

GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY 911 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Meeting Minutes: January 18, 2018

Commission Chambers Governmental Center

PRESENT:

Gregg Bird
Chief Pat Parker
Chief Jeff O'Brien
Jason Torrey
Daryl Case
Chief Jim Tuller
Sgt. John Schneider
Ken Fritz

AGENCY:

G.T. County Emergency Management
G.T. Metro Fire Department
Traverse City Police Department
GT 911/Central Dispatch
North Flight EMS
Traverse City Fire Department
Michigan State Police
Grand Traverse Rural Fire Department

ABSENT:

Carol Crawford
Chris Clark

G.T County Board of Commissioners
G.T. County Sheriff's Department

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Andy Down
Leah Hornacek
Bill Parker
Joseph Miller
David Cutway
Fred Gilstorff
Allen G. Anderson
Don Labadie
Justin Revnell
Greg Nienhouse

Long Lake Fire and Rescue
GT 911/Central Dispatch
Blair Township Emergency Services
Central Dispatch
Green Lake Emergency Services
Peninsula Fire Department
Attorney for Anytime Towing
Anytime Towing
TC Towing
Brickyard Towing

Call to order

Bird called meeting to order at 10:00am. A quorum was present.

2018 Election of Officers

Chairman – Motion by Torrey to nominate Bird. The motion was supported by Case. Motion Passed.

Vice Chair – Motion by Torrey to nominate Tuller. The motion was supported by Cutway. Motion Passed.

Secretary – Motion by Parker to nominate O'Brien. The motion was seconded by Torrey. Motion Passed

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Bird to approve the agenda as submitted. The motion was supported by Torrey. Motion Passed.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Bird to approve the minutes as revised. The motion was supported by Parker. Motion Passed.

Wrecker Policy Violation

Torrey motioned the Wrecker Policy Violation be moved up the agenda. Supported by Bird. Motion Passed.

Torrey gave the following report:

- The wrecker policy was implemented in 1999 and recently revised March, 2017.
- A complaint was presented to the 911 Board of Directors regarding a possible policy violation where Anytime Towing appeared to be charging rates well above the local standards.
- As a result of a vote during the December 911 Board of Directors meeting, Anytime towing had been temporarily suspended from the wrecker rotation as a result pending outcome of fact finding.

The owner of Anytime Towing, Mr. Labadie, and his attorney, Allen G. Anderson, were present at this meeting to address the board. According to Anderson, he spoke with the insurance adjuster who was on scene of this accident. Mr. Anderson stated the adjuster would have approved up to \$2500 for this tow. Anderson stated that an opportunity to comply with the wrecker policy was not given and that this board has no authority to investigate or set rates. Anderson further stated that the jurisdiction in this matter belongs to the adjusters and the insurance agencies.

Anderson stated to the board that Anytime Towing has yet to have an insurance protest in their years of business. Anderson stated possibility of Constitutional violation by this board because Anytime Towing can prove their compliance to the policy. O'Brien interjected that this board is not suspending Anytime Towing's license. Torrey stated that this board is not limiting their license, but that we have our policy in place to provide the best service to our citizens that we

can. Torrey also stated that this policy is consistent with similar policies in other jurisdictions. Torrey researched but was unable to find an industry standard rate scale.

Bird advised there is no basis to keep sanctions in place against Anytime Towing if there is no way to come up with reasonable rate scale. Torrey advised that this board is not attempting to make the rates but would use the option to assist citizens with a service that has a lower cost.

Motion by O'Brien to lift sanctions against Anytime Towing and put them back in the wrecker rotation. Motion was supported by Parker. Motion Passed.

This matter will be referred over to the Law Enforcement Committee for further discussion. Anderson offered to be on the committee and asked that he be contacted when the committee meets. Justin Revnell of TC Towing and Greg Neinhuis of Brickyard Towing would also like to be involved in wrecker policy revision.

Directors Report:

Director Jason Torrey provided the following report:

- There is currently a posting for the open position.
- Enterprise CAD – Torrey is working on getting a demo arranged, the migration may be sooner than originally planned later this year.
- 911 funding – There was a meeting in Lansing this past Tuesday and progress is being made. Next Tuesday it will possibly be taken to the House and possible floor vote by the end of the month.
- There is a Statewide Interoperable Communication Training Conference being held at Great Wolf Lodge from February 20-23rd, 2018. The annual **conference** provides focused education and information about the advantages of interoperable communications, 911, evolutionary changes in **interoperability** and relationships.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

Technical Subcommittee

No report.

Law Enforcement Subcommittee

No report.

Fire and EMS Subcommittee

Chief B. Parker reported the following from the Chief Meeting

- Radio terminology was discussed.
- Currently working on adding new departments with the disbanding of Rural Fire that is near.
- Currently working on MCI box alarm additions

Torrey advised of updating the radios, to including emergency alert button change, so that all departments are operating the same across the board

Steve Meek is working with Motorola reference 8TAC configuration because 8TAC is a federal channel. Further radio discussion.

Monthly Fire Chief meetings will continue to tweak radios and have them run optimally.

Discussion on moving all fire/ems radio traffic over to one primary talk group. Currently dispatcher is listening to four different main fire channels and there is frustration in the field with dispatchers not answering right away because they were on another channel. Discussion

P. Parker would like to have a tabletop exercise to see how it would work before he would agree to this change. Torrey would like to keep discussions open on this matter.

Old Business:

Governance Committee – Bird investigated past minutes and was able to find the original solicitation for this committee. The committee members were P. Parker, Tuller, Clark, Bird, Torrey, and Street of MSP. Street has since retired.

Torrey will organize pros and cons of our options, become an Authority or stay under County Government. Either way, we will need a heavily structured plan in place to support any future local surcharge request. Torrey would like to schedule a meeting to move forward with this matter.

P Parker added that there will need to be a by-law change due to the disbanding of Rural Fire Department. Bird and Torrey will present findings on this at the next board meeting.

P Parker introduced acting Rural Fire Chief Ken Fritz to the board.

New Business:

None

Round Table:

B Parker advised the board that Blair Fire Department has had numerous fires as of late and expressed his appreciation for the assistance he has received. Discussion on surrounding station resources during large incidents.

Further discussion on this matter will ensue at the next Fire Chief Meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 11:05 AM.