

Marion County 911 Service Board Regular Agenda

Marion County Offices

3014 E. Main St. Street, Knoxville, IA

February 26, 2025, 6PM

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL (Quorum 5): 18:01

City of Bussey <u> x </u>	Clay Township _____	
City of Knoxville <u> x </u>	EMA Commission _____	Marion County <u> x </u>
Marion Co. Sheriff <u> x </u>	City of Melcher Dallas <u> x </u>	City of Pella <u> x </u>
Knoxville Township <u> x </u>	Lake Prairie Township _____	Pleasant Grove <u> x </u>
City of Pleasantville _____	Indiana Township <u> x </u>	Red Rock Township _____
Washington Township _____	Pella Police Dept <u> x </u>	

II. AGENDA-

1. Approve Agenda for February 26, 2025.

Discussion _____

Motion McSheehy Second Jahner

Vote All in favor

III. Approve meeting minutes from February 28, 2024.

Discussion _____

Motion Wyman Second Desplanque

Vote All in favor

IV. Approve meeting minutes from January 2, 2025:

Discussion _____

Motion Wyman Second Desplanque

Vote All in favor

V. FY 2024-25 Budget Amendment Open Public Hearing:

Discussion _____

Motion Jahner Second McSheehy

Vote All in favor

VI. FY 2024-25 Budget Amendment:

Discussion No communication in the office via email or phone. No member of the public is in the building.

Motion N/A Second N/A

Vote

VII. FY 2024-25 Budget Amendment Close Public Hearing:

Discussion _____

Motion Clifton Second Slycord

Vote All in favor

VIII. FY 2024-2025 Budget Public Hearing:

Discussion Reason for the budget amendment is due to the loss of the 911 sign truck. Total expenditures on the truck are right at \$130,000 that is what the spending capacity of the budget to allow. Jahner asked where those funds are coming from, Anderson advises those are coming out of the 911 operating fund. The insurance check was around \$32,000 making net out of pocket around \$100,000. McSheehy asks if that was a state bid, Anderson answer's yes.

Motion Clifton Second McSheehy

Vote All in favor

IX. FY 2025-2026 Budget Open Public Hearing

Discussion: _____

Motion Clifton Second Wyman

Vote All in favor

X. FY 2025-2026 Budget Close Public Hearing

Discussion: Have received no communications in the office via telephone or email. No members of the public here or online to protest the budget.

Marion County 911 Service Board Regular Agenda

Marion County Offices

3014 E. Main St. Street, Knoxville, IA

Motion __Jahner____ Second __Clifton____

Vote All in favor

XI.

MCSO Zetron Service Contract:

Discussion _Call taking; this is an annual cost associated with the 911 call taking on the state of Iowa shared services network. In previous years the 911 board has approved these one-year maintenance agreements. This is year 5, 12.15.2024-12.14.2025 for the amount of \$4,150.19. This is the last year of the 5-year contract, the state renegotiated a contract with Zetron which will then go into effect for us once our year is up. This is an invoice that initially was locked in for 3 years with a yearly lock in for year 4 and 5. McSheehy asks if we are going to do a motion and vote on each of the agenda invoices listed, Anderson states they are listed as individual line items so it would be preferred to do them individually. Anderson has another invoice from Racom for the Zetron Max dispatch tech support on the console for the MCSO period of coverage 7.1.2024-6.30.2025 with a total of \$14,160.00. Wyman states we can call for a motion to pay or not pay all of the MCSO invoices all at once after reviewed. _____

Motion __N/A____ Second __N/A____

Vote

XII.

MCSO Datavision UPS Quote::

Discussion: Previously the Marion County IT department has paid for this previously \$3,593.23. The 911 board has not paid for this as it is not budgeted. This is for the UPS's (battery backup) which have never been replaced since the initial move in of the building in 2006. Some of them have completely shut down and some are on their last life. This is for 911 consoles and radios. _____

Motion __N/A____ Second __N/A____

Vote

XIII.

MCSO PowerPhone Software & Training renewal:

Discussion: _PowerPhone is the emergency medical dispatch call taking software and hardware. This is the annual plan software renewal \$3,898.97, the tech support period of 10/8/24-10/7/2025 \$3,240.00 for a total of \$7,138.97. There is a credit for \$387.00 for a training that was reimbursed. _____

Motion: to pay the MCSO invoices in total: __Clifton____ Second __McSheehy____

Vote All in favor

XIV.

