

GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY 911 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Meeting Minutes: April 19, 2018

Commission Chambers Governmental Center

PRESENT:

Chris Clark  
Carol Crawford  
Jason Torrey  
Pat Parker

AGENCY:

G.T. County Sheriff's Department  
G.T County Board of Commissioners  
GT 911/Central Dispatch  
G.T. Metro Fire Department

ABSENT:

Gregg Bird  
Sgt. John Schneider  
Chief Jeff O'Brien  
Daryl Case  
Chief Jim Tuller

G.T. County Emergency Management  
Michigan State Police  
Traverse City Police Department  
North Flight EMS  
Traverse City Fire Department

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Andy Down  
Leah Hornacek  
Bill Parker  
Joseph Miller  
David Cutway  
Steve Meek  
Keith Gillis  
Fred Gilstorff

Long Lake Fire and Rescue  
GT 911/Central Dispatch  
Blair Township Emergency Services  
Central Dispatch  
Green Lake Emergency Services  
G.T. Metro Fire Department  
Traverse City Police Department  
Peninsula Fire Department

**Call to order**

Torrey called the meeting to order at 10:10am. A quorum was present.

**Approval of Agenda**

Motion by Pat Parker to approve the agenda as submitted. The motion was supported by Clark.  
Motion Passed.

**Approval of Minutes**

Motion by Clark to approve the minutes submitted. The motion was supported by Crawford.  
Motion Passed.

## **Directors Report:**

Director Jason Torrey provided the following report:

- Central Dispatch has hired for the last open position and the new hire is progressing well.
- A word of thanks from Director Torrey for all that showed appreciation to our dispatchers during Telecommunicator Week.
- A trip was made to Bay County to see firsthand how the Enterprise CAD system works. This new system has a CAD viewer app ability with a no license dashboard. This allows for ORI based call set up on mobiles, tablets, and PCs. Call type coding can be done by discipline so reporting will be easier and be more accurate. The new system also has an Active 911 formatting panel for easier access to information. LEIN information can also be restricted so fire/EMS can start receiving narrative information again.
- Bringing in the new fire services was successful and went smoother than anticipated.
- With some utility company's going to 800MHz system there was concern over level of service. MPSCS advised they will be adding two extra channels for the added activity.
- Grant to release the funds for EOC LTE/800MHz BDA has been approved and should be in place sometime in May and before the next LPT meeting.
- Hornacek added there is a new Smart 911 app being implemented this summer. This new app will allow for easier profile setup and updates to information.

## **SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:**

### **Technical Subcommittee**

No report.

### **Law Enforcement Subcommittee**

No report.

### **Fire and EMS Subcommittee**

- Pat Parker advised there is currently a large class for Active Assailant going on in Troy. That will hopefully yield useful information for those attending to bring back to this board.
- As of Monday we are in a trial period for all Fire/EMS units to use one talkgroup. Torrey advises that is going well so far. Torrey and the Fire Chiefs will meet at the end of the trial period so that he can get collective feedback. Some issues have come up, Torrey is working with the agency heads to resolve those issues.
- Down observed that he has noticed how much the fire/EMS dispatcher has to listen to between all the frequencies and feels that 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of traffic is not even directed to the dispatcher.

### **Old Business:**

- Bylaws Update – Torrey advised the County BOC did approve that language for a Fire/EMS representative. P. Parker made a motion to appoint Chief Down as the Twp. Fire representative. Motion was seconded by Crawford. Motion passed.
- Tow Services Meeting – Torrey advised that a meeting with the local wrecker services took place and was productive. All wrecker services attended. Torrey advised that Anytime Towing is under new ownership.
- Radio Equipment/Insurance – Torrey advised that Dean Bott spoke with the County Insurance agent and our insurance will cover the any losses, there is a \$1000 deductible that is to be covered by the involved agency. Torrey recommended language needed to be incorporated into the user agreement policy and asked this board if anyone objected. No objections.
- Radio Return – Torrey would also like to add to the language that any agencies that lose personnel or apparatus return their equipment in its entirety (chargers, mics, cords, etc) to Central Dispatch for inventory as soon as possible. Torrey will bring back language to be reviewed and approved by this board. Upon approval, new user agreements would need to be signed.

### **New Business:**

- Tower Top Amplifiers – MPSCS has been adding tower top amplifiers (TTAs) on all new towers. TTAs improve coverage – specifically the portable talk-back coverage. These TTAs will be placed at the top of the tower and there is no DB loss in transmission line down to the shelter. Cost is approximately \$44,000 to add to each existing tower. Central Dispatch is currently working with Leelanau to cost-share a deployment of a TTA on Bugai Road in the next 60 days. Torrey explained the advantages with tower slide show. If the initial investment is made, MPSCS will provide maintenance. Torrey advised the investment can be made out of the Dispatch budget.
- Benzie County is interested in a partnership to deploy a TTA at tower 7105 near Interlochen.
- Tip Line – Torrey advises that the TIP line is no longer in service. Torrey opened discussion reference how to move forward with the community. Police/Sheriff's Department will get back with us on what they will implement as a replacement.
- Torrey requested that Antrim, Missaukee, and Kalkaska counties be approved by the 911 BOD for inclusion into the 911 call handling collaboration. Motion by Crawford to add these counties. Motion was seconded by Down. Motion passed.

### **Round Table:**

- Chief Pat Parker advised members with the new firmware on their Unication pagers have noticed an improvement on battery life since the update.
- Torrey is still working on getting all the pagers updated with the new firmware.
- Further discussion on new fire/EMS talk group.

**Meeting adjourned at 10:51 AM.**