

# Eaton County Central Dispatch

## Fire/EMS Subcommittee Meeting

Thursday, May 13, 2021 at 1938 hrs.

### MINUTES

#### PRESENT:

Rodney VanDeCastele, GLFD  
William Fabijancic, WTES  
Francis D'Huyvetter, HTFD  
Tim James, BTFD & SFD  
Jason Freer, ERFD  
Roger McNutt, ERFD  
Mark Jordan, BFD  
Tyger Fullerton, CFD  
Jeff Wetzels, VFD  
Gregg Ginebaugh, DFD  
Rob Herig, ETFD

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

Call to Order and Roll Call – Chairman McNutt called the meeting to order at 1938 hours.

Introduction of New Members and Guests – None.

Reading and Approval of Minutes of the February 2021 Meeting - Motion to approve the minutes was made by Rodney and seconded by Tyger. Motion carried.

#### **Old Business**

Report from Emergency Communications Subcommittee – William reviewed the meeting in March.

Central Dispatch Operational Report (Michael)

- Two are currently in the hiring process; one has 26 year of dispatching experience in Minnesota and the other has call center experience. The third applicant decided to withdraw and move to Florida so there is an opening posted right now for that position.

- Telecommunicator week in April was again low key due to COVID. Several bad calls happened that week and Michael said that he appreciated the agencies that included them in their debriefings.
- Michael assumed COVID restrictions would be changing soon as far as building access, but did not have details.
- The PIA procedure was changed from this committee's recommendation to include busses and rollovers and not give EMD instructions to get the call out faster. Michael asked for feedback on how everyone thought that was going.

#### Central Dispatch Project Updates (Michael)

Ingham and Clinton County will be on the MPSCS radio system later this year. Ingham will happen late summer, early fall and Clinton is further behind. Ingham will use a different encryption code as ours so our radios will need to have that code installed. Chrouch will be going around to the agencies this summer install their encryption code as well as preventative maintenance.

The ruling regarding the FCC and 911 surcharge money hasn't been decided yet. Interested parties in Michigan have banded together to voice their concerns and Michael is a part of the group.

The radio equipment from the 2020 radio request is in. John Imeson will be working on distributing the equipment.

Michael is working on the State's 911 Enabling Act, as it sunsets this year. He may be asking agencies for letters of support.

The ASAP to PSAP alarm project will be ready in the next few months.

Michael has been working with the schools in Eaton County on a three-year extension to the RAVE Panic App. The App offers new features in alerting and conferencing.

CAD project – Michael would like to form a work group this fall to work on selecting a new CAD system. There is a possibility of sharing a CAD system with Clinton and Calhoun counties that he would like to explore also.

Michael made the members aware of dust devils that have been spotted around Michigan due to the dryness. If they come up in Eaton County, the tornado sirens will not be activated for them.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

None

## **ROUND TABLE**

CFD – Tyger asked that any notes the dispatcher puts in CAD also be said over the radio when they're enroute to a call because they can't be reading off their MCT all the time.

HFD – Francis wondered what options we have if the FCC decides we can't use 911 surcharge funds for agency radio equipment? Michael stated that there would be an appeal process and they would look at each situation on a case-by-case basis. Michael explained that in our situation, the ballot language clearly said the money would be used for radio equipment and the voters knew what they were voting on.

WTES – William stated that tones before a call aren't consistent. He suggested maybe using different tones for different things. Tim James agreed. Francis said he was against using the warble tone because the warble tone should only be for police high priority incidents. Rodney stated that the tones are not working at his station. Gregg explained how they're trying something different for toning with the equipment at their department.

ERFD – Roger wondered would pay for the Ingham County encryption in radios and preventative maintenance for the radios this summer. Michael stated Central Dispatch would.

Motion to adjourn was made at 2008 hrs. by William Fabijancic and Rodney VanDeCastele seconded. Motion carried.

The next meeting is Thursday, August 12, 2021 after the ECFCA meeting, which begins at 1900 hrs.