

**Story County 911 Service Board
Meeting Minutes
May 11, 2022**

The 911 Service Board met on 5/11/2022 at 6:30 p.m. in the Sheriff's Squad Room at the Story County Justice Center.

Story County Board of Supervisors	Linda Murken
Story County Sheriff's Office	Paul Fitzgerald; Nicholas Lennie, alternate
ISU	Michael Newton
Ames	Tom Hackett
Ames Police Chief	Geoff Huff
Cambridge	Not present
Collins	Not present
Colo	Dennis Clatt
Gilbert/Franklin	Brian Grove
Huxley	Not present
Maxwell	Not present
McCallsburg	Not present
Nevada	Ricardo Martinez
Roland	Not present
Slater	John Kahler
Story City	Matt Sporleder
Westory	Not present
Zearing	Not present
Story County EMA	Melissa Spencer, alternate
Secretary	Amanda Pyle
Guests	Nic Briseño, SCSO; Marylin Mosinski, SCSO; Karen Tapper, Ames Fire; Nathan Albaugh, Huxley PD

Fitzgerald opened the meeting at 6:30 pm.

Introductions around the room.

Fitzgerald thanked Vice Chair Martinez for conducting the Public Hearing in March.

Huff made a motion to approve the agenda. Second by Martinez. MCU.

Murken made a motion to approve the Public Hearing minutes. Second by Kahler. MCU.

Radio/Paging Project Update

RACOM and the Working Group recently finished up DAQ and RSSI testing for the paging portion of the system. The testing came back with intolerances. There will be further discussion among the WG and StoryComm about what that means for final acceptance of the system.

There are still some concerns with static in parts of the county, specifically the Slater area. According to the contact, the system is required to meet 98% countywide coverage. That requirement *is* being met. However, the failing 2% falls in the Slater area. The WG is working with RACOM to identify solutions.

Briseño and Lennie did additional pager testing in that area and in buildings. They heard the static and noted some tone and voice drops in Slater. Lennie added that he feels varying weather conditions may be a factor.

A better solution is a high priority for the Sheriff and the 911 Board. In the short term, the WG anticipates calling a meeting to discuss a solution that may include putting a repeater on the Big Creek tower. With that option, the 911 Board would cover the one-time purchase of a repeater, at cost. RACOM would not charge labor or ongoing fees. This option has not been verified as the definitive solution, but is being considered as the most feasible to move forward with. RACOM has been a reliable partner and is willing to allow the repeater on their tower for no monthly cost.

Fitzgerald asked if the Board would agree to authorize the Executive Board to make the approval, should we get quotes and verify with RACOM and MCP that this option is the appropriate solution.

Approximate cost for the Big Creek solution: \$30,000-\$50,000. RACOM would waive tower fees now and into the future. Maintenance on the equipment would fall under the current agreement. Repeater life expectancy 15-20 years.

The Board accepted to allow the Executive Board to meet for a decision; special meeting prior to August. All Board members would be invited to attend the meeting.

Final system acceptance and final payment to RACOM- Fitzgerald takes the position to not hold up final sign off. He would advocate for an agreement that states even after final payment, RACOM is obligated and responsible to see paging through. MCP could help develop an agreement.

Murken suggested holding back a certain amount of the final payment. The StoryComm Board will have the information to make that decision.

Lennie mentioned that once the go-ahead is given for a paging solution, we could be looking at 6 months or more to completion.

Old Business

Briseño briefed about an electrical fire at the Collins tower site. The site provides a backup link into the wider SARA network. The fire is believed to have occurred during a standard generator test- switch caught fire. Locally, our system continued to work as it should. There was some radio fallout, as metro and Polk County backups were impacted (adjacencies). The 911 Board will incur no costs for the incident.

New Business None

Comments from the Public None

Comments from 911 Service Board Members

Hackett introduced DS Karen Tapper. Hackett and Tapper will be dividing roles and Tapper will be attending 911 Board meetings as going forward.

Slater Mayor, Kahler, thanked the Sheriff and Board for attention to paging concerns in Slater.

Hackett made a motion to adjourn at 7:05pm. Second by Clatt. MCU.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amanda Pyle, Secretary
911 Database Coordinator