Pella PD Radio Project:

Discussion __Chief McSheehy gives an update of where they are on this project. He states it's important to look at the ISICS system and its inception in Marion County around 2012-2013. Countywide we didn't have discussion back then as to what this would look like in 10 years, 15 years. How do we build a Marion County radio system that includes our cities, townships, fire departments, and ambulances. In 2016 the City of Pella/ Pella Police Department began looking at their radio project. When I was hired as Chief of Police for the City of Pella in 2020, one of the three top tier items that my boss told me I would be responsible for would be figuring out the radio project. Something that is important to remember is that Pella Police Department has had a PSAP for over 60 years, which is tremendous. The ISICS system was built on the idea of a mobile radio being able to have a 95% coverage. It never talked about on hip coverage or when you go into a building (DB coverage). When we looked at where we go as a Police Department keeping in mind the 10-mile radius around the city we needed to keep in mind what the coverage looked like, which then resulted in knowing we needed to hire a consultant who knew radio's inside and out. One of the things we recognized immediately was the lack of channels, the police department operating on one channel the size of the Pella PD was unheard of. The other issue we saw immediately was the coverage was dangerous, not so much within the city but pushing that 10-mile radius. Last but not least, were in public safety so price does drive that sale often times, not always meaning it's the best product. The consultant advised we needed to look into the vendors. There are two vendors in the state of Iowa, Motorola supports the ISICS system, RACOM supports the SARA system. We have to build a tower; a radio system is designed to have multiple tower sights. With Marion County on ISICS and only having one tower, this is where we are running into issues. When we looked at building a tower that green tower site four years ago was 2.2 million dollars; to buy the land, construct the tower, get the civil costs, engineering, consulting, and the equipment, was north of 2.2 million dollars. Knowing that was a large sum of money, could we identify an existing tall structure in the City of Pella, the answer is yes. Two water towers in Pella with the South tower being the best option. With the civil engineering costs Motorola came in at \$1.575 million and RACOM came in at \$1.232 million, we also asked them to provide coverage maps with not only mobile but portable. At the end of the consult the consultant recommended SARA based on three key items:

Marion County 911 Service Board Regular Agenda

Marion County Offices

3014 E. Main St. Street, Knoxville, IA

number one- price, number two- coverage, and number 3- interoperability with our large businesses. Once we had that recommendation, I looked at how do I take that \$1.5 million and make that less money? The way was, there is already a RACOM tower in the City of Pella. When we did a tower lease instead of constructing on a water tower, that price reduced significantly. I was able to look at a couple of the key items that I thought could be moved around and now that price tag went from \$2.2 million dollars to \$515,000. That puts a radio tower for us and essentially cures the interoperability issues, coverage issues, and the like. On top of that we were notified about three weeks ago that our grant request from Vermeer had been approved at \$75,000. I have an outstanding grant request from the rollscreen foundation for \$50,000. I'm currently still in talks with PPI. Where we are at now is we have a \$515,000 project that was approved by council, it will be a little bit less than that when the grants are realized, and I hope to have a contract that I will review Friday over the legal and then the project will commence shortly after that. The questions he gets are as follows, are we still able to talk, you bet. Are we interoperable with our partners, yes. Can you still talk to us, can we talk to you, yes. Can we patch channels, yes. This is a benefit, if the ISICS system goes down, guess what we have as a backup, the SARA system, and vice versa. The detractor on the Sheriff's Office side is they won't have another ISICS tower in Marion County to help push out that signal, and the Sheriff has taken steps to kind of cure that with LTE technology, buying the radios they did, it automatically uses the cell tower. But multiple tower sites are going to be required in Marion County to build out the ISICS system and that's just the way it is. For those reasons we choose the SARA system and RACOM as the vendor. If you look at just the price alone, I think it should make sense to everybody, I obviously have a duty to my taxpayers. We went from \$2.2 million dollars to probably less than \$400,000. Back in February 2024, this board met, and we decided to table a portable radio request from the Pella Police Department until the Fall. The Fall meeting didn't happen, and just as a reminder the Pella Police Department/ City of Pella was the only entity that did not enjoy some of the radio funding that everybody else did. Our radios are now 8 years old and are looking at a mechanism to refresh as we all should be doing, that invoice is \$122,000 for 22 radios, I have 19 sworn allowing some for extra on hand. I wanted to bring that back to the board for discussion, again we aren't asking for special treatment we are just asking for fair treatment. In talking with Jeff earlier about some of these budget items, I want to remain flexible. If this invoice says we only buy 11 radios this year and 11 next year, these are all do able things. Hatch asks what McSheehy means when he states the two systems can talk together, how does that work. McSheehy states you would just need to switch to a channel. McSheehy states one of the things the consultant did when we hired them was to their best ability, how much would a stand-alone Marion County public safety system cost, which was about \$8 million dollars. Wyman asks, Chief you're going to connect us through a gateway, will that then require all the radios to have a SARA ID in them? The only thing McSheehy can do is give permissions to use the appropriate channels. Jahner asks if the Deputies are in the Pella area, but their radio isn't programmed, would they be able to communicate? McSheehy states their radio would have to receive the radio would have to receive the channel programming for them to turn to our channels. Jahner asks what kind of cost we are looking at to have to program these channels into radios, McSheehy states it depends, he thinks some programming is included in maintenance contracts currently with some of the new radios (Wyman states the Motorola radios have a 3-year maintenance contract which included 3 or 5 radio programming's). Wyman states the most expensive department would most likely be Knoxville City Fire because they have the older Harris and Tait's which are out of there service contract. Jahner states she would like to hear the budget discussion and be able to wrap this into that discussion.

