

GENESEE COUNTY COMMUNICATIONS CONSORTIUM
Executive Board Meeting
October 13, 2020
Genesee County 9-1-1

2:00 pm

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

Meeting will available via Conference Line

Conference Line: 1-810-230-4303

Conference ID: 472 015 79#

MINUTES

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by Chairman Emmendorfer at 2:02 pm.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ATTENDANCE ROLL CALL

Members Present: Karyn Miller, Flint Township; Fred Thorsby, Flushing Township; Paul Fortino, Gaines Township; Scott Bennett, Grand Blanc Township; Mark Emmendorfer, Montrose Township; Vicki Fishell, Mt. Morris City; Sam Stiff, Gaines Village; Dave Stamm, GC Sheriff

Members Absent: Steve Fuhr, Genesee Township; Wendy Jean-Buhrer, Grand Blanc City; Ellen Ellenburg, Genesee County; Kim Courts, Genesee County; Yvonne Brantley, MSP

Others Present: Ryan Volz, Tim Elkins, Steve Rynbrandt, Ron Wiles, Jason Slater, Michele Munof, Chris Patterson, Lynn Markland, Robert Cairnduff, Anthony Chubb, Spring Tremaine, Tim Jones, Valerie Moore – recorder

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

- **Current Agenda - October 2020**
- **Executive Board Meeting Minutes – September 8, 2020**
- **Accounts /Transaction List – September 2020**
- **Treasurers Report – September 2020**

Action Taken: Motion by Bennett, support by Thorsby to approve current agenda, September 8, 2020 minutes, September accounts, and Treasurers report as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Miller	Aye
Thorsby	Aye
Fortino	Aye
Bennett	Aye
Emmendorfer	Aye
Fishell	Aye
Stiff	Aye
Stamm	Aye

All Ayes, Motion Passes

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

None

6. OLD BUSINESS

A. Advisory Board Report

Chief Volz

Chief Volz reported there was no Advisory Board meeting in September. Volz reported that Davison Fire Chief Flewelling has been appointed as the new Advisory board member for Fire. Chief Wiles provided an update that Chief O'dette from Mott Community College has been appointed by the Police Chiefs to serve as the Police Advisory member.

B. City of Fenton – Backbone Fees

Lynn Markland

Fenton City Manager Lynn Markland stated that for the last few years the City of Fenton has been trying to collect their full portion of the 911 surcharge funding from the County and State. Over the past year Genesee County Board of Commissioners came to an agreement to provide the City of Fenton with the money they should have been receiving all along. In August they received an invoice from Genesee County 911 in the amount of \$13,860 which was detailed as Tower Backbone fees.

Markland stated they began looking into this, after collecting their radio usage data relating to use of the GC911 towers, the usage report was then sent to Director Tremaine.

Chief Cairnduff presented a report of the tower usage over a span of time during Covid (April, May and June) the information was requested again from the State based on usage in October, November and December of 2019. After excluding the radios that do not belong to the City of Fenton, the data shows that their usage was at 7.49% compared to about 5% on the first report (April - June 2020). Chief Cairnduff stated the Fenton radios are programmed to run primary or preferential to the Holly tower, their radios are not using the Genesee County 911 towers on a regular basis.

City of Fenton Attorney, Chris Patterson noted that the invoice they received for the amount \$13,860 was based on 132 radios at \$105 per radio. Patterson stated based

on the Chief Cairnduffs report, there is significantly less than 132 radios assigned to the City of Fenton, contrary to what was invoiced. Mr. Patterson stated there was correspondence with GC911 inquiring as to what the basis of the charges were. In terms of the State system, the City of Fenton has paid radio activation fees to the State to use the State's system.

Emmendorfer asked what the significantly less number of radios they have in use (compared to the 132 on the invoice). Attorney Patterson stated it was based on the report that Chief Cairnduff has available. Chief Cairnduff stated he has the report on a drive, essentially the count would excluded radios they have given away, some radios are in use by DPW, as mutual aid partners in Oakland county along with a few others that have been sold or no longer in use at all.

Discussion continued regarding the details of the push to talk (PTT) usage report, Fenton stating the number of radios included is not accurate, as there are radios listed that are not owned by City of Fenton included in the report. Analysis needs to be done to exclude those additional radios to determine the correct usage for City of Fenton radios. Tremaine asked if the City of Fenton agrees to the count of 132 radios, reportedly owned and assigned to them per the State of Michigan report from 2019. Chief Cairnduff confirmed that, at one point yes, that was correct. However, some of the radios have been sold and were reported to the State at the time, currently they do not have 132 radios in use but estimated to be in the 120 range.

Mr. Markland stated that the Consortium is trying to invoice them as if they are another member of the Consortium who is using the towers on a regular basis. First point is we are not Consortium members, and he does not feel that GC911 has the authority to bill them. Secondly you are trying to bill us as if we are using the towers on a regular, day to day basis, and they are not using the GC911 towers on a regular basis. Mr. Markland inquired if all other outside agencies receive billing for incidental tower usage. Based on their minimal incidental use, they do not feel they should be invoiced for the same thing that all other agencies are not being billed for. Tremaine mentioned that yes, non-Consortium members are billed at the same rate of \$105 per radio. Fortino asked what the number of radios is that they currently have in use. Chief Cairnduff did not have an exact number but would estimate around 120 radios, since approximately 12 have been sold or taken out of use.

Mr. Patterson stated that these towers are part of the States network. His understanding is that a State license radio fee is paid to the State of Michigan, and that fee would cover any incidental use across the State's tower system. Mr. Patterson stated we do not have an individual contract with the consortium, so we would like clarity what the 'legal basis' is that GC911 can invoice them for tower use.

