

CENTRAL DISPATCH BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING MINUTES
December 20, 2023

Robert Savoie called the meeting of the Central Dispatch Board of Directors to order at 1601 hours on Wednesday, December 20, 2023 in the training room at Sault Ste Marie City Police Department.

The following board members were in attendance: Commissioner Robert Savoie, County Administrator Kelly Church, Sault Fire Chief Ed Miller, Sault Police Chief Wes Bierling, BMFD Chief Dan Wilcox, BMFD assistant Chief Ray Baker, CCSO Under Sheriff Larry Hough, BMPD Captain Ron Carrick, STPD Chief Bob Marchand, School Representative Tom McKee

Others present: Dispatch Director Greg Postma and Operations manager Sara Ostwald

Roll call noted

Introductions- None needed

Additions/ deletions to meeting agenda

Addition: EMS Authority Consulting Company Contact

Deletion: None

Approval of additions/agenda **MOVED** by Ray Baker and supported by Dan Wilcox to approve the meeting agenda for December 20, 2023. On a vote, the Motion carried.

Review and approve minutes from 10-30-2023

Approved of Minutes from 10/30/23 **MOVED** by Kelly Church and supported by Tom McKee to approve the meeting minutes. On a vote, the **Motion carried**.

Review and approve expenditures and monthly revenue

Public comment -No public comment

Agenda Items

- a) Bi- Monthly Report & Call Volume Reporting
 - a. Moving down from summer
 - b. No snow equals less accidents
 - c. Numbers going up every year other than 2020 with covid

- b) Admin phone Project
 - a. Running into issues
 - b. Company would have to be vetted out could affect CAD
 - c. Needs to go to UP 911 authority
 - d. VPN is already approved CCE is trying to do this now and is almost done they will let us know when they are done
 - e. Moving from brightspeed to a carrier that is local for better support
 - i. They continue to have issues but claim they found the problem
- c) UP 911 Authority New CAD Project
 - a. Slated to be done in 2026
 - b. Senator DaMoose allocation with Bryce Tracy for the project
 - c. RFP on January 15th
 - d. Going to start over new not dump old CAD information
- d) Operations manager Report
 - a. Full staffed
 - b. Brought on Trooper Heidman as part time
 - c. Pay of part time
 - i. Looking to increase to \$17 versus \$16.20
 - ii. Would help to keep part time employees
 - iii. Will be hard to adjust with having just approved budget.
 - iv. Had to fight just to get raise at health department
 - d. Overtime will be low for next year so should be at most 5-10 hours a pay period
 - i. 3 dispatchers on 24/7 will bring better coverage
 - e. Will look at it again in a year to see if wages need to be increased
- e) MMRMA Board Member Request
 - a. Postma contacted by admin for 911 telecommunications board
 - b. Think it would be good to have local representation
 - c. Would be good since they are our insurance company
 - i. Nice to have insight and contacts
 - d. Should know if accepted by next meeting
- f) 911 Revune Funding/ SNC Audit- Results (report will follow in Feb meeting)
 - a. 5-6 month process that we passed our financial portion and only found a few items to fix in the center
 - b. They highlighted communication and how good it is between departments and our center
 - c. Report should come in 4-5 weeks and then we will pass it along
 - d. Financials are good for us

- g) EMS Mutual Aid/ Closest Unit Concept- update
 - a. Getting very close tying up ends
 - b. Starting in march when new med control policies go into effect
 - c. Sent out policy to all 3 Chippewa county ALS agencies for review
 - d. Should help to cut down response times
- h) MCA – Section 8 changes affecting dispatch
 - a. Med control changes coming in march
 - b. The policy in 2003 was not selected so that's why the old policy was rejected then – new policy will just be updated with the new codes
 - c. Starting training for out lining agencies in the beginning of the year
- i) Wrecker Rotation- civil liability discussion- new issues with heavy wreckers
 - a. Meeting on the 28th with the tow companies
 - b. Heavy duty makes more money for the tow companies and now they are fighting
 - c. Had to do counts for heavy tows both came up with 3 tows for the year
 - d. Only us and Dickinson do rotations in the UP and upper lower
 - i. All others got out to avoid civil liability per MMRMA
 - ii. We can't make sure vehicles are up to date and they are fully legal other than the paperwork once a year
 - e. Looking to know why it's a liability through MMRMA
 - f. May look into removing them for a short time and put them back in if they are causing issues
- j) Page Gate- civil liability discussion
 - a. Groups that shouldn't be there and are
 - b. Civil council says only 1st responders should get information
 - c. Looking for board approval to remove groups that are not responders
 - i. Recommendation to follow UP 911 Guidance made by Ed Miller supported by Larry Hough
- k) UPS and electrical mapping
 - a. Stand alone power unit to continue power until generator kicks on
 - b. Daisy chained when replaced
 - c. Would like to eventually move to one block UPS for the whole building
 - d. Would like to get the current system mapped to find out what is going where and to better backup our building
- l) MPSCS request to pull statewide radio foot print for 3 to 4 Chippewa talk groups
 - a. Right now channels can be drug statewide and you can hear anywhere
 - b. Looking to cut p911, fe911, and LEIN
 - i. Could only use in the tri county area and the CCE area
 - ii. Still will have comm and transport statewide if needed

