake Michigan will be released to the 911 Board this morning. There is no clear-cut recommendation. There are a few options but all require capital to build out alternative radio or wireless systems up and down our Lake Michigan lakeshores.
- **Radio Encryption on Law Enforcement Talkgroups-** our 4 radio consoles were scheduled to have encryption installed in March but had to be pushed back to April. The consoles are being upgraded today. On Monday, April 17, our encryption plan was approved by Michigan's Encryption Work Group. Oceana County Sheriff's Office is expected to soon be ordering enough radios that will allow them to be ready for the switch. At our next Communications Committee meeting (not yet scheduled), it will be my recommendation to recommend a flat \$1,500 be reimbursed for every new local and county law enforcement radio purchased with ADP/DES/AES encryption, as well as multikey encryption. Both are needed to switch to an upgraded version of the software-based, free (but weak) ADP encryption that we are planning to start with. At our last Board meeting, Ray was asked if ADP encryption will still be the federal standard in 5-10 years; while the answer is impossible to definitively predict, there are no future standards on the horizon. State agencies that use encryption currently use DES even though AES has been available for years. Although AES will certainly be replaced someday, it looks to be around for at least a decade or more.
- **Carr FD Paging-** Carr Fire Chief Bruce Burke contacted Ray regarding a Lake Co 911 announcement to Lake Co FDs that they are switching to 800 paging in 2024. Since Mason-Oceana went live on 800 paging, Mason-Oceana calls Lake Co to tone Carr FD via VHF for responses in Mason Co because 800 coverage in much of their area is weak at best. Ray is working with Bruce and Lake Co to ensure Carr can receive pages in 2024 and beyond.

Other Updates

- **Audit-** our annual audit has begun and Connie has been busy supplying information and documents required for the audit.
- **MCTOA-** Ray attended the Mason Co Township Officials Association meeting on April 20.
- **IWCE-** Ray attended the International Wireless Communications Expo in late March. There is a lot of buzz around Push-To-Talk (PTT) technologies. PTT integrating with traditional Land Mobile Radio (LMR) systems is the future of public safety communications, and the MPSCS is actively upgrading their Wave app to a 3GPP industry standard platform. In the next few years, I believe there will be the capability to use an APX NEXT radio that can seamlessly hop between LMR and internet connections via mobile data and Wi-Fi but the cost to purchase devices capable of this, coupled with various subscription fees could make this an expensive option.
- **State Reporting-** 911 submitted all State 911 required annual reports, including letters from both county Boards of Commissioners to continue our \$2.09 local telephone surcharge.
- **Facility upgrades**
 - **Garage-** we are working to get apron concrete completed.

- **Sewer Grate-** we are looking to replace the blacktop and concrete around the sewer grate with a long-term fix. The blacktop and concrete around the grate continues to recede and less expensive fixes have not fixed the problem.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Lakeshore Coverage Analysis

Hasil gave a summary of where we stand today and stated he would continue to give any updates as new information come available.

Two employees request their HSA funds for the remainder of the year to be released.

Motion by Hartrum and supported by Hartley to approve the release of HSA funds to the requesting employees. Voice Vote. Motion Carried.

CIT Training for Dispatchers

Hartrum stated that Operations Manager Chris Ernst and Dispatcher Supervisor Stacy Gregwer have completed the on-line training course. Per Hartrum the State is working on standard SOP's. The idea is that any non-urgent caller would be transferred to a 988 suicidal hotline without Law Enforcement being sent. Our local CMH is not for this procedure. Hartrum would like our TAC Committee to discuss further.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am.

NEXT SCHEDULED meeting will be May 17, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. at the Mason-Oceana 911 Conference room, located at 9160 N. Oceana Drive, Pentwater.

Respectfully Submitted,

Connie Blaauw,
Secretary