

**GENESEE COUNTY COMMUNICATIONS CONSORTIUM
General Membership Meeting - Genesee County 9-1-1
June 8, 2021**

2:00 pm

Location: Grand Blanc Twp PD, 5405 Saginaw Rd, Flint

MINUTES

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by Chairman Mark Emmendorfer at 2:01 pm.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ATTENDANCE ROLL CALL

Members Present: Thomas Spillane, Clayton Township; Jim Slezak, Davison Township; Karyn Miller, Flint Township; Fred Thorsby, Flushing Township; Mary Ann Price, Forest Township; Paul Fortino, Gaines Township; Dan Eashoo, Genesee Township; Mark Emmendorfer, Montrose Township; Jolena Sanders-Sims, Mt Morris Township; Tonya Ketzler, Mundy Township; Keith Pyles, Richfield Township; Nancy Belill, Vienna Township; Andrea Schroeder, Davison City; Joseph Karlichek, Flushing City; Vicki Corlew, Mt. Morris City; Sam Stiff, Gaines Village; Meredith Davis, Genesee County;

Joined after initial roll call: Scott Bennett, Grand Blanc Township; Ellen Glass, Linden City; Clyde Edwards, Flint City;

Members Absent: Brian Saad, Argentine Township; Shirley Kautman-Jones, Atlas Township; Vince Lorraine, Fenton Township; Rachel Stanke, Thetford Township; Duane Haskins, Burton City; Doug Vance, Clio City; Wendy Jean-Buhrer, Grand Blanc City; Thomas Bigelow, Montrose City; Adam Zettel, Swartz Creek City; Sheri Wilkerson, Goodrich Village; John Ray, Otisville Village

Others Present: Ellen Ellenburg, Dave Stamm, Tony Craig, Brian Flewelling, Ryan Volz, Rick Freeman, Chad Young, James Young, Trevor Shaw, Anthony Chubb, Spring Tremaine, Tim Jones, Valerie Moore-recorder

4. AGENDA APPROVAL

**Chairman
Emmendorfer**

Action Taken: Motion by Thorsby, support by Stiff to approve the Agenda as presented.

All Ayes, Motion Passes

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **March 9, 2021**

Action Taken: Motion by Slezak, support by Eashoo to approve the March 9, 2021 meeting minutes.

All Ayes, Motion Passes

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. Advisory Board Report

Chief Volz

Chief Volz reported that during the Advisory Board meeting Director Tremaine discussed the 911 Center setting up the training room for CAD, and made a request known for a larger space that could accommodate around 30 trainees. Suggestions were made for Mott, or U of M campus, however the security of those spaces is questionable. Mott LERTA on Thompson Road was mentioned by Chief O'Dette but the timing of the LERTA Academy may not allow the use of that space. The designated space would need to be in a secure facility and be available for 6-8 weeks.

Volz reported that all RMS contracts have been sent out by 911 and they are waiting for the remainder to be signed and returned. During the meeting a few of the Police Chiefs relayed their concerns with the original contract, as well as the revised versions of the contract. The revisions made were based on a few municipality or agency requests sent to Tremaine and Attorney Chubb. Tremaine stated she would bring the contract to the General Membership for discussion.

Volz reported that a solution for MABAS support and update process was discussed since the way it is currently handled has ended. The 911 Center IT department would like this to remain as a standalone. Volz stated Wilkinson and Burdette will reach out to other MABAS divisions and other dispatch centers in the State of Michigan to see how they maintain and process updates.

Advisory Members agreed that the MABAS committee will be responsible for communicating with department heads and managing changes. The MABAS committee will go to Advisory Board, and if needed the Executive Board or General Membership for any issues they cannot resolve on their own.

EMS shortage reported on by Deputy Director Jones, along with some of the steps that 911 is taking to try to locate ambulances to respond to calls when they are in critical status.

Volz noted that he has received a few calls from other area Chiefs regarding the City of Flint Fire Departments use of fire main channel as an information channel. Jones will be looking into this with the City of Flint Fire Department.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Genesee Township Tower Purchase/Lease

Tremaine

Tremaine presented the purchase agreement for the Tower on Energy Drive. The Tower was sold or transferred to 911 by ERS at no cost.

Tremaine stated that we have made a proposal to Genesee Township to extend the property lease for another 10 years, beginning in 2024 with the same terms. The

current 20-year lease is up in 2024, and the terms require us to negotiate a new lease 3 years prior to the lease end date. The Genesee Township property lease payment is \$1,000 a month.

Eashoo stated the lease proposal will be going in front of his board tonight for their action.

Tremaine noted that this was the last tower that was owned by an outside company, and now all of the towers are owned within Genesee County, which allows for the best control of our radio system.

Thorsby asked who would maintain the tower if ERS is no longer involved. Tremaine stated that all tower maintenance is performed through the State of Michigan (MPSCP), they are the only group authorized to work on the towers and this will continue.