Jones noted that the State fee paid is for programming and activation. There are no other fees paid to the State to use the towers.

Mr. Patterson is asking for a copy of a contract that was set up between the State of Michigan and GC911, that will clarify the basis for GC911's authority to charge them use of the (tower) system.

Attorney Chubb stated he feels everyone is clear on the positions being taken on this matter. No other non-Consortium members are complaining about the de minimis amount that is charged by GC911. This Board passed a resolution that gave direction to himself and the Director to recoup this fee. Understanding everyone's positions, he will reach out to Mr. Patterson to have further discussion.

C. Operational Surcharge Committee

Jones

Jones stated there is still no movement from the State regarding the next steps regarding renewal details. Jones and Tremaine have had conversations with the State SNC Director and nothing new has been released regarding the State's renewal plans. The sunset date of the State and local surcharge is December 2021.

There is a chance we could survive on the \$1.24 surcharge income if that happens to carry over beyond the sunset date. However, there is no way we could possibly survive on a .24/.25 cents surcharge that could be what is reverted to if no action is taken by the State, or Genesee County. The process for ballot language needs to be started so that we will have a proposal ready for a ballot in March or by the deadline in May for the next election.

Budget, Audit and Surcharge Committee will be involved in deciding a final figure needed to be included on a request. Emmendorfer stated we will have the committee working on the ballot proposal and start getting information out to the public.

Discussion of any local items being on a ballot planned for March at this time is not confirmed. Attorney Chubb and other members will continue to monitor to stay informed regarding a March ballot.

D. Invoice Approvals (5)

Tremaine

Tremaine presented five (5) invoices for approval. State of Michigan, Tower monitoring in the amount of \$84,504.11, Indigital, annual maintenance contract is \$33,600. Two invoices for Dell, \$30,812.33 and \$12,556.22 as well as CDW for \$38,073.75 are all related to Data Equipment in the back room.

Action taken: Motion by Thorsby, support by Bennett to approve the five (5) invoices as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Miller	Aye
Thorsby	Aye
Fortino	Aye
Bennett	Aye
Emmendorfer	Aye
Fishell	Aye
Stiff	Aye
Stamm	Aye

All Ayes, Motion Passes

7. NEW BUSINESS

A. Radio Equipment Use Agreement

Jones

Jones presented the License for Equipment Use agreement that was originally drafted by Lyndon Lattie at the time the radios were purchased and distributed to the agencies. At that time, there may have been questions about the language in the agreement and some agencies did not agree to sign. Jones sent this agreement to be reviewed by Attorney Chubb, and he did not see any issue with the agreement language.

Emmendorfer stated that the intent of the agreement following the purchase of the radios by the Consortium still stands and should be pushed out to the agencies to be signed.

Chief Wiles mentioned this purchase of the radios was done in partnership between Genesee County agencies and GC911, he does not see an issue with the agreement being signed.

B. FY 2020 Budget Amendment (1)

Tremaine

Tremaine presented an amendment to align the budgeted amount of one line item to bring it up to meet the actual expense as of September 30, 2020. Telephone expense went over by \$538 from the projected amount done in August 2020.

Question was raised if this amendment should be done since we are past the end of the fiscal year. The budget is adopted by the total, or bottom line and this one line item does not exceeded the approved total budget amount for the year.

Action Taken: Motion by Thorsby, support by Fishell to approve the amendment to decrease line 2972 by \$1000 and increase line 2851 by \$1000.

All Ayes, Motion Passes

C. CARES Grant – Hazard Pay & Payroll

Tremaine

Tremaine reported that we were approved for both grants. First Responders hazard pay grant received was \$46,000 and the Public Safety payroll reimbursement grant received was \$213,248. The hazard pay was approved and paid one hundred percent to the staff in September 2020, the payroll reimbursement grant was paid at fifty percent of what was turned in on the application.

D. MPSCS – Additional Users

Tremaine

Tremaine presented a letter that was received from MPSCS regarding a request for Consumers Power to have access to the Towers system. At this time Consumers Power and DTE have joined MPSCS communication system and Consumers wants to join Genesee County tower system. Consumers Power would be bringing 2 new channels to the system, they would provide their own equipment and have it installed at their own cost.

Emmendorfer stated that there is a benefit to having Consumers on the system, especially considering emergency situations that may arise in the county. There are still questions and details to have clarified before a final decision is made. Additional meetings will take place so further discussion will be brought back to the Board.

E. Executive Board Nominations

Tremaine

Emmendorfer reminded everyone the Executive Board members will be up for election in December. Member positions to be filled need to be 6 Township, 2 Cities and 1 Village. If you are interested in serving on the Executive board reach out to Tremaine or Valerie Moore and they will include your name in the nomination list for the December meeting when the voting will take place.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

Fortino asked how the hazard pay and payroll grant revenue will affect the end of the year budget and Audit reports. Tremaine stated we are working with Taylor & Morgan to help ensure we are recording and reporting correctly for the close of the year, as well as how or if it would affect our 2021 budget for next year. Additional updates will be brought back to the board after clarification is received.

9. DIRECTORS REPORT

Tremaine

Nothing additional to add.

10. COMMITTEE REPORTS

11. ATTORNEY REPORT

Attorney Chubb

Nothing additional to add.

12. PUBLIC COMMENTS

13. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting Adjourned by Chairman Emmendorfer at 3:28 pm.

Next Meeting:

**Executive Board Meeting
November 10, 2020 @ 2 pm**

DRAFT