

911 COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
March 18, 2015

Chief Liggett called the meeting of the 911 Commission to order at 1:34 p.m. on March 18, 2015.

Members present: Chief Brad Liggett, Beloit Fire Department; Chief Dave Hooker, Clinton Police Department; Chief David Moore, Janesville Police Department; Deputy Chief Tom Dunkin, Beloit Police Department (Alternate); Chief Dave Wickstrum, Orfordville Police Department; Chief Jim Jensen, Janesville Fire Department; Sheriff Bob Spoden, Rock County Sheriff's Office; Chief Terry Wendt, Evansville Fire Department

Members Not Present: Mary Beaver, Evansville EMS

Others present: Kathy Sukus and Brian Becker, Rock County Communications Center; Dara Mosley, Rock County IT

1. Call to Order and Approval of Agenda

Chief Liggett called the meeting to order at 1:34 p.m. Motion to approve the agenda by Spoden. All approved.

2. Minutes –January 21, 2015

Motion by Moore to approve minutes as written. Second by Jensen. January 21, 2015 minutes approved as written.

3. Comments from the Public – No public present

4. Policy Updates

a) C6: Channel Diversion/Patching (Update)

Due to less than desirable audio quality, the Interop Channel was changed to Interop Link and will now work more like the BPD linked channels. The policy was updated for this change and to update the simulcast wording to include the recently added Edgerton Radio Tower and County Main Simulcast. Wording on page three was changed to meet CALEA standard requirements.

b) E2: Evacuation of Primary Site (Update)

The word “documented” was added on page two, section C to satisfy a CALEA standard.

Motion by Spoden to approved all policy changes. Second by Moore. All suggested policy changes approved.

5. CALEA Onsite: 3/23-3/26/15

The Communications Center is having its CALEA on-site assessment March 23-26, 2015. A public notice was sent to user agencies and local newspapers. Sukus stated there will be a call-in period on 3/25 1:00-3:00 p.m. and agencies are invited to share their comments regarding the Center. A few agencies have made appointments to meet the assessors in person.

6. Project Updates

a) Edgerton Tower

The tower has been up since January and the simulcast was activated approximately three weeks ago. Radio coverage in Edgerton has improved. Sukus stated they experienced garbled dispatches on the County Main channel at first due to simulcast timing, but Gen Comm has been working on that. They've seen improvement already. Sukus asked that agencies alert the Communications Center of any further audio problems on County Main and Rock Fire.

b) Text-to-911

Sukus stated Text-to-911 with Intrado is moving forward. Testing will most likely occur in April, and then cellular companies will be given notification to ready their systems (most companies are already prepared). The Communications Center will be focusing public education on Text-to-911.

c) Mobile Data Mapping

The Communications Center Geo Application Specialist, Kris Pehl, has been working on entering information for driving routes into the mobile data mapping system. IT is waiting on the Spillman StateLink and will make the mapping update along with that – they have to physically touch each unit.

d) Pictometry Flyover

Pictometry is moving forward with a flyover sometime in March or April.

7. Informational Items & Updates

a.) Wireless Location

Sukus stated there was a story on NBC recently about the FCC ruling requiring cell phone companies to provide more accurate locations of 911 callers. This would probably take several years until it went into effect.

b.) 911 Funding

On April 8, 2015 Sukus will be going to the Capitol along with Wisconsin APCO/NENA representatives to discuss 911 funding. Currently, 911 Centers only receive funding from landline 911 lines and with most

households getting rid of their landline telephones, the county does not receive much funding to cover the costs of 911. Fees collected on wireless telephone bills was intended for 911, but in 2009 Governor Doyle changed the “911 fee” to the “public safety” fee and the money was taken for the state’s general fund. The goal of next month’s meeting is to encourage legislators to introduce legislation to divert some of the 911 surcharge fees to a state 911 board who would offer grants to 911 PSAPs (public safety answering points) to prepare for Next Generation 911. Currently Wisconsin is one of two states that does not have a 911 surcharge on wireless devices.

8. Adjournment – Motion by Spoden to adjourn. Second by Jensen. Commission adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

Next Meeting – May 20, 2015

Respectfully Submitted,



Tara Hanley
Administrative Assistant
Rock County Communications Center