

JONES COUNTY 911 SERVICE BOARD

MEETING MINUTES

October 7, 2021

SERVICE BOARD MEMBERS

Bold lettering indicates those in attendance at this meeting.

Voting Membership

Denny Coon	Oxford Junction	Jeff Swisher	Board of Supervisors
Mike O'Connor	Morley	Roxanne Tapken	Martelle
Kevin Rohwedder	Olin Fire District	John Machart	Anamosa
Rex Andrews	CJ Rural Fire Brd.	Britt Smith	Monticello
Jacob Koch	Mechanicsville	Brenda Leonard	Jones County EMA
Bert Kraai	Cascade	Greg Graver	Jones County Sheriff
Jean McPherson	Olin (Ambulance)	Brandon Siggins	Lisbon

Non-Voting Membership

Sheila Frink	Anamosa Area Amb.	Jake Lindauer	Lisbon/MtVernon Amb.
John Vacek	Wyoming Fire Co.	Russ Benke	Midland Ambulance

VISITORS in Attendance:

None

911 Coordinator

Gary Schwab - Jones County 911 Coordinator

Chairman Coon called the meeting of the 911 Service Board Zoom meeting to order at 7:03 PM.

Motioned by Machart, 2nd by Andrews to approve the agenda. All Aye. Motion carried.

Past Minutes of September 2, 2021

Motioned by Swisher, 2nd by Swisher to approve the minutes. All Aye. Motion carried.

Budget Report

Schwab reported financials for the year through September: Fund balance stands at \$266,152.87 Revenue stood at \$83,781.44, Expenses stood at \$225,735.90.

Motioned by Swisher, 2nd by Andrews to approve the budget report as presented. All Aye. Motion carried.

County Maps

Schwab presented quotes received to print 100 county maps. Five companies were contacted. One did not respond, the company that prepared our maps in 2010 responded that they no longer have the capability to print that large a format. Of the remaining three the low bid was for \$11.42 per map. Schwab felt that no one would be willing to purchase maps at even \$12 per map. And at the low demand level of 5 or 6 maps a year paying to get 100 maps does not seem practical. While some emergency/disaster services would benefit from having a large paper map. Schwab also stated that the GIS department may be able to provide maps on an as needed basis. Swisher offered that BOS has discussed this issue and they would be willing to pay for maps that might be needed for disaster mitigation purposes. He also offered that maps are not used by the Anamosa fire department. If they want to find some location they go to their phones or computers for mapping assistance. Coon offered that in Scott County fire maps are provided on the Scott County web site. Schwab stated that the cost versus benefit isn't worth the expense. Coon offered that there used to be GIS regional meetings, it might be worth it to see what that group thinks and or does. The board consensus agreed and asked to review other options.

GIS Computers - Update

Schwab reported that the GIS computers are on premises. The County IT department hopes to get them installed by mid October.

Wyoming Tower and Midland Schools

Schwab did some searching through old minutes and found that back in 2002 it was agreed that Midland would not be charged.

Olin Tower - Update

Schwab reported that Olin Telephone has confirmed that they do indeed own the tower and shelter. A lease agreement is in place with T-Mobile. I was also able to get a copy of the service board/Olin Telephone lease agreement from Radio Communication's Terry Harris. I can also report that the climb assist cable has been repaired. In the packet for all board members is a coverage map that shows there would most likely be a big drop in communications capability if the board should decide to do away with the site.

The board decided that no further action or changes shall be made.

Backup Dispatch at Jets Building - Update

Schwab reported that there has been no communication back regarding the NOI to apply for a grant to add a back up dispatch area at the Jets building. Keep in mind that we would be limited to a county building and it would have to be in another town. Schwab visited the Jets building with IT coordinator Lisa Mootz, she stated most of the equipment in the server room, an 8'x8' room upstairs in the storage area, could be removed to make some room for a dispatch console. Schwab expressed his concerns that being upstairs the site is not handicap accessible. While that may not be an issue today it could be in the future. And is quite removed from any restroom facilities. Schwab suggested that members of the board should take an opportunity to tour the Jets facilities.

Emergency Radio Fund, Old Business

Schwab offered that in going through old minutes, June 14th 2001, he found reference to the board setting up an emergency fund of \$2000 to be used by Fire/law/EMS departments to replace damaged radio equipment with a limit of \$500 per event. Schwab also reported that he could not find any evidence that this fund had every actually been set up or rescinded. Coon stated that at the time the intent was to help departments if they had a radio that for whatever reason failed, the board would be able to help in the replacement of that radio. The board asked to see if Schwab can find anymore information budget wise as to what was done, or any other suggestions.

Other Items of Interest

Tapken asked about the P25 initiative referencing the Notice sent out by Schwab stating that as of January 2023 all radio traffic for emergency services would be via P25. She wanted to know if there was going to be any funding help from the Service Board for radio equipment. In short no, what department have been doing is applying for grants. That has worked well for several departments such as Wyoming, Center Junction, Anamosa. Other board members explained that we have been working toward P25 since 2018. Not all fire fighters are getting radios as they are using the App "I am Responding". There are other work arounds that other departments are using. And that right now getting a grant for P25 would be looked on favorably by the federal government. Coon asked if anything major was coming up for the Service Board expense wise in the next year. Schwab stated yes, Dispatch Radio system is needed to be replaced as the existing system is at end of service life. A new system will be somewhere in the vicinity of \$300k to \$500k. at this point the best course of action is to apply for grants.

Motioned by Swisher, 2nd by Machart to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 PM. All Aye. Motion carried.

Next Meeting – November 4, 2021

Recorded by:

Gary Schwab, Jones County 911 Coordinator