

**JONES COUNTY 911 SERVICE BOARD**

**MEETING MINUTES**

April 4, 2024

**SERVICE BOARD MEMBERS**

**Bold lettering** indicates those in attendance at this meeting.

Voting Membership

<b>Denny Coon</b>	<b>Oxford Junction</b>	Jeff Swisher	Board of Supervisors
<b>William Roller</b>	<b>Morley</b>	Roxanne Tapken	Martelle
Vacant	Olin Fire District	<b>Todd Weimer</b>	<b>Anamosa</b>
Joe Bayne	Monticello		
Jacob Koch	Mechanicsville	<b>Brenda Leonard</b>	<b>Jones County EMA</b>
<b>Bert Kraai</b>	<b>Cascade</b>	<b>Greg Graver</b>	<b>Jones County Sheriff</b>
<b>Jean McPherson</b>	<b>Olin (Ambulance)</b>	Brandon Siggins	Lisbon

Non-Voting Membership

<b>Stephanie Musser</b>	<b>Anamosa Area Amb.</b>	Jake Lindauer	Lisbon/Mt Vernon Amb.
<b>John Vacek</b>	<b>Wyoming Fire Co.</b>	Russ Benke	Midland Ambulance

VISTORS in Attendance:

**Terry Harris – RC Systems,**

911 Coordinator

**Gary Schwab - Jones County 911 Coordinator**

Chair Denny Coon called the meeting of the 911 Service Board to order at 7:35 PM.

**Motioned by Kraai, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Roller to approve the agenda. All Aye. Motion carried.**

**Past Minutes of February 1, 2024**

**Motioned by Leonard, 2<sup>nd</sup> by McPherson to approve the minutes. All Aye. Motion carried.**

**Budget Report**

Schwab reported financials through the end of March Fiscal Year 24: Fund balance stands at \$518,788.64, Revenue stood at \$184,746.42, Expenses stood at \$128,295.36.

**Motioned by Leonard, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kraai to approve the budget report as presented. All Aye. Motion carried.**

**Budgetary Review with Possible Action to Update Tower Alarms**

Schwab opened the discussion, stating back probably in December he asked RC Systems for a proposal to get the tower sites updated with operational alarms. A couple of years ago I noticed an unusual jump in the electric bill at one tower site. I asked RC Systems to check it out. RC Systems found a fault in the HVAC system. Sheriff Graver pointed out that after the Derecho the Martelle generator failed, thus the radio system was working off the back up batteries. The problem wasn't found until the batteries died, and the system went down. Had the alarms been in place these issues could have been prevented, greatly reducing the chance of more serious issues.

**Motioned by Kraai, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Roller to approve the addition of alarms at the tower sites at a cost of \$20,221.00. All Aye. Motion carried.**

**Possible Use of Anamosa Water Tower**

Status update. As a review the Emergency Department of Jones Regional Hospital has very poor radio communications capability with ambulance services out in the field. A solution to this problem would be to place the EMS and Fire repeaters on the Anamosa Water Tower located on Tower Drive in Anamosa. RC Systems and I have been working with Anamosa City Staff and City Administrator to see if the City of Anamosa would be willing to allow us to add equipment to their tower. A plan of equipment that could be installed and the cost that the service board would bear has been sent to the City. The cost to the Service Board is estimated to be no more than \$57,344.50. There would be NO cost to the city of Anamosa. Anamosa services would see improved coverage as well as Jones Regional. Anamosa has sent the plan to their

engineering service for review. Discussion question regarding the need for a generator. A battery backup is in the plan that should last two days. Enough time to make other arrangements if needed. There are enough funds in the FY25 budget that should not jeopardize any other project. Weimer asked what was needed from Anamosa and what is being asked in terms of cost. Weimer was informed that the service board needs Anamosa's permission to use their water tower. There would be no cost to the city for purchase or installation. Weimer stated there is a city council meeting Monday evening, April 8 he would inform the council of the request and get with the Anamosa City Administrator to see if there were any questions.

### **Jones Regional Communication Issues Discussion Possible Action**

Ambulance service is still having analog (page) issues with mobile radios. Sheriff Graver and Stephanie Musser have discussed the problem. The primary issue is only with the analog paging, No other ambulance service n Jones County is having an issue, it is isolated to the Anamosa Area Ambulances. The portable radios appear to be working just fine. Anamosa Ambulance is unique in that they have a high volume of calls and service many calls in Linn County.

It was decided that Terry Harris of RC Systems would go to the Anamosa Ambulance site to see if he could witness the problem.

### **Other Items of Interest**

We were notified Wednesday that the Monticello water tower painting project was to get underway on Thursday. The contractor wanted all antenna removed and the equipment cabinet covered. Terry Harris told them the antenna could not be removed and it was OK to paint over the brackets and mountings. And it was OKed to leave tarps and straps to cover the cabinet(s) when needed but to uncover them as soon as possible to minimize heat buildup. The contractor also wanted 24/7 emergency contact. They were advised to contact dispatch. They would then reach any party as needed.

**Motioned by Leonard, 2<sup>nd</sup> by McPherson to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 PM. All Aye. Motion carried.**

Next Meeting if required – May 2, 2024

Recorded by:

Gary Schwab, Jones County 911 Coordinator