

GENESEE COUNTY COMMUNICATIONS CONSORTIUM
Executive Board Meeting
July 14, 2020
Genesee County 9-1-1

Location: Grand Blanc Twp Police Dept., 5405 Saginaw Rd, Flint, MI 48507

Meeting will be available via Conference Line

Conference Line: 1-810-230-4303

Conference ID: 789 766 541#

MINUTES

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by Chairman Mark Emmendorfer at 2:00 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ATTENDANCE ROLL CALL

Members Present: Karyn Miller, Flint Township; Fred Thorsby, Flushing Township; Paul Fortino, Gaines Township; Steve Fuhr, Genesee Township; Mark Emmendorfer, Montrose Township; Vicki Fishell, Mt. Morris City; Wendy Jean-Buhrer, Grand Blanc City; Sam Stiff, Gaines Village; Kim Courts, Genesee County; Dave Stamm, GC Sheriff

Members Absent: Scott Bennett, Grand Blanc Township; Ellen Ellenburg, Genesee County; Yvonne Brantley, Michigan State Police

Others Present: Kerry Paulson, Phil Hart, Anthony Chubb, Spring Tremaine, Tim Jones, Valerie Moore – recorder

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA, MINUTES & ACCOUNTS **Chairman
Emmendorfer**

- **Current Agenda – July 2020**
- **Executive Board Meeting Minutes – June 2020**
- **Accounts/Transaction List – June 2020**
- **Treasurers Report – June 2020**

Action Taken: Motion by Thorsby, support by Jean-Buhrer to approve the current agenda, June meeting minutes, June Accounts & Treasurers report as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Miller	Aye
Thorsby	Aye
Fortino	Aye
Fuhr	Aye
Emmendorfer	Aye

Fishell	Aye
Jean-Buhrer	Aye
Stiff	Aye
Courts	Aye
Stamm	Aye

All Ayes, Motion Passes

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

None

6. OLD BUSINESS

A. Advisory Board Report

Chief Volz

Deputy Director Jones provided a brief update from the Advisory Board meeting. Advisory Board members were asked to provide consensus regarding long-standing dispatch protocols. Director Tremaine discussed with the Police Chiefs. The topics covered during this meeting were stolen plate reports and radio checks. Further discussion and follow up will take place with Police Chiefs and the Advisory Board for future topics that were not covered at this meeting.

B. Operational Surcharge Committee

Tremaine

Deputy Director Jones explained that prior to 2017 the State 9-1-1 Surcharge was set at \$1.24 per line/per month, the need for an increase was due to operational cost as well as a Radio upgrade planned for Genesee County 9-1-1 Consortium members. Genesee County 9-1-1 requested voters to approve an increase in the surcharge of .42 cents, that increase was approved, resulting in the total State and local 9-1-1 surcharge fee of \$1.86 per line/per month.

Jones stated at this time, without the State renewing their Statewide 9-1-1 surcharge fee of \$1.24, Genesee County will lose all 9-1-1 surcharge funding by December 2021. There must be a renewal on an upcoming ballot for Genesee County residents in late 2020 or early 2021 in order to secure future funding for 9-1-1 to maintain operations. Jones stated he was advised by representatives from the State 9-1-1 board to move forward with a proposal for the whole \$1.86 on a ballot, to ensure we can get the funding needed. If the State moves forward and reinstates the State surcharge after our vote, it's possible for us to revert back to the \$1.24 fee prior to 2017. Jones, and Attorney Chubb have initiated the process, they are preparing a proposal to submit to the Genesee County Board of Commissioners in order to request a ballot vote. At this time, it is unknown if the State will submit a resolution to renew the current Surcharge fee of \$1.24 ahead of the December 2021 deadline.

The process will be extensive and will involve several steps requiring approvals and resolutions from General Membership, Executive Board and Genesee County Board of Commissioners prior to being sent to the State of Michigan. Attorney Chubb will work with Genesee County Cooperate Counsel, Brian MacMillan during the process to have a resolution drafted, and approved as well as preparing a proposal for ballot language ahead of the March or May 2021 election.

Thorsby asked if Fenton would be involved in this process. Chubb stated that Fenton will in fact need to be involved during this process since they are part of the County and approve of the funding being requested & collected.

Emmendorfer mentioned that if we had a resolution and ballot proposal ready by August 11, we could have our proposal on the November 2020 election, and this would eliminate the need for all of the municipalities to cover the cost of a special ballot in March or May 2021.

Jones stated that we would need to have time to work on putting together the “Friends of 9-1-1” committee who would be key players for community/public awareness on the 9-1-1 surcharge renewal ahead of the election. Members stated it is important to advise the community that the surcharge cost to them will remain the same as what they have been paying over the past 3 years.

Courts mentioned that Emmendorfer could reach out to Doreen Fulcher at the GC Clerks office and she can provide information on any upcoming elections for March 2021 or May 2021. Emmendorfer stated that once he can find out what is coming up on a 2021 election the Budget/Audit committee can make a decision on the next steps.

Courts mentioned that on the ballot it will appear as if we are requesting an “increase” to \$1.86, since a “renewal” would only be .42 cents. Chubb confirmed what Courts stated, that on the ballot, the proposal language will appear as an increase of almost 3 times the amount for the local Genesee County 9-1-1 surcharge fee.

Jones and Chubb confirmed that since we are not relying on the States 9-1-1 renewal until we have further information to confirm their plans, we need to request the 9-1-1 Surcharge fees of \$1.86 per line/per month ahead of the deadlines and sunset dates. Emmendorfer stated that if a resolution could be put together quickly and is approved by Executive Board, the City of Fenton and County Commissioners this could go on the November election. If it does not pass in November, we still have the time to have it added on a March or May ballot to try again before the sunset date.

