

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, MARCH 2, 2023

4:00 P.M.

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Tim Barnes, Commissioners Mark Mudry, Brandon Haskell, Frank Holmes and Jacob Toomey

ABSENT: Vice-Chairman Brian Droscha and Commissioner Scott Hansen

ALSO PRESENT: Controller Connie Sobie, Sheriff Tom Reich, Undersheriff Jeff Cook, Captain Robert Block, Lieutenant Scott Brooks, Sergeant Preston Dahlgren, Sergeant Jody Mann, Prosecutor Doug Lloyd, Trial Court Administrator Amy Etzel, Dispatch Director Kelly Cunningham, Deputy Director Francis D'Huyvetter, Emergency Services Manager Ryan Wilkinson, Telecommunicators Rich Thacker, Libby Holland, Alyssa Thorn, Brianna Shaw, Jessica Nunham, and Katie Hennessey, Community Corrections Coordinator Melanie Achenbach, Jon McNett, Michelle Kost and Jerri Nesbitt

The March 2, 2023, regular meeting of the Public Safety Committee was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Chairman Barnes.

The Pledge of Allegiance was given by all, led by Chairman Barnes.

AGENDA ADDITIONS AND CHANGES

There were no additions or changes to the Agenda. Commissioner Haskell made a motion to approve the Agenda as presented. Commissioner Toomey seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Commissioner Haskell made a motion to approve the Minutes of the February 2, 2023, Public Safety Meeting. Commissioner Holmes seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

LIMITED PUBLIC COMMENT

Citizen Michelle Kost, District 1, Vermontville, spoke regarding direction on how to submit a Resolution drafted by the Eaton County Republican Party.

SHERIFF'S OFFICE UPDATE

Sheriff Reich reported the highlights for the month. The Sheriff expressed his pride in the 23 Deputies and Victim Advocates who responded to the MSU active shooter incident. Captain Block was at the command center during the incident. He introduced Sergeants Jody Mann and Preston Dahlgren. Sergeant Mann joined the response of the Eaton County Deputies the search for the gunman. Sergeant Dahlgren supervises the Eaton County Special Response Team (SRT). Both described great dedication by Eaton County Deputies in responding to the incident with no hesitation in a very chaotic scene. The SRT is a 15-man unit and were teamed with Auburn Hills Police Department in searching for the gunman. Appreciation was given for Sgt. Scott Brooks' expertise in conducting annual Active

Violence Incident training throughout the County expressly for incidents such as this. Commissioners Toomey, Mudry and Haskell expressed their appreciation.

EATON COUNTY SAFETY AND SECURITY UPDATE

Amy Etzel, Eaton County Trial Court Administrator spoke on formation of a Security and Safety Committee formed in 2019, as a requirement of the Michigan Supreme Court, to develop policies, procedures and plans for training regarding safety and security of the courthouse. Internal policies are being worked on at this time.

CENTRAL DISPATCH UPDATE

Central Dispatch Director Cunningham reported on her department's response to the MSU incident. Several telecommunicators were present to discuss their roles during the incident. Supervising Telecommunicator Libby Nunham, Telecommunicator Supervisor Rich Thacker were introduced to the committee. Supervisor Thacker has been employed with Eaton County Central Dispatch for 13 years, is a former Military Police Officer, Quality Assurance Supervisor, member of Public Relations Team, and Tactical Dispatch Team Member.

911 SURCHARGE UPDATE

Central Dispatch Director Cunningham presented an annual review of the 911 Surcharge with a recommendation to continue the current surcharge rate based on continued financing of the radio project and possible addition of a data channel, GPS for radios of First Responders. Ms. Cunningham discussed the upcoming budget and a possible addition for a pole barn for radio and MCT equipment storage, installations and repairs, and possibly a tower in the Grand Ledge area due to coverage issues. Commissioner Haskell made a motion to retain the current \$1.65 surcharge. Commissioner Mudry seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION URGING THE RECLASSIFICATION OF DISPATCHERS AS FIRST RESPONDERS

The Resolution was read urging state and federal reclassification of Public Safety Telecommunicators as First Responders. Central Dispatch Director Cunningham reported that currently Dispatchers the first contact and are classified as secretaries when they are much more than that. Commissioner Haskell made a motion to recommend approval by the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Mudry seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

ALERTUS SAFETY AND SECURITY NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

Central Dispatch Director Cunningham reported that Eaton County is currently utilizing the Rave Panic Button system for department heads within the Courthouse. Training is underway in the courts for all employees. The Alertus system is the desired next step in security measures. Initial cost of the Alertus system is \$18,000 with an annual cost of \$4,000. Commissioner Toomey made a motion to forward recommendation for approval by the Ways and Means Committee. Commissioner Haskell seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

CANINES FOR CHANGE PRESENTATION – JESSICA NUNHAM, PST SUPERVISOR

Central Dispatch PST Supervisor Jessica Nunham presented a request for Eaton County Central Dispatch to obtain a facilities dog from Canines for Change to provide comfort, serve at Public Relations events, and respond to tactical callouts. The initial cost is \$11,000 for specialized training within the Central Dispatch operations. Ongoing annual costs are estimated to be \$2,000. Chairman Commissioner Barnes made a motion to recommend approval to the Ways and Means Committee. Commissioner Haskell seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

EMERGENCY SERVICES UPDATE

Emergency Services Manager Ryan Wilkinson reported on the recent ice storm in which Eaton County experienced power outages throughout eleven percent of the County. Mr. Wilkinson also spoke regarding a required training course conducted at Eaton County and an upcoming training for ICS 400 and a Public Information Officer course. Nine applications were received for the summer internship position. Selection is expected to be made in March. Annual County-wide Tornado Drill is scheduled for March 22nd at 1300 hours. March 19-25 is National Severe Weather Awareness Week.

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE 2023 TRI-COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE

Commissioner Haskell made a motion to recommend adoption of the 2023 Tri-County Hazard Mitigation Plan by the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Mudry seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF CRITICAL INCIDENT RESPONSE MAPPING – JOE HANSON, CRG

Mr. Hanson presented via Zoom Critical Incident Response Mapping. Currently, implementation by Charlotte and Grand Ledge Public Schools is underway at no cost to the County. Discussion held. Request was made for and updated quote at the next Public Safety Committee Meeting.

SHERIFF FIRST RESPONDER PRESENTATION

Undersheriff Cook presented a detailed power point presentation regarding a proposed program for Deputy/Paramedics (members of E-Unit (Echo Unit). Sheriff Reich indicated the creation of this program would save lives and enhance public safety. Discussion held. Motion for support of request and funding to the Ways and Means Committee was made by Commissioner Toomey. Commissioner Barnes seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

MISCELLANEOUS

Chairman of the Board Mott expressed his appreciation for the amazing things staff did during this busy month.

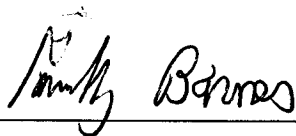
LIMITED PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Commissioner Barnes adjourned the meeting at 6:36 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Public Safety Committee will be held April 6, 2023, at 4:00 p.m.



Commissioner Timothy Barnes
Chairperson, Public Safety Committee