

911 Special Board Meeting Minutes

June 22, 2016

Meeting Called to Order at 1:04 PM by Chair Bean.

Present: Bean, Boettcher, Dawson, Drollinger, Meyers, Sayre, Trumble, Bargy

Absent: Thompson

Guests: Jessica Spindler from TeleRad, Michael Gank, Laura Stanek, Pete Vandenberg, Bob Wilson.

*Motion by Sayre, supported by Drollinger to approve the agenda as presented. **Motion Carried Unanimously.***

Public Comment – Bob Wilson is concerned with the repeaters vs. 800 and TeleRad's explanation that we could not get licensing. Spindler explained that it is hard to get for available radio frequencies licensing for VHF but not impossible.

Bob Wilson was concerned over the 911 addressing center line to cut across a road. This is very confusing for responders because the road numbers will start going down in one direction and once the center line is met the numbers begin to increase.

Bob Wilson was concerned that there are a lot of houses are not posting their 911 number which is also confusing responders

New Business

- **MCT Project:** Bean spoke at County Commissioners meeting about the mobile computer terminals as did others. He would like to bring it back to the 911 Board for clarification and coordination. There were concerns that there wasn't funding for the Mancelona Tower and MCT's. They have had meeting with Verizon on data requirements and pricing.
 - ✓ Drollinger was concerned about the connection to the County network.
 - ✓ Gank explained that it will be tied to dispatch and not the county building.
 - ✓ Bargy stated that the quote provided is information only, not a project. 988k was used for a forecast. Actual 2015 funds were only 788k due to the recession of the late 2000's. Her questions are: "What is fund balance this year? What % is on hand is felt to be comfortable? What about health insurance and salary increases? What is the projected operating budget? What is the initial cost for the MCT project? Are there phases? What is a unit and what does it include? What are the maintenance costs? How has this project changed since it was originally proposed? Are all the fire departments and law enforcement teams on board and do they understand the costs associated with it?"
 - ✓ Gank asked that we start this process from scratch to address the questions. Drollinger agreed.
 - ✓ Vangenberg added that it is nice for fire, he sees a greater use for law enforcement.
 - ✓ Bargy stated that she wishes to see a good picture painted. How much, what and for who. She would also like to know the status for NextGen 911 from the 2014 budget. That was a priority over MCT's and has not been done, nor has Orchard Hill tower improvements.

- ✓ Gank added that Orchard Hill is going out of favor. The Orchard hill site was slated to upgrade and radio coverage and Mobile Radio Data as well. Without Mobile Radio Data and the restriction from the Airport Zoning Orchard Hill Should be revisited.
- ✓ Drollinger said that with the improvements to aircards, radios are not the preferred choice. Grand Traverse County has abandoned UHF and went completely to 800 mhz.
- ✓ Boettcher asked if there will be negative effects for dispatch is some used MCT's and some did not.
- ✓ Gank stated that there is no issue. Those with MCT's will just receive more information.
- ✓ Bean said that there are shortfalls with any program, but that he advocates for 800 mhz pagers.
- ✓ Sayre added that at \$1500 per portable radio, just equipping the chiefs in his department will cost over \$4500 and they cannot afford that.

It was noted that Kalkaska is patching. It is very time consuming with a 3 to 5 second lag time on both ends. This can add up to 10 seconds in addition to the amount of talk time - when no one else can talk.

Further, Gank, Drollinger and Dawson will meet to address the MCT's.

- ✓ Drollinger asked if we should even spend the additional funds on the Mancelona Tower upgrades.
- ✓ Bargy asked about the fact that 800 radios will not be supported after 2018-2019?
- ✓ Meyers suggested that a CIP be created for 911.
- ✓ Drollinger added that technology changes too fast to make one practical.
- ✓ Boettcher agrees that a plan is needed while noting that it will need constant updating.
- ✓ Bargy asked for a road map.
- ✓ Stanek suggests that the plan be built locally and not from the county to the locals.
- ✓ Drollinger stated that when a signal mapping was done on Adam E, it worked well. There are several spots in Milton Township that neither E nor W worked.

Bean asked if there was consensus to move away from 800 and beef up the towers.

Signal Mapping - Anritsu

Drollinger spoke with Anritsu and physical mapping at \$2500 per day with 2 days needed. While it has been done by TeleRad, this provides for an independent survey.

- ✓ Vandenberg said that while this works well for signal strength, it does not work for voice quality.
- ✓ Drollinger added that it can also do 800 mapping.
- ✓ Vandenberg stated that that is analog vs digital.
- ✓ Drollinger said that no one system will have the interop throughout the county that meets all needs. We need to build a system that is integrated. Central Lake Police is the only exception when it comes to abandoning Adam E & W i.e. law enforcement.
- ✓ Vandenberg asked if each dept could host their own signal test and if the Console could be able to multi-task?
- ✓ Boettcher stated that it was time to kill 800 to solve our problems.

It was decided that a conference call will be held with Anritsu even without voice quality on July 13 regular 911 meeting. It was also stated that this will change after the Mancelona Tower improvements go live. After the test is premature but the conference call can still proceed.

An RFP will be needed if the mapping project is to move forward. It will need to include physical on the site map, 800, Adam E & W, simulcast, # of test points and location of test points.

Bean & Gank will prepare draft RFP.

- **Console:** The 911 Console is inefficient for 800's but if the direction is to not go in that direction, standard upgrades will be sufficient.

Old Business

- **Trainees:** Trainees are working out well. Will begin training additional candidates as soon as possible.

Communications

Torchfest is coming up. They will be monitoring 800 channels.

Operations

There was board consensus that they would meet once a month starting with the July 13 meeting for one year as there is lots of work to be done.

It was asked if the minutes have been forwarded to the County Board of Commissioners yet? This is almost ready for processing and the monthly meetings will help.

Meeting adjourned at 2:57 pm.

- **Old Business**
- **Rave Mobile Safety – Smart 911 Status:** Smart 911 is up and running. Now that families have been signing up, they are focusing on businesses. This allows for facilities to post maps, emergency contact lists, etc. Rave also offers an app for their facility that works as a panic button of sorts and runs about \$500 per facility.

Gank notified the group that Smart 911 funds from the State will most likely dry up for 2017 and the cost will jump from \$6500 to \$12,000

- **PFN – 911 Phone System:** Grand Traverse County and CCE were to be connect by June but this has been pushed back to Sept/Oct. This pushes us back to Nov/Dec for us. ESI-Net was created to form a computer network system that does not require a specific vendor.
- **Mancelona Tower Improvements:** Quotes are out now for the Mancelona Tower improvements. Contract is off to legal counsel for review.
- **Mobile Data Computers:** Gank asked who would pay the air card costs associated with the MDC's? Bargy stated this this is not yet a project and we are not yet at that point. Gank stated that the original plan was for \$200,000 to build the system and 20% to maintain
- **Extended 911 Budget Forecast:** Tabled until next meeting.
- **Communications:**
- **Operations:** 2 dispatchers in training.

Meeting adjourned at 2:45pm.

Next Meeting: July 13, 2016 @1:00 pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Leslie Meyers, Secretary