

Eaton County Central Dispatch

Fire/EMS Subcommittee Meeting

Thursday, August 12, 2021 at 1945 hrs.

MINUTES

PRESENT:

Rodney VanDeCastele, GLFD
Francis D'Huyvetter, HTFD
Roger McNutt, ERFD
Mark Jordan, BFD
Tyger Fullerton, CFD
Jeff Wetzell, VFD
Gregg Ginebaugh, DFD
Jim Ivy, ETFD

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

Call to Order and Roll Call – Chairman McNutt called the meeting to order at 1947 hours.

Introduction of New Members and Guests – None.

Reading and Approval of Minutes of the May 2021 Meeting - **Motion to approve the minutes was made by Rodney and supported. Motion carried.**

Old Business

Report from Emergency Communications Subcommittee – No report at this time.

Central Dispatch Operational Report (Michael)

- John Imeson is retiring at the end of the year. At this time, we do not plan to fill this position and will rely on Chrouch, Francis, Kelley and others. It is thought that when Ingham and Clinton Counties come on the radio system the work load will decrease, however it can be reevaluated in the future for the need of a radio manager.
- There are currently three dispatchers in training. Two are on fire radio.
- We had one opening to fill. Two applicants that recently interviewed have dispatching experience, and we received authorization to hire both. Michael

explained that with John Imeson's retirement and not filling the position that frees up money to hire both.

Central Dispatch Project Updates (Michael)

- ASAP to PSAP – We have been working on this for three years now. The holdup is still at the State. Once we can get this to work and receive messages, it should start up quickly.
- We have been working with a virtually reality start-up company out of Chicago to create training scenarios for dispatcher training.
- Roxand Township had some extra parts for a siren and Michael had access to a used siren that was available, so a siren will be installed at Crandall Lake pending approval from the Ways and Means Committee tomorrow.
- The City of Charlotte and Eaton Rapids are both starting RAVE Alert accounts on Central Dispatch's account. Delta Township and Olivet may be interested as well. It is \$1500 a year.
- RAVE Panic was renewed with all the schools.
- Chrouch will be out to tune all of the radios in the next few months as part of the preventative maintenance agreement. MPSCS will be out to touch all law enforcement radios, but not fire/ems.
- The State has come out with a rule, and it will be audited on, that says fire radios cannot have police talk groups in them. There will be no changes in our set up for now. Michael state he personally doesn't agree with it, but he wanted to make everyone aware.
- Grand Ledge BDAs have been installed. They're working on getting the TAC repeater set up in Grand Ledge. Holbrook and Beagle are under construction so they're waiting for that to complete before the BDAs are installed.
- County budget is going through the process right now. It was decided to delay the new CAD system for now after talking with our current vendor. Radio requests that weren't ordered last year would be ordered this year.
- Call handling phone system has been upgraded with \$90,000 being covered by a grant.

Open houses – Let Michael/Kelley know if you would like dispatch at your open house this fall.

The 911 Enabling Act sunsets at the end of this year. Michael is part of the team of 911 directors working on to extend this and secure funding for NG911 updates.

FCC Ruling – Michael reviewed their ruling on funding. It is now in a gray area that is open for interpretation. Michael said that we're fine for now as far as providing radios to agencies using the 911 surcharge money.

Michael announced that his last day with Eaton County is Friday, August 27, 2021. He has accepted a position as the Executive Director of Calhoun County Consolidated Dispatch Authority. Kelley will be the interim director so contact her if you need anything.

NEW BUSINESS

None

ROUND TABLE

None

Motion to adjourn was made at 2013 hours by Rodney VanDeCastele and supported. Motion carried.

The next meeting is Thursday, November 4, 2021 after the ECFCA meeting, which begins at 1900 hrs.

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