

MAHASKA COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

214 High Avenue East Oskaloosa, Iowa 52577

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Mahaska County EMA Commission/911 Service Board Joint Meeting Agenda

The Mahaska County EMA Commission & The 911 Service Board met at 600pm on Tuesday February 28, 2023, at the Mahaska County Conservation Complex, 2342 Hwy 92, Oskaloosa, Iowa 52577; The meeting was called to order by Chairman VanRenterghem at 601pm.

Roll Call:

911 Board (9): Amal Eltahir, Jeff Long, Barbara Davis, Marcia Slycord, Loren Vos, George Toubekis, Russ Vanrenterghem, Chris Terrell, Mark Groenendyk.

EMA Commission (12): Steve Burnett, Jeff Long, Jacob Dannels, Barb Davis, Tom Van Der Veer, George Toubekis, Marcia Slycord, Mark DeJong, Sherri Baxter, Kim Sytsma, Russ VanRenterghem, Mark Groenendyk.

Non-Members: Josh Stevens, Cheryl Eklofe, Channing Rucks, Chris Clingan, Scott Vaughn, Dave Krutzfeldt, Patti Sines, Joe Goemaat, Ben Boeke, Steve Wanders, and Jamey Robinson.

1. **Approve the current agenda-Roll call voting**
 - a) **EMA Commission- Motion by Long and 2nd by Systma to approve the agenda, Motion passed 12-0**
 - b) **911 Board-Motion by Toubekis to approve the agenda, 2nd by Long, Motion Passed 9-0**
2. **Approve joint meeting minutes 02/08/2023**
 - a) **EMA Commission-Motion by Toubekis to approve the minutes, 2nd by Burnett, Motion passed 12-0**
 - b) **911 Board-Motion by Long to approve the minutes, 2nd by Vos, Motion passed 9-0**
3. **Public Comment-No comments from the public**
4. **Legal-Discussion/Action**
 - a) **EMA Commission and 911 Board: Administration. Robinson states that after talking with legal and county attorney there was no concerns as long as both the Commission and the Board had no issues with it. Attorney Harrison mentioned she had concerns about the split of the two roles and making sure that Robinson is covered for eligibility of benefits. Groendyk discussed that possibility of there being a different structure as the BOS is looking to put 911 under the sheriff department or possible the city. Davis asked what was wrong with the way it is now. Chairman VanRenterghem advised that it will be discussed next on the agenda. Toubekis asked about discussing 4B before**

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further discussion on this issue, discussion was moved to 4b. No action was taken

- b) Future of 911-Groenendyk discussed what the BOS is thinking with 911. They feel that instead of redoing a 28E with the 911 Board that they will look at doing it with a law enforcement agency. Elthair states that the city would create a division to oversee dispatch. Toubekis discussed moving salaries around, but it was noted the budget can go down, but not up. Elthair states that the city would do an agreement with the EMA Commission to provide the same services and oversight of dispatch. Toubekis asks about Robinson and Stevens still able to continue to provide the services they are providing. Elthair again states that they can do this through an agreement with the two entities and this would remove the 911 board from the oversight. Robinson asks if it was under the city if he would report to the Police Chief half the time and Elthair states, yes. Toubekis asked about benefits and half time with the city and county, Robinson states that the City would contract with the EMA Commission to pay and cover their share of the benefits. Vos asked the Chairman about his jurisdiction which he states boarder to board of the county, including in the city. Vos states that it should stay at the county level then, Van Der Veer supports that comment. Burnett asks the Chairman if he would have heartburn if it was under the city, VanRenterghem states that he wouldn't, but he would prefer under his office since he covers the entire county. The Chief of Police spoke to the commission/911 board about how to make this work. 911 Staff also spoke to both the commission and the 911 Board. Elthair states that the city would take the whole team along with the oversight of 911. Robinson states that he is comfortable waiting to see what things look like in the next couple of months in regards to the administration agreement. No action is taken

5. 911 Board-

- a) Public Hearing for budget Discussion/Action Groenendyk motions to open the meeting to public hearing, 2nd by Toubekis, motion passed 9-0 VanRenterghem asks Robinson about public comments mailed in, Robinson states none.

