

911 COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

March 19, 2014

Chief Liggett called the meeting of the 911 Commission to order at 1:35 p.m. on March 19, 2014.

Members present: Chief Brad Liggett, Beloit Fire Department; Deputy Chief Bill Ruchti, Janesville Fire Department (alternate); Chief Norm Jacobs, Beloit Police Department; Chief Ben Riemer, Town of Fulton Police Department; Chief Brian Demrow, Edgerton Fire Department; Chief Tom Kunkel, Town of Milton Police Department

Members Not Present: Assistant Chief Gene Wright, Town of Beloit Fire Department; Sheriff Bob Spoden, Rock County Sheriff's Office; Chief David Moore, Janesville Police Department

Others present. Kathy Sukus, Rock County Communications Center; Dara Mosley, Rock County IT; Frank Schultz, Janesville Gazette

1. Call to Order and Approval of Agenda
Chief Liggett called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m. Motion to approve agenda by Kunkel. Second by Demrow. Agenda approved.
2. Minutes –January 15, 2014
Motion by Ruchti to approve minutes as written. Second by Riemer. January 15, 2014 minutes approved as written.
3. Comments from the Public – Commenting as a Beloit Citizen, Brad Liggett commended the Communications Center for its excellent performance in the recent critical incidents in Beloit.
4. Policy Updates
 - a) Social Media Policy: Sukus was approached by the Gazette about using Twitter to notify of road closures, special events, weather emergencies, etc. She found a social media policy template on the International Association of Chiefs of Police website and modified it for use here. A section about personal use of social media in the Rules of Conduct policy was taken out and placed in this policy as well.
 - b) Information Release Policy: A section was added to allow supervisors to communicate time-sensitive information using the Communications Center's Twitter account.
 - c) Rules of Conduct Policy: The section concerning personal use of social media was taken out and put into the new Social Media Policy. Motion by Kunkel to approve all suggested policy changes as written. Second by Jacobs. Policy changes approved.

5. Mobile Data - Update

Mosley stated things are moving forward with Motorola's P1 mobile data (every agency except one voted to make the switch). Purchase was approved by the Public Safety and Justice committee and will go to the County Board for approval next Thursday. Mosley would like to get proficient law and fire/EMS mobile data users to outline top expectations of a new mobile data system. Kunkel noted at this point, anything would be better than the current system.

6. New Commission Chair & Vice Chair Term Nominations & Elections

It was discovered that the Commission was overdue for Chair and Vice Chair elections. Liggett suggested that a new Chair term begin today with re-election January, 2015 while a new Vice Chair term begins today with re-election January, 2016. After that, each term will be two years and the Communications Center will keep track of upcoming term expirations and alert the Commission.

Nominations opened for Commission Chair. Chief Demrow nominated Chief Liggett for another term. Chief Kunkel nominated Chief Jacobs. After Jacobs expressed he would step aside if Liggett agreed to serve another term, Kunkel withdrew his nomination for Jacobs. All in favor of Chief Liggett serving another term of Commission Chair? Unanimous.

Nominations opened for Commission Vice Chair. Chief Kunkel nominated Sheriff Spoden to continue to serve as Vice Chair until January of 2016. Second by Demrow. Motion to elect Sheriff Spoden Vice Chair by Demrow. Second by Kunkel. Sheriff Spoden is elected as Vice Chair.

7. Informational Items & Updates

a) Town of Milton

Kunkel stated the Town Board approved the renaming of the section of road known as Old Highway 26 to North Milton Road and is now a Town of Milton road. Citizens were notified.

b) Quality Assurance

Sukus handed out the final 2013 Quality Assurance report. Responses held steady and there were no new negative responses.

c) 911 Legislation

Sukus stated the 911 legislation to change the fees from public safety to 911 went to public hearing last month. This legislation would change the surcharges for landline and wireless fees and .40 cents for both would go to a 911 fund rather than the State's general fund. The legislation also calls for creating a State 911 Board and 911 grants from a portion of the surcharges. WI-NENA and APCO are both involved.

d) Communications Center Personnel

Background checks are being done for the new IT position that will support the Sheriff's Office ½ time and the Communications Center ½ time.

e) Radio Towers

Sukus stated the Edgerton Tower project is moving forward. The County is in negotiation with Hendricks Properties to purchase one acre of land in the area of Artisan Dr. & Tower Rd in the City of Edgerton. The Resolution for the purchase goes to County Board next Thursday. Soil boring tests are also currently being scheduled in order to determine the makeup of the soil so bidders to the RFP know which type of base will be required for the tower structure.

General Communications is waiting on one more part to complete the Blackhawk Technical Receiver site work.

f.) Communications Center Annual Report

The 2013 Communications Center Annual Report is in progress and expected to be completed for review at the next Commission meeting.

g.) 911 PSA

Sukus expressed how much she appreciated the law enforcement agencies participation in the "757-2244" public safety announcement. The video will be playing in local theaters before movies starting April 4.

h.) Fire/EMS Information

Demrow questioned if there was a policy for fire similar to the law enforcement Channel Diversion policy. Sukus stated there was not really anything like that in the policy, but that she would bring it up at the next Fire/EMS Workgroup to see if agencies wanted to develop a procedure.

Demrow mentioned that Red Cross was not present at the last Rock County Fire Officer's meeting to discuss the problems Fire/EMS agencies have been experiencing with the Red Cross's lack of response to displaced families of residential fires.

8. Next Meeting – May 21, 2014 ***Rescheduled to May 14, 2014***

9. Adjournment – Kunkel moved to adjourn Commission meeting. Second by Demrow. Commission adjourned at 2:07 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Tara Hanley
Support Specialist
Rock County Communications Center