

JONES COUNTY 911 SERVICE BOARD

MEETING MINUTES

March 4, 2021

SERVICE BOARD MEMBERS

NV= nonvoting, **Bold lettering** indicates those in attendance at this meeting

Denny Coon	Oxford Junction	Jeff Swisher	Board of Supervisors
Mike O'Connor	Morley	Roxanne Tapken	Martelle
Kevin Rohwedder	Olin Fire District	John Machart	Anamosa
Rex Andrews	Madison Township	Steve Agnitsch	Wyoming (A)
Russ Benke	Onslow	Britt Smith	Monticello
Jacob Koch	Mechanicsville	Brandon Siggins	Lisbon
Bert Kraai	Cascade	Brenda Leonard	Jones County EMA
Jean McPherson	Olin (Ambulance)	Greg Graver	Jones County Sheriff

Sheila Frink NV Anamosa Area Amb. Jake Lindauer NV Lisbon/MtVernon Amb.

VISTORS in Attendance:

Mike Chapman via Zoom from Power Services

911 Coordinator

Gary Schwab - Jones County 911 Coordinator

Chairman Coon called the meeting of the 911 Service Board Zoom meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Motioned by Swisher, 2nd by Machart to approve the agenda. All Aye. Motion carried.

Past Minutes of February 4, 2021

Motioned by Benke, 2nd by Leonard to approve the minutes. All Aye. Motion carried.

Budget Report

Schwab reported financials through February: Fund balance stands at \$363,648.90 Revenue stood at \$186,672.51, Expenses stood at \$143,634.71.

Motioned by Swisher, 2nd by Machart to approve the budget report as presented. All Aye. Motion carried.

Maintenance for Courthouse Generator. Possible change in vendors

Schwab presented comparison information on three vendors. Cummins, being the vendor that has provided service over the past few years is a known quantity, Altorfers, and Power Services. Altorfers Quoted a price for maintenance and service that is slightly lower than what Cummins charges, for the same services, however their price is good for three years. Power Services prices for maintenance and service were lower yet and they do not tie anyone to a contract. \$600 for maintenance, includes oil and filter changes, \$300 for inspection, all the same checks as the maintenance just minus the oil and filter changes. That would be the two scheduled maintenance visits per year. Power Services also provided a list of their current customers in the Anamosa and Monticello area. I have received a comment from supervisor Zirkelbach that Power Services provided excellent service. There was discussion about the checklist used by each company, generally the same, and very detailed. Chairman Coon asked if we got a completed checklist after each maintenance visit, from Cummins. We did for the first few visits but nothing that last several. Swisher stated he called Doug Fairbanks, a dairy farmer in Jones County, and was told a story about the derecho. Doug uses Power Services. During the storm he lost power to the dairy operation. Doug called Power Services. At the time all the techs were in Des Moines. Power Services pulled a tech from Des Moines to get Doug back up and running. Doug said he only lost two hours of milking. Was very happy with the service. Jeff also talked to Mike Chapman (Power Services owner) and Tony Janda, a

hog confinement operator. Tony states Mike Chapman is a straight shooter. Swisher asked Mike about a second standby generator. Mike told Swisher, yes I can sell you a generator for \$100K and Tony Janda can tow it behind his tractor to the courthouse, but its impractical and unfeasible. Sheriff Graver was concerned about having enough redundancy to ensure that we always have power available. Benke stated that Power Services has walked him through some generator issues and fixed things over the phone. Swish summed up by stating we already have Power Services on the claims list for the county as they take care of the solid waste plant. All things considered let's give them a go.

Mike Chapman did join the meeting, to answer any question board members might have. He was asked if a tech was located in Jones County or nearby., the closest is located in Keokuk. Swisher asked Mike to talk about his company and parts they carry on each truck. Mike explained how they are a generator only business unlike others in our area that cater more to the trucking industry and are geared that way. Before his team goes on a call they stock parts on the trucks to cover issues they expect to encounter based on the call complaint. Mike was asked about availability of three-phase generating capability. Mike stated that he has nine mobile generators on hand, during the derecho every one of them was in use. He also stated that he put some stationary generators on trailers and put them into service, all with 3-phase capability. Depending on the situation and what was needed he felt he would be able to meet our needs where others could not.

There was also discussion whether lugs (terminals) could be mounted in our generator that would allow another generator to be tapped into the circuit should ours go down. Mike said yes that is feasible we could put in a lug base center on the generator set up to not back feed into our existing generator s it would take out the alternator.

Motioned by Swisher, 2nd by Andrews to name Power Services as the company to maintain/repair the Courthouse emergency generator. All Aye. Motion carried.

- As a follow-on action Schwab is to make all notifications to Cummins and Power Services to set things in motion.
- Graver suggested Schwab work with Clark Wood to quote a lug base center on the generator and come back to the board with information.

Other Items of Interest

Graver brought up the possibility of installing the old remote console at the Jets facility there is room there and having a site further removed from Anamosa would make a lot of sense should there be a disaster to the Anamosa area we would have an alternate location for operations. We still have the independent position that was at secondary roads. Graver would like to press forward with putting that at the Jets facility. Our current fall back is mass texting and we have seen that is in jeopardy should cell service be compromised. There is room in the Jets facility, it would probably require a room to be built, power, phone line and check into antenna/tower needs to make the building ready. Graver stated budget wise this is a good time. Coon asked if the radios at our backup site and the old secondary roads radio are P25 capable, have to check. Graver will contact Radio Communications to start figuring out what needs to be done. And look into someone to build out a room.

Graver is trying to get ready to make the switch to P25. Radio Communications is going to come over and reprogram first generation radios to P25. Try to get switched over by end of month.

Leonard found out Inspiron got kicked out of bidding for texting program because they missed the deadline. Inspiron is appealing. The state is looking to approve a contract with Rave (Smart 911) to be effective July 1 2021. There are no details on what will be provided with it, other than the service is for emergency communication only.

Swisher mentioned that Monticello Fire and ambulance are looking into I AM RESPONDING and looking for funding streams to pay for it. They are going to reach out to other departments to see if there is any interest. Graver said he would like to see it in dispatch, Johnson county uses it as they can tell if an outlying department only had two responses they could immediately do a second page or page another department.

Leonard said when last checked it was going to cost \$6K per year for the service for the whole county.

Swisher said Anamosa fire and Martelle fire use it, but only because Linn County funds it for them. There is a problem because the service is not a one button operation, as of yet. The responder has to go into their phone and type the message, creating a safety hazard.

Monticello Ambulance does not want to buy P25 radios because of the cost and is looking into the texting service. The problem is if cell service goes down or you are in a dead spot, as has happened, this system will not work. There was discussion about which departments would be interested and how the cost would be split up. The service to various departments is based on call volume. Will have to consider other funding options as well.

Motioned by Swisher, 2nd by Andrews to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 PM. All Aye. Motion carried.

Next Meeting – April 8, 2021

Recorded by:

Gary Schwab

Jones County 911 Coordinator