



# Tama County Communications

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The Tama County 911 Service Board meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM on April 9, 2024, by 911 Chair Van Egmond (Dysart).

Members present: Linda Pearson (Clutier), Billie Van Egmond (Dysart), Brian Staker (Montour), Sheriff Kucera, Jason Bina (Tama), Tyler Sell (Traer), Shaun Kennedy (Traer Alt.), Daryl Bazal (Vining), Mary Wankowicz (Emergency Management), Joe Boll (Toledo), Kendall Jordan (Toledo Alt.) Bob Vokoun (LeGrand), Alicia Lidtke (Elberon) Trudi Scott (Gladbrook).

Others in attendance: Glenn Thorne and Greg Westwater – (Amateur Radio), Ryan Goodenbour (EMA Coordinator), and Allen Kelly.

Motion by Vokoun to approve the agenda and second by Boll to approve the agenda. Motion Carried

Motion by Sell, second by Vokoun to approve meeting minutes from January 2024 and the budget hearing February 2024, all aye, motion carried.

Motion by Boll, second by Pearson to approve Claims. All ayes, motion carried.

## **Old Business:**

Jeremy asked if the board would approve the Communications Center RFP to be published and sent out. He explained that the Board of Supervisors asked him to wait as the remaining ARPA funds were unknown and that they are waiting on an estimate from the County IT provider which has yet to be given as there are other delays with permits. Jeremy also advised that with the timing of the RFP being sent out and when they would be due back, we would be in the new fiscal year and there were funds budgeted for this project which then could be used if there were no ARPA funds left. The Board of Supervisors said that they would let 911 use the remaining ARPA funds to go towards this project. There was a brief discussion and Sell motioned to go ahead and send out the RFP. The motion was seconded by Boll, motion carried.

Jeremy gave an update to the FY 24-25 budget saying that it has been approved by the Board of Supervisors. The Director's salary was given an 8% increase as the Supervisors weren't approving any salary increase above that. The total budget for FY 24-25 is \$2,497,739

Jeremy advised that the Verizon Wireless co-location project is about finished as we have completed all the documentation. We are waiting for Verizon to send back a signed copy of the paperwork.

**New Business:**

John Lauer with RACOM was present to let everyone know that the annual maintenance and reprogramming will be around the July time frame. He requested that if any agency wants to have programming changes made to email them to Jeremy and he will compile a list and email them to John. John would like to have them by the end of May if possible. There was a discussion about how Benton Co and Poweshiek Co are coming along with their project. John advised that they are getting ready to do field testing with their system and should have talkgroups finalized soon. There was more discussion about wanting to wait on the reprogramming and maintenance until their talkgroups are finalized. John said that we aren't being held until July, we just want to work out logistics for when the maintenance comes around. It was agreed that John would let Jeremy know how the Pow and Benton Co projects are coming along and he would pass this along to all the agencies.

The week of April 14<sup>th</sup> is National Public Safety Telecommunicator Week. Jeremy let the board know that we have an amazing team in Tama County that has been putting in the hours and work that make our center thrive. He asked if you happen to call or stop in, to thank them for everything they do. Chair VanEgmond said that she speaks for the entire group and says that the Comm Center is very appreciated for everything they do and that their professionalism and ability to deal with a constantly changing environment is noticed by the responders and this board.

In the packet was an email and information requesting tower space on the Tama South tower for residential internet. There was a discussion about this, and it was felt by the board that we should get things in order such as the cost of tower space and general agreements in place before moving forward. This item was tabled, and we will work with the attorney, RACOM, and executive board to bring something back to the full board at a later date.

The next regular 911 Board meeting will be held Tuesday, July 9, 2024, at 6:30 PM. Motion for adjournment by Bina, second by Staker. The meeting adjourned at 6:56 PM.

Respectfully Submitted

Jeremy Cremeans, 911 Communications Director