Tremaine stated that the reason this is being brought up now is that due to timing of the deadlines, as well as the fact that there has not been a quorum at the last two General membership meetings, so the decision may fall to the Executive Board.

Chubb stated that he will draft a resolution for the Boards approval, work with Fenton for their approval and deliver an approved copy to Genesee County Cooperate Counsel, Brian MacMillan to submit for Genesee County Board of Commissioners approval.

C. COVID Safety Measures – Sneeze Guards

Tremaine

Tremaine reported that the sneeze guards have been completed and installed in the center. Last month the Board approved the cost for this project, up to \$8,000, the final project was completed at a final cost of \$7,796.44.

Emmendorfer asked for photos of the installed sneeze guards be posted for the board members to see the work completed.

D. Committee Directory & Meeting Schedule

Tremaine

Tremaine presented the revised Committee Directory and meeting schedule which shows the updated meeting location for the remainder of this year.

7. NEW BUSINESS

A. City of Fenton – Backbone Fees

Tremaine

Tremaine presented a letter from the City of Fenton regarding the Backbone fees invoicing as well as the Backbone participation contract that was sent to them in April from Genesee County 9-1-1. Tremaine requested data from the State of Michigan to show Push to Talk use from the City of Fenton over a 3-month period to verify their statements of not using our towers. The report reflects just over 56% of the PTT use by City of Fenton radios hitting Genesee County towers. Tremaine stated this specific data was just received prior to the meeting so the City of Fenton has not seen a copy of this report yet. Based on her conversation with City of Fenton representative, they are not in agreement with the Backbone participation contract, and do not intend to pay the backbone fees as invoiced. Tremaine is requesting recommendations from the Executive Board on how to proceed.

Fortino asked if the City of Fenton pays for the Holly tower use, or if they've built their own backbone. As far as Tremaine is aware, they do not pay for use on the Holly tower and have not built a tower for their own use within the City.

Emmendorfer stated that based on the history of the 9-1-1 Agreement from the mid 90's, Genesee County Board of Commissioners made the decision of who was going to have an operating PSAP in Genesee County. Essentially, they hold the ultimate decision and could revoke our right to run the PSAP if they chose to at any time. The Board of Commissioners did not want that task, so they created the 9-1-1 Agreement which handed over the management and control of the PSAP to Genesee County 9-1-1 Consortium Members.

Within the original agreement that was put together by Lyndon Lattie and Ward Chapman, all Consortium members agreed to give up their surcharge fees to Genesee County 9-1-1 to run the PSAP for the entire county. At the time the agreement was signed, the City of Fenton and Grand Blanc Township were both included in the agreement and had agreed that their share of fees would be handed over to Genesee County 9-1-1 Consortium as the main PSAP operating in Genesee County. The Board of Commissioners had their reason behind the agreement being maintained, even when Fenton City continued to operate their own PSAP within the County. Over the past year, Genesee County Board of Commissioners made the decision to allow the City of Fenton to retain their surcharge fee's that had previously been given to Genesee County 9-1-1 based on the original 9-1-1 Agreement.

Emmendorfer stated that non-Consortium members are billed an annual Backbone fee to cover the cost of 9-1-1 Consortium owned/funded equipment that is being used.

Members feel that the City of Fenton should not be excluded from paying the backbone fee's, especially now that they are receiving their twenty percent of the surcharge income. They should be treated the same as other non-consortium members that are utilizing the same systems.

Tremaine stated the 9-1-1 Agreement needs to be updated and reviewed by Chubb. It will go to all Boards for review and approval when ready.

Action Taken: Motion by Thorsby, support by Fuhr to have Tremaine and Chubb pursue the backbone (mic) fees from the City of Fenton at \$105 per radio, at roughly 132 radios as reported at this time. The board is willing to negotiate based on the verified number of radios.

Roll Call Vote:

Miller	Aye
Thorsby	Aye
Fortino	Aye
Fuhr	Aye
Emmendorfer	Aye
Fishell	Aye
Jean-Buhrer	Aye
Stiff	Aye
Courts	Aye
Stamm	Aye

All Ayes, Motion Passes

B. Invoice Approvals

Tremaine

1. Motorola Maintenance

Tremaine presented the invoice for annual Motorola console maintenance at \$49,051.00. Tremaine stated this is a required maintenance renewal and has been accounted for in the budget.

Action Taken: Motion by Fuhr, support by Fortino to pay the invoice for annual Motorola console maintenance at \$49,051.

Roll Call Vote:

Miller	Aye
Thorsby	Aye
Fortino	Aye
Fuhr	Aye
Emmendorfer	Aye
Fishell	Aye
Jean-Buhrer	Aye
Stiff	Aye
Courts	Aye
Stamm	Aye

All Ayes, Motion Passes

8. OTHER BUSINESS

Tremaine

None

9. DIRECTORS REPORT

Tremaine

Tremaine presented a letter notifying the Board that the two CD accounts from Chemical Bank were transferred to ELGA Credit Union at the end of June. The notice was received from Chemical Bank stating the CD's matured on June 5, 2020 and they were renewed at rates of 0% and .05% APR. Emmendorfer sought alternative locations that would provide a better APR on the CD's. The new rates on the CD's transferred will be 1.25 % APR.

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

11. ATTORNEY REPORTS

Attorney Chubb

12. PUBLIC COMMENTS

13. ADJOURNMENT

Action Taken: Motion by Fuhr, support by Thorsby to Adjourn the meeting at 2:57 pm.
All Ayes, Motion Passes.

**Next Meeting:
Executive Board Meeting
August 11, 2020 @ 2 pm**