

Note: These minutes are a draft and are not to be considered official until approved at the next meeting.

**Poweshiek County 911
Board Meeting Minutes for June 25, 2024**

This meeting was held in person and via ZOOM

Members Present: Rusty Massengale-Malcom, Kurt Hall-Brooklyn, Brian Paul, EMA, Ruth Moore-New Sharon, Gary Sears-Gilman

Dawn Disney-Addressing/Database Mgr.

Via ZOOM: Jason Roudabush, Poweshiek County

Members Absent: Barnes City, Chelsea, Sully, Searsboro, Belle Plaine
Victor, Hartwick, Deep River, Grinnell, Montezuma, Sheriff

Guests:

Call to order and Roll Call

Massengale called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. - Members present as listed above.

Approval of Agenda

Motioned by Paul to approve the agenda as presented, second by Sears. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes from May 14, 2024, Meeting

Motioned by Moore to approve the minutes as presented, second by Hall. Motion carried.

Business Items

Hwy 63 Tower Site Shelter (Massengale)

Massengale advised that he hasn't heard back from Cellsite Solutions after sending pictures. He reached out to Murphy Towers, Carlisle, Iowa to see if they would be interested in purchasing it, or know of anyone that would be.

Paul asked if Massengale would forward the pictures to him so that he can also reach out to those in the EMA Association to see if there is anyone in need of a shelter.

Countywide Radio System – Update

Paul advised that it's all working. The system went live on Monday, June 17th. Racom had end user training on the portables and pagers. The training was made available at different times day and evenings, and at different locations; two were held in Grinnell, one in Montezuma and another in Brooklyn. There were one to two people per department that attended.

They will be installing all mobile in a week. There were a few tweaks made to what has been installed and everything is working great. There have been zero complaints about coverage. Everyone has been testing and challenging the system. The college has tested in the basement and was able to reach another location in the building which wasn't possible with their old system, the radios have been tested from out of the county reaching back without any problems, and they will be testing the rock quarry in Malcom once they open back up in the fall.

Recorder – Upgrade vs. Replacement

Paul stated that Racom provided an upgrade with the new radio system but it is recommended to replace them every 7 to 8 years. He feels that the 911 Board should plan on budgeting for a new one in another year. He said that he would check with Racom on the cost of replacing it.

He said that he doesn't know how old the existing recorder is. Disney suggested checking with the Dispatch Supervisor as she believes that it is part of the shared services with the State and that it was replaced after switching over at some point. It is unclear if and how many times the current recorder has been upgraded, if at all. Paul will look into this and get back to the board.

Racom Invoice

Paul advised that last year that he and Vos with Racom were talking about the radios and their charges. The radios and pagers came with individual port charges, similar to a cell phone charger. He said that they make bay charges, which is a unit that sits on a desk or table. It cradles multiple radios and charges them all at the same time, which is easier for those using them and safer for the radios and helps keep them from getting broken. He stated that they make a desk charger for the pagers as well. Neither were included with the radio project; however, they were listed as an option, but without any costs listed. Paul believes that they are needed and is asking the 911 Board to consider purchasing them. A quote was provided from Racom for a total of \$34,233.00 for:

(22) 6-Bay Chargers for Radios, (2) 12-Bay Charges for Radios, (179) G2-G5 Standard Desktop Charges for Pagers plus Shipping

Hall said that he doesn't have a problem using the port charger, but agrees that the drop-in chargers would be more convenient,

Deep River and Montezuma already have the drop in charges because they upgraded early. Moore asked if the 911 board now pays for all of the other chargers if Deep River and Montezuma, who both upgraded early and paid additional costs to do so would get reimbursed, and what that additional amount would be.

Paul said that they upgraded early because they were having issues and still needed VHF until the new system was operating. So, they paid the difference from what the contract price county agreed to pay plus the cost of programming. The costs were not broken down on the email that Paul had regarding that quote to those two departments, so it is unsure if the chargers were additional or included with those radios.

There was further discussion on why the costs would be included on the additional radios purchased and not the rest of the radios.

Massengale said that he thinks they need to discuss it with Racom at the meeting tomorrow, June 26th.

Disney said since Racom is interested in purchasing the shelter, and if the board votes to pay for the chargers, that maybe board should consider bartering with Racom and knocking the price of the shelter down accordingly. That would eliminate taking funds out of the budget that weren't originally budgeted for, solve getting rid of the shelter, and might help when making the decision.

Discussion

Massengale read a letter received from Disney. After 32 years she is retiring effective June 28, 2024 from the Poweshiek County Sheriff's Office. IPERS requires that any contract job performed by a person receiving IPERS retirement benefits must resign from such position, and not enter into any agreement with the current employer or any other IPERS employers, for thirty days and after receiving their first IPERS retirement payment. Therefore, Disney is officially resigning as the 911 Addressing/Database Manager effective June 28, 2024.

Massengale and Roudabush both thanked her for her service to the public and board over the past 19 years. The resignation was accepted.

Massengale stated that the board will be publishing the position in the local papers as normal.

Sears made a motion to appoint Chairman, Rusty Massengale to take over the duties until the position is filled. Moore seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**Next Meeting: July 23, 2024 @ 6:30 p.m. – Poweshiek Co. Public Safety Bldg.
Hall motioned to adjourn at 7:30p.m., seconded by Sears. Motion carried.**