

GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY 911 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MEETING MINUTES OF July 16th, 2020

COMMISSION CHAMBERS – GOVERNMENTAL CENTER

PRESENT:

Jeff O'Brien
Nick Lemcool
Brad Jewett
Jason Torrey
Chief Andy Down

AGENCY:

Traverse City Police Department
East Bay EMS
G.T County Board of Commissioners
GT 911/Central Dispatch
Grand Traverse Township Fire Services

ABSENT:

Chief Jim Tuller
Chief Pat Parker
Gregg Bird
Ryan Tabaczka
Chris Clark

Traverse City Fire Department
G.T. Metro Fire Department
G.T. County Emergency Management
Michigan State Police
G.T. County Sheriff's Department

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Leah Hornacek
Bill Parker
Brandon Flynn
Nick Carpenter
Brian Belcher
Suzie Klein

GT 911/Central Dispatch
Blair/Paradise Township Emergency Services
Whitewater Twp. Fire Department
Grand Traverse Central Dispatch
G.T. Metro Fire (proxy for Chief Pat Parker)
Hopes Not Handcuffs Group

CALL TO ORDER:

Meeting was called to order at 10:01am. A quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES (COMBINED):

Motion made by Torrey to make the "Hopes not Handcuffs" discussion as the first item on this meeting's agenda, support by Lemcool. Lemcool noted that his agency affiliation was incorrect in June 2020's minutes and requested that it be corrected. Additional motion made by Torrey to combine the approval of agenda and minutes for the virtual meeting, support by Jewett.

Motion passed.

SPECIAL REPORT:

- Chief Jeff O'Brien presented the Hopes Not Handcuffs program implementation to the board, a program in which persons of substance abuse disorder can come to the law enforcement center and request help, anonymously. Suzie Cline discussed how the program works in greater detail, and it was discussed how dispatch and police can activate volunteers of the program.

DIRECTORS REPORT:

- Currently have two trainees in process, entering phases 2 and 3. Went through interviews, recently, and have new employees Josh Way and Andy Woolet starting next week; well on our way to full staffing.
- Call volume in June up by 400 calls from June of last year.
- Virtual training planned for staff, no plans on allowing staff to travel for training.
- Torrey now certified for iPaws notification system along with Gregg Bird.
- Budget process has started for county government.
- LPT provided email about the Health Department not providing positive patient information, anymore. According to them, it was only a temporary solution.
- Met with Motorola and conducted a plan review and site walk at the existing tower infrastructure at "central tower," it initially appears the shelter and tower are sufficient enough to install any new equipment with major changes.

SUBCOMITTEE REPORTS:

Technical

- No report.

Law Enforcement

- No report.

Fire and EMS

- No report.

OLD BUSINESS:

- CPE end of life grant request approved, awaiting on one more signature to finalize for submission to the Board of Commissioners. The grant initially had a ten-percent match, which was lowered to five-percent. Because of the grant, replacement cost of existing CPE equipment was removed from the current surcharge proposal.
- 911 surcharge proposal was unanimously approved by the Board of Commissioners for the November ballot. Working now on planning out educational information for the public to begin implementing in the upcoming months, will have a better idea of how to proceed at next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Torrey Submitted “Device Location Ping” policy update for formal approval. Motion by Lemcool, support by Jewett. Motion passed.
- Torrey discussed the 911 outage that occurred in January and again in June, which affected multiple centers across the state. Peninsula Fiber Networks advised they were in the middle of a system upgrade and experienced a “digital storm.” The 911 directors association is working with the state administrator to ensure that the MPSC monitors vendors for adherence to standards that have to be met. PSAP outage policy was utilized by staff and worked well during the last outage.

ROUND TABLE:

- Belcher discussed with Carpenter regarding the new Bryx alerting application and some general questions about messaging via text. Users are all seeming to like the Bryx app.
- Torrey met with North Flight EMS and discussed expectations and communications policy, and how some adjustments were needed to be made on their end to improve operations. Their dispatch center will be taking over the responsibility of assigning their resources to dispatched calls, instead of a working field manager.
- Jewett discussed continuing to spread the word requesting community members to complete the 2020 census.

Meeting adjourned 10:44 AM.