



Tama County Communications

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The Tama County 911 Service Board meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM on April 12, 2022 by 911 Chair Boll (Toledo).

Members present: Billie Van Egmond (Dysart), Matt Deam – Via Zoom (Garwin), Brian Staker – via Zoom (Montour), Brian Hanus (Tama), Joe Boll (Toledo), Kendall Jordan (Toledo Alt.), Tyler Sell (Traer), Bob Vokoun (LeGrand), Mary Wankowicz (EMA), Dan Anderson – via Zoom (BOS).

Others in attendance: Ryan Goodenbour (Tama County EM), Glenn Thorne Tom Bicket, and Greg Westwater – (Amateur Radio).

Motion by Sell second by Vokoun to approve agenda, motion carried.

Motion by Vokoun, second by Sell to approve meeting minutes from February 8, 2022, all aye, motion carried.

Motion by Van Egmond, second by Staker to approve Claims. All ayes, motion carried.

Old Business:

Jeremy gave an update as to the status of the radio project. The infrastructure is up and working with all the blown rectifiers being replaced. Generator alarms are being researched further as Scott said that there was a communication issue between the generator vendor and RACOM. Scott said that he is attempting to not have to pay for a subscription for the alarm monitoring. April 1st the VHF legacy system was taken off the air. Jeremy will contact FS to have the temporary LP tanks removed from Gladbrook and Traer sites. The paging base transmitter for Dysart has arrived. They are just waiting on a few more items to come in. Scott advised possible next week for installation. Montour paging base relocation is still in the works and on the list to be done. The paging issues in Traer, RACOM wants to see what the new paging base does for Traer when it is installed. I-Search, Door Controls, and Intercoms should be finished up in the next couple weeks. Siren activation work continues. There were issues identified and RACOM is working through those. There was a brief discussion on changing the testing time and date so to not interfere with schools and other tests already occurring.

Shared Services – migration has been completed to the refresh on Zetron phone equipment, FirstNet backhaul, and recorders off site as well as locally.

GeoComm Mapping – migration to the new mapping has been successful. Jeremy is working through some IT issues and getting the maps functional on each workstation and for each user.

New Business:

Glenn Thorne, Tom Bicket, and Gregory Westwater were present, and they represent the Tama County Amateur Radio Organization. Included in the packet is their proposal to co-locate some radio

equipment at either the Engineer or Vining tower location. They have brought this before the board previously however, with limited space on the previous tower locations, there was no desire to allow this. With the construction of the new towers and the possibility of have equipment on these towers that won't be used after the new radio system is online, it was felt that this would be a good time to revisit this venture. There was some discussion regarding this with explicate instructions to coordinate closely with RACOM so that there wouldn't be any interference causing communication issues with the public safety radio system. The board felt that this would be a valuable service to work with. The board advised to move forward with getting cost estimates and working out details for the next meeting.

Jeremy presented a quote from RACOM to replace the NetClock in the Communications Center. It was explained that an issue was identified when the clock controller lost power and when it powered back on, the time was not accurate. Attempts to correct the issue were unsuccessful. The cost to replace the NetClock came in at \$6190.40. This was brought to the executive board for approval to move forward with purchasing this and all were in favor. Jeremy did say that this will be used to sync some equipment in the back room as well.

Jeremy presented a quote from Elite Towers to replace the aircraft avoidance lighting at the Engineer Site. It was explained that there have been issues with the lighting controller with transistors being replaced. Some money has been put into this already however, without a tower crew coming to climb the tower and look at the lights, it was felt that replacing the lights and controller would be the best option. With the cost of diagnosing the issues we could spend about what it would cost to get a new system installed. Currently, the tower is stuck on daytime strobe with reduced power. The cost of this work is estimated at \$15,000.00. Motion by Tama, second by Dysart to replace the lighting system with a new system. Motion carried.

Jeremy presented a quote from Eaton Wright-Line for 2 flat panel display arms at a cost of \$818.14. With the shared services came an additional mapping monitor. Currently in the Communications Center, the phone is sitting on the counter. This will give more counter space for the staff and will work with our current furniture. Traer made the motion to purchase the monitor arms, second by Tama. Motion carried.

Dispatch Contract – Chair Boll advised the board that the Union Contract has been signed and will be in affect for two years. It was explained to the group that the Communications Center staff received a 3% wage increase while other departments received a more substantial increase. There was a short discussion on if this could be changed and what that process would look like. Board of Supervisor Anderson said that this could be brought up for discussion prior to year two. Jeremy also thought that it would be important in future negotiations to keep the board in the loop and have them present for negotiations.

National Telecommunicator Appreciation – Tyler wanted to express his sincere appreciation for everything that the Communications Center staff do day in and day out. Though, this should be said more often than one week a year, all the work and dedication is very much appreciated. All in attendance agreed with this and thanked them for their work.

Next regular 911 Board meeting will be held Tuesday May 10, 2022, at 6:30PM. Motion for adjournment by Staker, second by Vokoun. Meeting adjourned at 7:14PM. Respectfully Submitted
Jeremy Cremeans, Director