

JOINT DISPATCH BOARD  
Zoom Video Conference  
October 1st, 2020

Committee Members Present: Robert Barbier, Theresa Becker, Chris Dallas, Dave Funkhouser, Paul Granger, Dan Hartwig, Brian Kohlmeier, and Supervisor Nickels. Other invited non-committee members were in attendance.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chris Dallas at 9:00 a.m.

Current Agenda and Minutes of Prior Meeting: A motion was made by Brian Kohlmeier and seconded by Dave Funkhouser to approve the minutes of the July meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Proposed Elimination of Simulcasting Fire/EMS Pages to Law Enforcement: The City of Manitowoc Police Department has proposed eliminating the simulcast of Fire/EMS pages on the law enforcement main channels. Travis Waack reported that this needs to be a change for all Law Enforcement channels to standardize procedures. He also reported that dispatch would continue sending officers to calls clearly requiring an officer respond and would notify the shift commander of all others. Connie Bashaw noted that because law enforcement won't know when dispatch is paging, there may be times when they are tied up for a few seconds and unable to answer law enforcement radio traffic. A motion was made by Dan Hartwig and seconded by Dave Funkhouser to make a recommendation to move forward with this policy change for all law enforcement main channels. The motion passed unanimously. Dispatch will begin implementing this change.

Proposed Use of County "All Call" Page for Working Still Fire: The County Fire Association took an advisory vote at their last meeting requesting dispatch use the "County All" tone for all working still fires. Travis Waack reported a concern that this will page, potentially in the middle of the night, every firefighter and EMS provider in the County for every working still fire, even if they are not being called to it, but that he had received no formal concerns about this to date following communications with the Fire and EMS Association. The Fire Association will take up this item again at their November meeting for final concurrence. A motion was made by Chris Dallas and Theresa Becker supporting the proposed change. The motion carried unanimously. Dispatch will wait for final concurrence at the November Fire Association meeting before implementing.

Update from Emergency Services Department: Travis Waack provided an update on the department. Considerable time is being spent supporting the Health Department for the COVID-19 response, so less time is available for projects in the JDC. However, the eMABAS project is moving forward with a few glitches being corrected by the vendor. Overall the software is performing well. Kiel Fire/EMS has also completed their migration to County Fire Main.

Travis Waack reported that positive COVID-19 cases continue to be flagged in CAD with a two week look back to EMS or law enforcement contact. This has flagged many responses and identified multiple potential contacts in the past few weeks. However, with the significant increase in cases all responders are highly encouraged to take precautions on all calls.

Update from Public Works Department: Kody Berg reported that CAD has been upgraded to 2019.2 successfully with yearly upgrades planned to keep the software up to date. Additionally, the Manitowoc Fire Department is moving forward with Crewforce. Bill Jones reported the bi-annual software updated is planned for next year on the radio system. This will not impact users aside for some very brief (less than 90 second) outages during the upgrade that will be accounted. Bill also shared that the Cleveland water tower is being painted, which has caused some issues with our antenna and microwave link; however, he is monitoring it daily and fixing issues as they come up.

Chris Dallas inquired about the radio interference. Travis Waack reference the email he sent to the Fire and EMS Associations on September 2<sup>nd</sup> indicating that nothing can be done to prevent pagers from hearing the interference directly from Michigan. Fire Department units should use portables or PL protected pagers to monitor without interference.

Next Meeting Date: January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Adjournment: A motion was made by Theresa Becker and seconded by Dan Hartwig to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 9:39 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Travis Waack', written in a cursive style.

Travis Waack  
Director  
Manitowoc County Emergency Services Department