

IONIA COUNTY CENTRAL DISPATCH  
**ADVISORY BOARD**

Minutes  
March 4, 2009

**Call to Order**

A regular meeting of the Advisory Board was held at 545 Apple Tree Drive and called to order by Dave Bulling at 1:00 p.m.

Members Present: Dave Bulling, Rick Norman, Bob Bauer, Dale Nelson, Pat Richard, Dwain Dennis, Bob Bennett, Matt Bennett, Paul Barker and Jerry Skeltis (1:20 p.m.).

Members Absent: Amanda Powell, Gregg Moore and Jani Millard.

Others Present: Jim Valentine, Zenon Cardenas and Nancy Rodriguez.

**Approval of Agenda**

Motion made by Dwain Dennis and seconded by Dale Nelson to approve the agenda as written. All members present were in favor by a voice vote and the agenda was approved.

**Approval of Minutes**

Pat Richard asked that the January 7, 2009 minutes be amended to show that the Law Enforcement Committee would meet next on May 13, 2009 instead of May 6, 2009, due to a conflict in scheduling. Motion made by Pat Richard and seconded by Dwain Dennis to accept the minutes as amended. All members were in favor by a voice vote and the minutes were approved.

**Public Comment**

None.

**Review and Approval of Bills**

Members of the Personnel/Finance Committee would review and approve Central Dispatch invoices.

**Discussion/Reports**

Law Enforcement Committee:

Dale Nelson stated that the Committee met prior to the Board meeting and had no report.

Emergency Management:

Rick Norman reported that the LPT (Local Planning Team) met during the Emergency Management Advisory Committee meeting. The group went over the process of requesting Homeland Security funds for projects. The members on the LPT were representatives of

different principals throughout the County and they would be the ones who would review projects brought before them and process them to go to the State for approval and complete the process for those returned approved.

The letter that will be going to the area schools for funding assistance to the City Watch program has been drafted and upon approval by the Commissioners will be presented to the school superintendents at the ISD, hopefully at their next meeting. Discussion about the program status continued.

Narrow banding was discussed. Rick Norman reported that there might be more funding coming to the different interop regions.

School emergency plans have been fired up again and several persons are assisting with that.

Rick Norman reported that Region 6 had obtained funding for a pictured ID system. He explained what the system offered and that all entities in the County would have access to use this system. FEMA has color codes for agencies.

The annual Sky Warn training is 3/5/09 at the ISD. Anyone interested may attend.

#### Director's Update:

*Journal Reports and 2008 Budget Year End:* Jim Valentine informed the Board about the journal reports and that at the end of 2008, Central Dispatch was \$29,103.40 to the good. Our funding projections will be very important this year to determine whether our needs can be met or if we need to seek an increase.

*TALON Upgrade:* Mike Lennon and Zenon Cardenas have gone to every department and installed the upgraded software, along with some extra reference material, mapping and telephone directories to make things easier for users.

*Staffing:* Greg Main Jr. has been hired as of 2/9/2009 and is in the midst of his training. The Oral Board comprised of Vicky Denny, Amanda Johnson, Captain Michelle Young of Kent County Sheriff Department and Jim Valentine interviewed eleven (11) candidates and has a good list of names for the candidate pool. We still have one dispatcher position and one supervisor position open and are continuing to wait on our funding projections before filling those positions. Jim Knopf spent a lot of extra hours revamping the Communications Training Officer program.

*2008 Year End Report:* The compiled report was handed out to the Board members.

#### **Old Business**

##### Radio Communications Plan:

Jim Valentine reported, as discussed during the Law Enforcement Committee meeting, the consensus of the Chiefs is to use the Local Planning Team and any monies that can be secured

through Homeland Security for moving the Sheriff Department towards 800MHz radios. Hopefully, the Black Box will be the answer for interoperability. We do have some radio options available to us and we are exploring those options through different radio vendors. The need to continue discussions and make some decisions in the near future is becoming a vital issue. The continuation of a hybrid radio system for Central Dispatch was discussed.

### **New Business**

None.

### **Member Concerns**

None.

### **Next Meeting**

Motion made by Pat Richard and seconded by Dale Nelson to change the next meeting of the Advisory Board to May 13, 2009 at 1:00 p.m. due to the Homeland Security Conference the first week of May. All members were in favor by a voice vote and the change of date was approved.

### **Adjournment**

Motion made by Bob Bauer and seconded by Dale Nelson to adjourn the meeting. All members were in favor by a voice vote and the meeting adjourned at 1:38 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy Rodriguez  
Recorder