

Eaton County Emergency Communications Law Enforcement Subcommittee

Minutes

Wednesday, July 21, 2021
At 1100 hrs. Via Zoom Conference Call

Call to Order and Roll Call – Chairman Weeks called the meeting to order at 11:05 a.m.

Members:

Paul Brentar, CPD
Larry Weeks, ERPD
Chris Blievernicht, GLPD
Pete Smith, MSP
Jeff Cook, ECSO

Non-Members:

Michael Armitage, ECCD
Kelley Cunningham, ECCD
Ryan Wilkinson, ECEM

Introduction of New Members and Guests – None.

Reading and Approval of Minutes – Motion to approve the minutes to the April meeting was made by Paul Brentar and seconded by Jeff Cook. Motion carried.

Old Business

Report from Central Dispatch Committee – None.

Curbside SOS – Chief Weeks asked Michael to give an update on Curbside SOS. They gave a presentation to this committee at the April meeting on their App that works with wrecker companies. Michael will follow up with them and discuss it at the Public Safety meeting in August.

Central Dispatch Operational Report

- Two dispatchers are currently in training. They both are doing very well.
- A final job offer was given to the third position and she is expected to start in a couple of weeks.

- We are currently in the hiring process for the fourth position with oral board interviews in a couple of weeks.
- We have rehired Bob Robison and Robert Stahelin on a temporary part time basis until January to help alleviate burn out with the full time dispatchers. Bob and Bobby have signed up for shifts on days and nights, which is appreciated.
- A tentative contract agreement was made with both bargaining units yesterday and will go to the Board of Commissioners in August. They both are three-year contracts.

Central Dispatch Project Updates

- We are working with both Ingham and Clinton Counties on their new radio systems. Ingham goes live on September 1, 2021 and Clinton will be in January 2022. Talk groups and encryption keys will need to be added to our radios to communicate with them. When they are added to our radios, preventative maintenance will also be done.
- Michael and Kelley recently attended a meeting at the airport to discuss adding zones to the radios and multiple talk groups for airplane incidents involving multiple counties and agencies, including the MSP helicopter. A long-term plan is to encrypt the tri-county police channel.
- The FCC ruling came out in June. They took out the wording which prohibits what we were using the surcharge money for, but the wording is vague. It has been sent to the FCC task force to review and we may get answers at the end of the year. Michael stated that April Heinze is on this task force along with another person from Michigan.
- Michael and IT had a meeting with our current CAD vendor recently and they said we have approximately two to three years of life left with our current CAD. The vendor will continue to update and maintain it until they no longer can. Michael and IT both felt comfortable with this and it was agreed that we would wait two to three years to replace it due to efficiency and cost concerns.
- The phone system's upgrade is complete. All of the hardware and monitors were replaced and it should last us 7 to 10 years. This was paid for by a grant with a 3% match.

New Business

Future Meetings – Chief Weeks, who is the Chairman of this subcommittee, asked if members prefer having the meeting in person or virtual going forward. Chris Blievernicht suggested having hybrid meetings (both in person and on line) and others agreed. Zoom sign on instructions will be included for future meetings but members would also be welcome to come in in person for the meeting.

Chief Weeks thanked Michael and Francis for being at the 4th of July festivities in Eaton Rapids with the communication trailer.

Chief Weeks wondered what other cities were interested in being on ECCD's RAVE account for RAVE alerts besides Eaton Rapids. Michael stated that Bellevue and Delta Township have expressed interest. Michael explained that he recently learned that cities could be on Central Dispatch's account. It would cost \$1500 to create a keyword and it could have geo fence capability to narrow down your audience.

Ryan Wilkinson stated that funds are still available for law enforcement through the homeland security grant. Get with him if you have questions about the allocation list. There is approximately \$4500 to spend.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 11:24 a.m. by Paul Brentar and Chris Blievernicht seconded. Motion carried.

The next meeting is Wednesday, October 20, 2021 at 1100 hrs.

DRAFT