

**CENTRAL DISPATCH BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
JOINT MEETING MINUTES  
July 24, 2018**

Robert Savoie called the meeting of the Central Dispatch Board of Directors to order at 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday July 24, 2018 in the training room of Chippewa County Central Dispatch. This was a joint meeting with the Mackinac County 911 Board.

The following were present: Robert Savoie, Chief John Riley, Dan Wilcox, Ray Baker, Lt. Joseph Shier, Sheriff Mike Bitnar and Chief Robert Marchand.

Others present: Director Michelle Robbins, Sgt. Nathan Grenfell, Chief Mark Wilk, Ron Peterka, Buck McPhee, Mark Merchberger, Bryce Tracy, Mike Kasper, Sheriff Scott Strait, Laurie Collier, Dennis Bradley and Marni Lamb.

Roll call noted. Introductions were made as there were many unfamiliar faces in the room. No addition or deletions to the agenda.

**MOVED** by Dan Wilcox and supported by Ray Baker to approve the meeting agenda for July 24, 2018. **Motion carried.**

**MOVED** by Sheriff Bitnar and supported by Dan Wilcox to approve the meeting minutes of the May 22, 2018 meeting. **Motion carried.**

**MOVED** by Earl Kay and supported by Chief John Riley to accept expenditures of \$21,661.74 with revenue of \$15,456.79. **Motion carried.**

Public in attendance requests public comment at the end of the meeting.

Board members reviewed the bi-monthly statistical information which depicts the monthly activity reports. Call volume and incident volume is up as we are in the busiest part of the year.

Discussion on RAVE Suite of products. Chippewa County currently has 640 registered for Smart 911 and to receive emergency alerts. It's a good start, we have a long way to go. LSSU recently began working on their Panic Button from RAVE and we were able to see how it works in real time in a testing environment. It was a great and quick way to notify other users of an emergency and the location. Because of the size of the campus and number of users it will take some time to configure. The hope is that more schools will utilize this free technology. Board members were also notified of some good Smart 911 calls that cut down on response time. Mackinac County provided input to this discussion as well.

Correspondence from the US Army Corp of Engineers provided in regards to a donation of radios. This is the second batch that they have donated. The first batch were distributed to EMS Agencies in the County and this batch will be distributed to Fire. Some of the radios will need re-furbishing due to the condition, but, even that is more cost efficient than a new radio.

Discussion on the recent Soo Locks Engineers Day security exercise. Fourteen State, Local and Federal agencies worked together to provide a heavy Law Enforcement presence during the annual festivities. Some lessons were learned and will be modified for next year.

**Mackinac County Agenda Items:**

Mackinac County 911 Coordinator passed out some talking points for Radio Communications. Discussion ensued on these proposed updates to Chippewa County Central Dispatch Policy 622.

Discussion on how Mackinac County is handling radio encryption.

Mackinac County presented Chippewa County Central Dispatch a certificate of Appreciation. This was presented to Director Robbins and Dispatcher Lamb.

Discussion on changes to Mackinac County Fire 800Mhz template to utilize more for fire command. They will not be eliminating VHF at this point.

**Committee Member Comments:**

Director Robbins advised board that we will be interviewing three candidates and that our building will be painted next week. We recently had a radio upgrade and are working through some issues.

Chairman Savoie extended thanks to Mackinac County for the working relationship that we have with them.

Chief LaBonte discussed the difficulty in recruiting for first responder agencies. This ensued a discussion.

Dispatcher Lamb gave the board the perspective from a dispatchers standpoint on how difficult it can be to utilize some of the features on the radio (multi select, cross patch) as sometimes we have multiple calls on one incident and dispatchers are sharing the task of getting units en route.

Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday September 25, 2018 at 3:00 p.m.

**MOVED** by Sheriff Bitnar and supported by Dan Wilcox to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 4:21 p.m. Mackinac County Board members were invited to take a look around the communications center and meet the staff.



Michelle Robbins



Robert Savoie