- iii. Would be hard to have admin have the ability to be able to listen if downstate and things are going off up here
- iv. Still can use statewide 8
- v. Going to table it for next meeting

m) Encryption Information

- a. Talked to SNC about the mandate from the FBI
- b. Unfunded state mandate we were told to hold off and see if the state will fund it
- c. We are going to wait but all radios that are being bought should be bought with AES to be compatible with the feds

n) County Board approvals – collegio, P2P 800 mhz backup, motorola radio service contract

- a. Going to install p2p hopefully next week
- b. This is our back up to the entire 800 system out to Manistique

o) Upcoming ICS-300 training

- a. Going on in march here at ssm pd
- b. Going to be in prep for full scale in September with coast guard

p) EMD (emergency medical dispatching) search – update

- a. Needed by med authority
- b. Been going through demos and getting quotes
- c. Gives instructions to dispatchers for many nature types
- d. Brining it to the board at the next meeting working on power point

q) Work station research/replacement

- a. Have reached end of life and can't get parts anymore
- b. Can only order through Denmark if they still have any available
- c. Looking to go to the schools to see if they can build something to avoid Denmark
- d. Being held up with phone books and 2x4's currently to keep them operating
- e. Between \$66,000 and \$114,000 to replace

r) Sugar Island tower invoice status- contract review

- a. Roughly \$13,000 a year
- b. Have never paid it before per contract that we have with them and we should be set until 2025
- c. Unknown who has been paying it if anyone has- it may have been just checked off by former employee who the contract was written with
- d. New employee in the MSP unit has taken over now. We are trying to get them to show us how we paid it and they cannot provide a copy of a cleared check

- s) Detour tower renewal
 - a. Comes up every 5 years
 - b. Will be going to finance board soon to get approval
 - c. Will be an increase in fees
- t) Training paying for classes and books vs. classes only OES training fund
 - a. In the past haven't paid for their books for fire and EMS
 - b. Looking to spend OES money on training to increase the amount of people who are interested in taking classes
 - c. Everyone needs more people so spending a little on training may help to get more
 - i. Everyone agrees spending some may help
- u) W3W push for snowmobile season underway
 - a. Replacing FS signs on trails
 - b. Doing a big push in January
 - c. Breaks the whole world into 10 square feet chunks
 - d. Allows responders to get turn by turn directions to anyone in need
 - e. 3 different ways for people to get the 3 words to us
 - i. We have the text prompt already
 - f. Going out in gas stations, bars, hotels, restaurants, stores, the falls, trails
 - g. Does not use cell signal uses GPS. No need to keep app open all the time
 - h. Been using it for about a year already
 - i. Think about getting stickers made to put on rental orv/atv/sleds
 - j. Would like to do it again in the spring for hiking, atv, orv, fishing
- v) 2024 Michigan statewide interoperable communications training conference
 - a. Would like to sign up to go to the conference
- w) 800 mhz Migration- several agencies making the move
 - a. Some don't want to go but may be needed at some point
 - b. VHF not getting any better and isn't going to get better
 - c. Trying to use title 3 funds for new radios using mutual aid idea
 - i. Trying to get answer from the feds hoping for one by mid January
 - d. All platforms have issues but looking to improve
 - e. Geography will not change
 - f. State looking at micro cells for cheaper than a tower to improve coverage
 - g. Regional grant: Soo Fire, Dafer, Soo township, and Sugar Island were not approved. Going to try again. Limited to 1 million dollars from the grant per year
- x) EMS authority (Northern EMS authority)
 - a. Had a conversation with the authorities consulting firm about statistics.
 - b. Told him to FOIA the information for call volumes
 - c. He wanted shoot times, drive times, and transport status

- d. He was told some reports we could not provide due to our CAD age and that he can ask the departments.
- y) Review and approve board meeting schedule for 2024
 - a. December meeting is on Friday the 20th looking to move it to 18th on a Wednesday
- z) Next meeting is February 26th, 2024 at 1500 at Chippewa County Central Dispatch

Committee Member Comments- Merry Christmas

MOVED by Ed Miller and seconded by Wes Brieling to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 1718 hours, by Chairman Robert Savoie.

Board Chairman, Robert Savoie



Operations Manager, Sara Ostwald