



Jackson County Central

Dispatch

Jason A Hamman, 911 Director

Jackson County Central 911 Dispatch Operations
1715 Lansing Ave
Jackson MI, 49201

911 Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
February 3, 2025

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1000a.

Roll Call

The meeting roll call is as follows:

Members & Alternates Present

F/Lt. Kevin Rod, chair
Deputy Chief Tim Gonzalez, vice chair
Chief Tim McEldowney
Director Scott Grajewski
Brian Walls, JCA
Chief Elmer Hitt
Sheriff Gary Schuette
Commissioner Margie Walz

Members & Alternates Absent:

Alternate Undersheriff Chris Simpson
Dr. Fill
Alternate Lt. Jay Barkley
Alternate Craig Kiss
Alternate Assistant Chief Joel Skrypec

Others in attendance:

Director Jason Hamman
Assistant Administrator Debra Kubitskey
Shift Leader Mallory Fugate
Lt. Jeremy Barnett, JSO
Deputy Director Darin McIntosh, Blackman-Leoni Public Safety

Approve Agenda

A motion to approve the November agenda was made by Chief McEldowney, seconded by Sheriff Schuette and the motion passed.

Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Lt. Rod was nominated as the 2025 chair by Commissioner Walz, seconded by Director Grajewski & the nomination passed.

Assistant Chief Gonzalez was nominated as the 2025 vice chair by Chief Hitt, seconded by Chief McEldowney & the nomination passed.

Introduction of New Members and Guests

Lt. Jeremy Barnett was introduced to the Board by Sheriff Schuette. With the anticipated appointment of Undersheriff Simpson as the new Chief of Police for the City of Jackson, Lt. Barnett will be promoted to acting Undersheriff. He will also serve as the Sheriff's alternate on the board.

Deputy Director Darin McIntosh was introduced to the Board by Director Grajewski. With the upcoming retirement of Director Grajewski, Dep Dir McIntosh has submitted his application for the Township Police appointment on the Board. Director Hamman confirmed that his application was received and the matter of appointment goes before the Board of Commissioners on February 11.

Public Comments

There was no public comments.

Minutes Approval

A motion to approve the November minutes was made by Sheriff Schuette, seconded by Chief Hitt and the motion passed. It is to be noted that the agenda stated the August 5, 2024 meeting minutes were needing to be approved by mistake.

Director Comments

a. Radio Update by Director Hamman

- i. The Brown Street radio tower is now operational. It was temporarily out of service because of some rodents that got into the transformer and ate through the wiring from the pole to the building. Facilities have also gone to the other tower sites and have added wire mesh to the areas in which animals could get in in the hopes of preventing the same thing from happening at those locations as well.
- ii. Norvell Township PD have been given radios & they have templates added; they are currently waiting for the radios to be programmed by the state.
- iii. Director Hamman was notified at the first of the year that the consulettes in the equipment room within Dispatch needed to be upgraded & it was something that needed to be paid for by the County as the state & Motorola were not paying for it. If the upgrade was not done, the backup radios would not work. Director Hamman got the state involved because it was a last minute notification after the budget year & was a \$15,000 cost out of pocket. After many conversations, Motorola is now funding the upgrade as there should have been a year notice given that this was needed since it was a mandated upgrade.
- iv. In 2030, the consoles within Dispatch have end of life, meaning they are no longer serviceable. It is approximately \$350,000 to replace the consoles. There is no known lead time on how long it will take for the consoles to be ready however Director Hamman anticipates there will be more information on that when he gets some more information on the total cost to replace. When this information is received, it will go to the Board of Commissioners for approval at that time.

- b. CAD Update
 - i. The HVA interface went live on the test side of CAD last week. There were a few issues that have been found & Director Hamman, Rebecca from HVA & her team & County IT are working through the issues that were found to correct. After those are corrected, mapping call types & units will be worked on. Following the unit & call type mapping, there will be testing done on the test environment before moving the information to the production side then finally going live with CAD to CAD. Rebecca from HVA is coming to Dispatch every Wednesday to work on this project. The go live goal is the end of March. This upgrade will allow for more information to be shared not only by Dispatch with JCA but also to the fire departments & units on the road.
 - ii. The build out for Norvell PD on the CAD system is complete. All the units are in CAD. There is no exact date on when Norvell PD will be in service – they have their office, phones, some equipment however their cars are not complete. Chief Truchan is taking some ordinance related types of calls that he can handle without things being complete
- c. PFN update – There is no new PFN updates
- d. Phone – Geo Diverse: Currently the analytics are not pulling up correctly. Motorola & AT&T are working together to try to remedy the problem. Currently, Director Hamman is not able to pull data from the past couple years correctly to give proper reporting.
- e. Director Hamman gave his quarterly review to the Board on November 11, 2024. The next review is set for the next meeting on February 10, 2025.
- f. Budget - There is no new budget updates.
- g. Trainings
 - i. The following are trainings that have been completed or will soon be completed since the last advisory meeting:
 - 1. MABAS 101
 - 2. Interoperability Conference
 - ii. There are three State NTS meetings in February at the state. These meetings are to review the training applications, the appeal meeting for funding then the final meeting. Dispatch's paperwork was turned in for the training funds, which account for approximately \$23,000 a year from the state for training.
- h. MABAS – All fire departments in Jackson County continue to be on MABAS. Director Hamman is in the process of meeting with all the departments to update their cards & make sure they are correct with each department. Once updated, the chiefs will then sign off on the changes made. There is no set deadline on completing this however Director Hamman hopes to complete it within the next couple months.
- i. Staffing – There is one new hire in the process who will start at the end of February. There are currently 3 still in training.

