

CEDAR COUNTY E-911 SERVICE BOARD

October 14, 2010 MINUTES

APPROVED January 13, 2011

Chair Bell called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. at the Law Enforcement Center.

Those present were E-911 board members and/or appointees and alternates to include Board of Supervisors: Jon Bell; Bennett: Orville Randolph; Clarence: Randy Burken; Durant: Shawn Jepson; Lowden: absent; Mechanicsville: Boyd Stine; Sheriff Warren Wethington; Stanwood: Mike Dauber; Tipton: Heath Holub; West Branch: Dick Stoolman; West Liberty: absent; Atalissa: absent; New Liberty: absent; Oxford Junction: absent; and Wilton: absent. Others in attendance were: Tim Malott, Director; Bev Penningroth, Clerk and Sue Hall, Press.

Moved by Stoolman seconded by Randolph to approve the meeting agenda.

Ayes: All

Moved by Jepson seconded by Burken to approve the minutes of July 8, 2010.

Ayes: All

Receipts and expenditures were reviewed.

Moved by Stoolman seconded by Jepson to approve the receipts and expenditures, as presented.

Ayes: All

Old business was discussed.

The narrow banding project was discussed. Tim Malott is working with Graybill Electronics. There is a listing of all active frequencies and an inventory of equipment. By the end of the year the application for licenses will be complete for emergency services for each community including Cedar County Public Health. He will apply for licenses for EMA/County Law Enforcement Center. It is felt the Dispatchers are doing well. Stoolman noted there have been some radio problems. Malott has agreed to a radio trial period with the City of West Branch. None of the equipment has been turned down. The towers at the Law Enforcement Center and Courthouse were recently inspected. Stoolman wondered if the new Johnson County frequency may be causing problems. Malott said no. Further discussion was held regarding radios. The P25 equipment is recommended. Malott reported that the grant for funding radios and pagers was closed, but he will work with Steve Meyers in the 2011 grant period to apply for funding. Discussion was held regarding a microwave system between the Law Enforcement Center and the Courthouse. Malott noted a microwave system would reduce phone bills after it is installed. He estimated the return on investment would be under two years. Malott told members the proposal is for more dollars than first planned. He has told the vendor we cannot live with that dollar amount. Malott will clarify that the proposal is for all three legs of the communication system. A 24-inch dish is recommended so it won't move and lose a signal during high winds or a storm. Malott will talk to other vendors. This matter was temporarily tabled.

New business was discussed.

Director Malott noted the agenda and approved minutes will be placed on-line at www.cedarcounty.org under office information. Malott stated the current 911 system is ten years old, and he felt the Board may want to consider replacing it in the next couple years. He reviewed possible costs for a new system and annual maintenance. Malott felt if a new system is purchased, the old system could be used as a backup. New generation features could be used with a new system. Malott told the Board they did not have to purchase a new system. Warren Wethington wondered why they should go to new generation capabilities and a new system. It was noted with new generation 911 they would have to change out the console. New generation integrates everything into the computer. It would go from an analog system to an internet-based system. This matter will be discussed at the next meeting in January. Tim Malott noted the Lisbon Fire Department needs to be included on this Board since they provide services in Linn Township.

Stoolman moved to add Lisbon. The motion died for the lack of a second.

Discussion was held regarding changing the By-Laws of the E-911 Service Board. The changes concern adding Lisbon and changing language to reflect that a simple majority will be seven of sixteen members.

Moved by Stoolman seconded by Randolph to approve the changes concerning Lisbon and the quorum and adopt the By-Laws Of The Cedar County E-911 Service Board.

Ayes: Randolph, Burken, Jepson, Stine, Dauber, Holub, Stoolman, Bell

Director Malott gave a report on addressing of new homes. Posts are in at Springdale and Downey. The cost for posts was \$4,000. Buchanan has been flagged. The posts and signs at Cedar Valley and Cedar Bluff need to be reviewed. Sunbury will be done later if there are enough funds. County owned properties will have a green sign, rather than the blue signs used for other properties. A member asked why the posts are put on the right side of the driveway. Malott said if there is bad weather, an emergency vehicle knows to go to the left of the sign.

Training was discussed. Malott needs dates for storm watch with NOAA training. It was agreed that the training would be held at the next County-wide Fire Department meeting in January in Stanwood. Malott would like Cedar County to be a storm-ready county, so he felt the Dispatchers should attend the training. Emergency Medical Dispatch training was discussed. The cost would be \$200/person plus \$250 for one set of flip cards. The class needs to have a minimum of 20 students. Cedar County would have seven Dispatchers to be trained. There would be travel costs. Malott said there are funds in the budget for the seven Dispatchers to attend this training. It was noted that at a previous meeting the training was approved. Research had been done, but nothing was purchased. Mr. Holub said he would check with the city of Marion to see if the Dispatchers could “piggy-back” with them for the training. Malott noted the possible option of going with Jones or Muscatine Counties. Randolph indicated he would like to purchase this through the EMS Association.

Moved by Jepson seconded by Burken to adjourn the meeting at 7:18 p.m.