Elthair asks about surcharge costs and plans to improve. Robinson states that now that the radio system is complete, there isn't. He states that they were saving funds to put towards the radio system. Elthair also asks about why the surcharge funds didn't cover public works radio, Robinson states that public works is not using the radios for receipt or disposition of a 911 call.

Toubekis asks about \$60,000 for grants, Robinson states that they try to go after grants every year and they need an in and out for that money.

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Eltahir asks about IT funds for operations and not just in surcharge, Robinson states that there are costs outside of the 911 side that we have to cover.

Motion by Groenendyk to close public hearing, 2nd Vos, no further discussion, motion passed 9-0

- b) **2023-2024 Budget Discussion/Action Motion by Vos to approve the 2023-2024 budget as presented, 2nd by Davis, no further discussion, motion passed 9-0**
6. **EMA Commission-**
- a) **Public Hearing for budget Discussion/Action**
Van Der Veer motions to open the meeting for public hearing, 2nd by Toubekis, motion passes 11-0-1 Dannels-No response.
- VanRenterghem asks about public comments received, Robinson states he received none.
- Toubekis asks County Attorney Ritland about 29C purpose of budget items, he states he doesn't have any concerns about the specific breakdown of the line items. He feels everything falls within 29C.
- Burnett asks about cell phones and with the new radio system why are they not using the radio. Robinson states that people don't leave radios on all the time or they would never sleep. Groenendyk asks why aren't they using pagers, and Robinson states that pagers don't work outside of the county and if a hazmat control officer goes to Des Moines they are still on call and have to be able to talk to the fire departments.
- Motion by Groenendyk to close the public hearing, 2nd by Van Der Veer, motion passed 11-0-1 Dannels-No response.
- b) **2023-2024 Budget Discussion/Action Groenendyk states that he wants to see the payroll switch to salary for Robinson. Robinson states for the day to day operations he doesn't take overtime. He states that he keeps track of comp time. He states that he does get OT during presidential declarations.**
- Groenendyk motions to move Robinson to salary and Stevens will remain hourly, 2nd by Long 10-0-2 No response Slycord/Dannels
- Toubekis asked about moving item C ahead of approving the budget. This was discussed prior to moving forward.

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c) **Sirens-Discussion/Action**

DeJong states that he doesn't feel everyone benefits from the sirens, so the EMA Commission shouldn't be paying for them Motion to remove sirens from the budget, 2nd Toubekis, discussion was held. Motion failed 1-9-2 No response Slycord/Dannels

Groenendyk makes a motion to have each subdivision pays for their siren upkeeps on the EMA levy. Legal mentioned that maintenance isn't on the agenda, Chairman states that sirens and budget approval are on there. 2nd by Mr. DeJong. Motion failed 1-10-1 No response Slycord.

Back to item b. 2023-2024 Budget Discussion/Action-

Toubekis asked about gravel and building upkeep, Robinson states that they are enclosing the East side to secure items. Robinson states that he has asked the city about cost of gravel. It was asked who all uses the facility, Robinson states all departments in the county utilize the facility.

Motion by Van Der Veer to approve the budget as presented, 2nd by Davis, Sytsma confirms the sirens are included in the budget, no further discussion, motion passed 10-1 No-Groenendyk.

Van Der Veer asks about reevaluating sirens grants, Robinson states he has no problem doing that.

d) **Claim Review Discussion on items, no action was taken.**

Other information discussed, no action was taken:

Groenendyk states that he would like to see everyone that is included in the emails, Dejon supports this. Robinson states that he was told by legal to BCC everyone for quorum issues, but has no problem doing this.

Countywide plans including the Mitigation plan were discussed.

7. Next Meeting(s)-Doodle will be sent out to the membership.

8. Adjourn: Groenendyk motion to adjourn, Toubekis 2nd, Chairman VanRenterghem states this motion is for both the Commission and the 911 Board, Motion passes EMA Commission 11-0-1 Dannels No response, 911 Board 9-0