- j. MSAG / GIS
 - i. Director Hamman has working with GIS to correct some addresses. Specifically, there are some addresses in Summit Township, on Browns Lake Rd / Browns Lake Dr that the numbers are out of sequence & not being stated correctly to Dispatch. It's Director Hamman's hope to get the township involved by sending letters or having a meeting to discuss the addresses to correct them so the addresses are the same for Dispatch as well as the homeowner.
 - ii. Both Jackson County & Hillsdale County are working to upload each other's maps with address points into the CAD mapping system. There are MSP units that work in both counties who may be on the border & could handle the calls for service that are close to their locations. This will help out both counties by utilizing the units that are closest to those calls.
- k. LEIN – Monthly validations were completed.
- l. State / SNC – The state paperwork was sent in January 17, 2025; the due date was January 31, 2025.

Old Business

Encryption Plan

Director Hamman is still waiting to hear back on the grant that he applied for with Tim Walberg's office for 2025. He is not sure if the grant distribution has been put on hold because of the holds implemented by President Trump. He has sent an email to Walberg's office asking for information on whether or not this was put on hold however has not heard back yet.

New Business

Expiring Terms

The township police representative & fire representative terms both expire as of January 2025. Deputy Director McIntosh & Chief McEldowney have both submitted their applications for the openings; Dep Dir McIntosh for the police representative & Chief McEldowney for the fire representative.

Fire Policy Review

The Fire Policy was reviewed by Director Hamman, Shift Leader Fugate, JCA Brian Walls & a few fire department representatives. The updates were made & the redline version was sent out to the Board for review before approval as all policy changes have to be approved by the Board. The fire chiefs have also signed off on the changes. It has clarified things, making things easier to understand for the Dispatchers and more uniform throughout the whole policy. Chief McEldowney thanked Director Hamman for looking at the policy & working to get everyone on the same page. The major changes that were done were with the City & Summit Fire responses as well as removing the Weather Procedure from the middle of the Fire Policy. A motion to approve the new Fire Dispatch policy was made by Sheriff Schuette, seconded by Director Grajewski & the motion passed.

JSO New Dispatching Procedure

Director Hamman has worked with Lt. Barnett & other command staff members on the changes with the Sheriff's Department. There will be monthly meetings between the sergeants & shift leaders to remedy some of the issues that come up & can be resolved before needing to get the Director & upper command involved. Since this is a change for Dispatch, Director Hamman needed to bring the topic to the Board.

Sheriff Schuette stated that the changes were made because of personnel changes, which shifted things for JSO. To be able to accommodate the changes, they had to change how calls are handled. JSO Command worked with Director Hamman & Lt. Rod on how to handle calls. Historically, JSO would respond to areas that didn't have 24 hour service or would assist in areas where the departments were tied up. This response accounted for approximately 25% of their total calls for service. Because of staffing, some of the calls that are non-emergent in nature are going to have to wait until they can be handled by their area agency. Sheriff Schuette doesn't feel that there will be anything that will compromise public safety however will cause some public scrutiny as things are going to have to wait longer than they have.

Chief McEldowney asked what the plan is for fire departments who need wreckers on accidents & how to clear the roadways. Sheriff Schuette advised that is dependent on who responds; he does not see an issue with clearing the roadway as the law actually states that if you're able to, your vehicle needs to be moved out of the roadway. Lt. Rod stated that it is MSP's policy that they have to respond however the need for wreckers can be relayed to the responding trooper. It was also noted that fire departments are able to request wreckers from Dispatch & they are able to be started however typically the wreckers will then wait for PD to arrive.

Weather Policy Separated

As stated during the Fire Policy discussion, the Weather Policy has been removed from the middle of the Fire Policy & has been made into its own procedure. A motion to approve the updated Weather Procedure was made by Chief Hitt, seconded by Director Grajewski & the motion passed.

Chief Hitt suggested to put on both the approved updates that the revision was approved by the 911 Advisory Board on this date. Director Hamman confirmed that will be added.

Brooklyn Village DPW

Director Hamman advised that the Brooklyn Village DPW is anticipated to be requesting to get on the radio system. Director Hamman has not heard anything more other than the initial phone conversation he had with DPW. Once the information is received, he will forward it to the Board. He is not sure how many radios they will be requesting.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is May 5, 2025 at 10am.

Public Comment

There were no additional public comments.

Board Member Comments

Deputy Chief Gonzalez: I would like to give special recognition to Dispatch. There was a fatal house fire & after listening to the radio traffic & talking to the incident commander, Dispatch went flawlessly. Different apparatus was started, the cards were used properly, giving updates prior to arrival, giving updates from PD, giving hydrants helped make things go very smooth.

Lt. Rod: With the retirements of Chief Hitt & Director Grajewski, this is their last meeting. Thank you for your service as well as your roles on this board.

Chief Hitt: JPD recently did a bid process for wreckers, which has never been done. When Garvers wanted to come on, there was no clear process of how to approve or allow a new wrecker service on their system. What was done was a bid process was done, overseen by the Purchasing Department & ultimately Jimmie's got the contract. Jimmie's is the wrecker who will get all calls in the City for no preference calls or impounds. There was also a bid for fleet vehicles & Phelp's got that contract. The main purpose was who would give the best, cheapest rate & storage fees, tire changes, unlocks were all included. All owner's requests are still honored. This is a 1 year contract with the option for an additional 2 years for a total potential of 3 years. It took effect February 1, 2025 so no issues have been noticed so far.

Brian Walls: As many have heard, Faster Horses has been cancelled for 2025.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Chief Hitt, seconded by Sheriff Schuette. The meeting was adjourned at 1030a.