Motion to close discussion. _____

Motion ___ Clifton _____ Second ___ Jahner _____

Vote All in favor

XV. FY 2025-26 Budget Discussion:

Discussion_Zetron no longer provides EMD servers through the shared services programs, this applies to both MCSO and Pella PD. Both of these are in a unique situation as EMD was deployed before call taking and have already reached the end of their 5 years. We may be responsible for buying two servers (worst case scenario), this is just a heads up to what's going on in the background and is still in motion. Things are essentially the same for MCSO with the only noticeable difference being the time of expiration as the EMD came on at slightly different times at the PSAPS. A graph is presented showing the Wireless (cellphone \$1/month per line) and the Wireline (landline phones) the surcharge the board has received since 2008-2009. The graph is trending downward. The Wireless Surcharge is collected by the state, the state takes 40% to run the overall 911 system and take 60% and through a formula share it back with the local service boards. There is currently language stating at the end of the state's fiscal year, any wireless surcharge that remains in their account over and above what they need for emergency catastrophic failure then gets redistributed to the local service boards (usually between \$20k-\$60k). If this bill goes through and they take \$25k from the 911 board it will be detrimental to the board. Our recommendation is to start

Marion County 911 Service Board Regular Agenda

Marion County Offices

3014 E. Main St. Street, Knoxville, IA

budget preparation in the Fall by having a meeting where we can look at what the revenues are at that point in time, what the fund balance is at that point in time, and then begin putting a budget together. We don't have a choice but to annually determine how much you want to set aside for emergencies and the random things that come up. We are getting to the point where this board is going to have to prioritize what expenses are going to be covered by the budget. After going through the loss of the 911 sign truck, we've had a few conversations about including a VERF (vehicle equipment replacement fund), for instances when those big items such as the fire repeater and sign truck have aged out you are better prepared for replacement. At the end of January, the fund balance was at \$471,351. Last year as a reminder we worked hard to create a sign replacement program (address markers and street name signs in the county), going all the way out to 2037. This allows us to utilize the 911 sign techs to the best of their ability while also keeping the workload streamlined and efficient. Wyman ask's what our cost per sign is, the charge for a new sign is \$150/e, McSheehy asks if a resident comes and asks for a sign because there's got ran over etc. what does that look like. As it stands right now if a sign was previously there and was stolen, knocked over, or burned, the 911 board replaces it at no charge to the resident. A proposal will be put together to bring to the board to address what sign replacement looks like going forward. The life of a sign is roughly 15 years, Wyman suggests we need to up the initial fee to cover the initial sign and the first replacement of said sign. Reiterating the \$150 for a red address marker only covers address markers not any of the street name signs in Marion County. McSheehy suggests proposing a procedure/proposal based on our experience and bring it back to the board for approval/adjustments. Looking at the Revenue side of the budget McSheehy asks what the \$32,000 misc. reimbursement was, Anderson advises it was the insurance check on the 911 sign truck. McSheehy states the way we've always done the budget needs to be changed and that we should prioritize getting together in the Fall to prepare the budget that we feel will be accurate. McSheehy mentions he doesn't see anything in the budget about the Sheriff's contribution back to the 911 board. Anderson states there was some questions about the amount that was owed, the individuals that reviewed the meeting recording and the minutes has come back with the same total owed being \$40,000. Jahner states the board needs to consider what the board wants to do with the invoice, the 911 funds stand alone, they are not intertwined. You need to decide if A. you want to continue to pursue the invoice or what you want to do with that. Wyman states his understanding after talking with the Sheriff was that the Sheriff had been working with Raymie to figure out what the exact motion was back in August with Raymie not replying back to the Sheriff. Kingrey advises that she was told when the Sheriff talked to Raymie about it and didn't receive a response he then gave back \$40,000 that was earmarked for that payment out of his budget. Jahner advises the Sheriff's budget for last year is already completed, but if he feels that he has it in his budget for this year he could pay the invoice. If he is wanting something else that would need to be a Board of Supervisor decision. Anderson asks for what the board would like us to do, sit and wait for the check to come in, not pay any bills until the \$40,000 has been paid or give the bills to the dept to be paid. McSheehy states an option for him could be to pay the invoice out of this year's budget out of his bottom line. By the Sheriff taking on the percentage of his radio purchase allowed for the funds to stay tall enough to take care of the needs of some of the volunteer fire departments. McSheehy makes a motion to direct EMA/911 staff to send Sheriff Sandholdt the invoice and request that he pay the invoice from his existing budget, petition the board of supervisors to seek alternate funding methods, or to respond to the board within 30 days in writing his plan of action or an alternate suggestion.

Motion_McSheehy_____ Second __Watson_____

Vote: All in favor

XVI. FY 2025-26 Budget Approval:

Discussion: __Seeking for motion for approval__

Motion_McSheehy__ Second__ Clifton__

Vote: All in favor

XVII. Adjournment:

Motion__Jahner_____ Second_Wyman_____