B. Tyler - Police RMS Contract

Chief Wiles

Tremaine stated the revisions to the RMS contracts made were all very small sections, or single words and did not change the context of the contract. Attorney Chubb stated the contract is a base contract and intended as such. He is willing to consider any changes brought to him by a municipality as he understands that it will be difficult to have every single municipality agree to the same exact document.

Tremaine stated several details needed to be included in order to define specifics such as ownership of the licenses, software, data and equipment, when the municipality is in, and backs out, the cost and promise to pay, these basics need to be included and can't be watered down anymore.

Tremaine stated she is requesting the Board's recommendation on how to move forward with this.

Emmendorfer asked if Chief Volz could share some of the concerns that were brought up during the Advisory Board meeting. Volz noted that his understanding was that some of the smaller municipalities, it seemed very detailed and did not seem as simple as a 'promise to pay'. Another concern mentioned was the fact that there are several different versions being used among different municipalities and not one agreement.

Tremaine stated in the end, the goal is to have a promise to pay from everyone that is joining.

C. EMS Shortage

Bruce Trevithick

Bruce Trevithick, with Genesee County Medical Control Authority. Trevithick stated that Med Control only has so much regulatory control over the ambulance companies, and can not dictate when, or how the ambulances respond to calls.

We are in a state of shortages as has never been seen before. The shortages of ambulances started in late October and is still an issue. Trevithick presented details on multiple issues that all play a part locally in the recent shortage of ambulances, specifically the EMS industry, the same issues are affecting areas well outside Genesee County and the State of Michigan.

Some of the proposed solutions that have been considered and implemented include response by Fire Departments for lift assists when possible to free up an ambulance,

another change is that dispatchers will queue the lower level medical call until an available ambulance becomes available again.

Trevithick stated his goal is to make everyone aware and better informed on this current issue. There are several options still being considered, but it is not something that will be solved quickly or easily.

D. Electronic Meeting Policy

Attorney Chubb

Attorney Chubb presented a copy Electronic Meeting policy, which is a requirement under the Open Meetings Act for us to continue electronic meetings after April 1, 2021. We are able to continue holding electronic, or hybrid meetings as long as our County is under the State of Emergency and the current Executive order.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Genesee County Stakeholders Virtual Meeting – Integrated CAD/Mobile & RMS, June 21, 2021 at 10 am

Tremaine noted that Genesee County Stakeholders meeting is open to anyone who would like to attend from Police, Fire or EMS. The virtual meeting will be led by Tyler and they would like to have discussion on the process they will be using for implementation. Meeting invitations were sent out and can be sent out again if anyone else is interested and did not get the invite.

10. ATTORNEY REPORT

Attorney Chubb

11. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Joe Karlichek asked about information or action items that could be taken back to the communities for considerations regarding the EMS shortages and response times as possible issues they see that impact their municipality directly.

Trevithick noted that a response time is not the only indicator to determine good patient care and he would caution anyone looking at 'response time' as a strict indicator in this case. Trevithick stated he is open to having a conversation with any of the municipality leaders to help provide details and context on this issue for a clear understanding.

Jones noted that there needs to be ideas considered outside the box in this situation, the way it's been done for the past 20 years may need to be reconsidered. This may need to become an open conversation for alternatives to find a solution because this is not going away on its own. Jones noted during a recent visit to one of the EMS companies, he saw several ambulances sitting in the lot out of service, all because they simply don't have the staff to fill the extra rigs.

Kolby Miller, CEO of Medstar, provided his thoughts on Genesee County's EMS structure. Genesee County is unique in how their EMS system is structured compared to other Counties or Municipalities who have contracts with EMS companies. Under

the current structure in Genesee County it is very difficult for an EMS company to commit and even invest in when the area is open to competition as well as uncertainty of calls. The way it is now does not obligate a company to serve and respond when there's no contractual obligation between a provider and the community. This relationship is what drives the EMS systems, and without that in place it opens you up to the current issues when it gets busy, and the county is left without resources. Jones noted there has been an increase in the number of medical calls since March 2021, we are averaging 6,100-6,300 per month, which is up by 1,000 calls a month compared to last year.

Questions and discussion continued regarding ambulance resources, and options that may be considered for municipalities as well as Genesee County as a whole.

Fortino noted that the dispatched medical calls sent to his Fire Department seems to be very helpful in his community. This additional dispatched response is filling the gaps when the ambulance is en route, delayed when responding or just giving an extra hand on a call.

Jones noted that there has been an adjustment on how some of the medical calls were being dispatched for EMS and Fire and that should be an improvement for those municipalities.

Trevithick noted that the bottom line is staffing is the ultimate issue, and it's affecting the entire state, and nation. The conversations are great to have among everyone, and solutions are needed, but please remember, a change locally will not put us back to where we were 2, 3 or 4 years ago because the staffing is just not the same.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned by Chairman Emmendorfer at 2:59 pm.

Action Taken: Motion by Corlew, support by Thorsby to adjourn the meeting.
All Ayes, Motion Passes

**Next Meeting:
General Membership Board Meeting
September 14, 2021 @ 2:00 pm**