



Chippewa County Central Dispatch

Board of Directors

Meeting Minutes

June 24, 2025

3:00 p.m.

Chippewa County Central Dispatch

- I. Call meeting to order - Meeting called to order at 1501 by Board Chair Greg Postma
- II. Roll call – Present – Fire Chief Ed Miller EMS (Rep), Asst/Chief Ray Baker, Sheriff Mike Bitnar, Undersheriff Ryan Herring, County Administrator Kelly Church, Bay Mills Indian Community Police Chief Ronald Carrick, Greg Postma, Sara Ostwald, and Sault Ste Marie Police Chief Wes Bierling and County Commissioner Jim Traynor.
- III. Introductions - Completed
- IV. Additions or deletions to the meeting agenda – Greg Postma would like to add under item “R” MPSCS Sugar Island tower
- V. Approval of the agenda- Mike Bitnar made a motion to approve the agenda, and Dan Wilcox supported the motion. On a vote, the agenda was approved unanimously.
- VI. Review and approve minutes from 4-29-2025 - by Ron Carrick seconded by ed miller
- VII. Review and approve expenditures and monthly revenue - Expenditure/Revenue was reviewed by Postma

A motion was made by Kelly church to approve the expenditures, and Mike Bitnar supported the motion. On a vote, the motion passed.

VIII. Public Comment - None

IX. 911

- a) Bi Monthly Report and Call Volume Reporting
 - a. Stats and reports Given
 - b. Uptick in calls as we are moving into summer we expect by the next meeting to see higher jump as we will be in the main summer months
- b) UP 911 Authority project for new CAD system
 - a. Met today at 1300 with the UP CAD group funding is still tied up but trying to move forward with the process
 - b. Tyler is the vendor of choice for the group
 - c. Looking to create payment plan if state is not able to fund the project to at least get started
 - d. Current cad is failing and dying support is non existence from Central Square

- e. Hoping for an answer from Tyler and legislature in 2-3 weeks with the funding and payment issues
- c) Operations Manager Report – Staffing.
 - a. One recently out of training
 - i. Doing very well since being on her own
 - b. We are still short one full time spot
 - c. Two in training one full time and one part time
 - i. The employee in the full time spot is progressing very well and should be finishing up training shortly
- d) EMD (Emergency Medical Dispatching)
 - a. No freezing up lately
 - b. No delay
 - c. Starting to look at quality insurance reviews from the company for individual dispatchers
 - d. Seems to be going very well for our dispatchers
- e) New Generator Installed- discuss the outage that this created
 - a. The company showed up on a Friday to do the install and there were many issues with the process
 - b. The whole center went down when trying to cut over
 - i. The generator tech didn't know why these issues were happening
 - 1. Ice storm caused many issues that appeared during this update
 - a. We believe the storm power surges may have caused a UPS unit to die and that is why when the generator was cut over we lost everything
 - c. Since all of the issues the generator has been tested and is running well
 - i. Do not test full load but it seems to happen a few times a year due to issues in the area so we are confident it can hold the full load
- f) CAD issues/ Emperic
 - a. Cad is dying
 - i. We are having more issues daily affecting all aspects of call taking and dispatching
 - b. Central square is not keeping up on tickets
 - i. Seems to be getting worse
 - c. Empiric
 - i. Hired additional to keep up on tickets
 - 1. Should be faster
- g) 800mhz Migration- paging- Luce County- Chippewa County- Encryption
 - a. Luce county live today at 1400 for their entire county
 - i. Will keep vhf until we are sure there are no issues
 - b. Hopefully within next month would like to move running files to LEIN to get into the habit of switching and lowering multiple changes in dispatch
 - c. Looking at the ability to fund all channels to switch to encrypted
 - i. For officer safety and bigger events
 - ii. Need to have AES for encryption
 - iii. Trevor may have found a way with Bryce
- h) Pager Project Update

- a. Funding has been stalled for title 1, 2 and 3 when the bill sun setted and all funding is now going to title 1
- b. At this time we only have \$9000 for pagers and will need to look for additional funding to get the rest of the county covered
- c. Put in another grant for TC energy
 - i. Trying to go for other options as well
- d. Interlake steamship company
 - i. May be able to reach out to them for agencies that may be involved in a spill for funding help
- e. Still need about 200 pager to cover everyone
- f. West of 75 is covered just need to cover to the east
- i) OES Tower VHF installation
 - a. Very upset with Elcom
 - b. Gave our radio to smithers 1st time
 - i. New ones ordered and they gave it to Baraga County
 - ii. Elcom was supposed to order 4 radios and only ordered 3. So they took ours away and never told us
 - c. Within the month we will be going to upper management if not taken care of
- j) Full Building UPS -status update
 - a. We are going to do the upgrade in two parts
 - b. Wires to the center will wait for next years budget and this year we will focus on getting the UPS itself installed in the equipment room
 - c. Should give us 45-50 minutes of run time versus 5 minutes if the generator goes out again
- k) Server purchase- status update
 - a. Will be completed tomorrow at 0600
 - b. Will include floor plans for mobile users
 - c. Already installed in the center just have to move everything off of the old server now
 - d. Will be able to be accessed on MDT
 - e. Testing for 5-6 months for CAD mobile
 - i. Hoping to have cost numbers at the end of the week
- l) Bank Alarm Policy – discussion
 - a. One officer versus two officer response
 - b. May look different for city versus other agencies
 - c. Romen numeral 2 move to 1 and let agencies choose how many to respond
 - d. We will update and send a new one
- m) Law Enforcement Pager Alert prior to priority dispatch
 - a. Brought up originally in Mackinac county after learning CCE does it
 - i. Major life threatening event to do a tone before airing to gain attention of anyone on duty
 - ii. Looking to put together a policy for approval of all agencies before starting
- n) LEIN / CJIS -SOS use
 - a. If you get a call from coast guard about running people it is due to us not being able to run them
- o) Block training dates

- a. Radio/comms usage 1-2 hours if possible for Postma to discuss training
- p) Increase surcharge from 2.25 to 2.75 -discussion
 - a. Think we need to increase to finance upcoming fees
- q) Next meeting August 26th, 2025 at 1600 Sault Ste Marie City Police Department
- r) MPSCS tower
 - a. Tower at sugar island
 - i. Contacted by MPSCS
 - 1. Cement slab okay for now but cracking one time cost of 7000 to fix the problem happening across the state
 - 2. Looking to do it next year
 - 3. Need to replace radio backups as well
 - 4. Need to know if we should wait on radio back ups or put the cement slab fix on this year budget
 - ii. Our recommendation to hold off on base until next year and order backup radios
 - 1. Going to throw cement on next years budget

X. Committee Member Comments

- XI. Ed Miller- would like to see any training for dispatchers to opened to all. New radios to be in by July
- XII. Ron – need help with radios from Postma
- XIII. Postma- would like all agencies to send people out to visit the center to see what goes on in here and to allow everyone to get to put a face to a voice and get to know each other
- XIV. Adjournment - Motion by Mike Bitnar to adjourn. Supported by Wes Bierling Meeting adjourned at 1602.



Greg Postma, Director
Board Chair

Jim Traynor, County Commissioner
Vice Chair