

**MASON-OCEANA 911 BOARD**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**November 16, 2022**

**PRESENT:** Kim Cole  
Jim Coleman  
Brad Fritcher  
Laude Hartrum  
Jim Herrema  
Troy Maloney  
Craig Mast  
Ron Christians

**ABSENT:** Dale Goodrich and Jody Hartley

**STAFF:** Ray Hasil  
Todd Myers  
Chris Ernst  
Connie Blaauw

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:** Meeting called to order by Chairman Mast at 10:00 a.m.

**GUEST/CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:** Mike Overly from MERS and Garry McKeen

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Agenda was presented as part of the Board packet. Hasil asked that the MERS presentation be moved to the top of the schedule.

**Motion by Christians and supported by Maloney to approve the agenda with moving the MERS presentation to the top of the agenda. Voice Vote. Motion Carried.**

MERS presentation

Mike Overly our regional manager spoke to the Board about our Defined Benefit plan's current position and additional voluntary contributions through a Surplus Division to fund our Unfunded Accrued Liability. Overly stated as of our last Annual Actuarial Valuation Report dated 12/31/2021 we are 91% funded, which is a strong position. Overly spoke for about an hour and took questions from the Board.

**MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING:**

October 2022 minutes were presented as part of the Board packet.

**Motion by Herrema and supported by Cole to accept the October 19, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes. Voice Vote. Motion Carried.**

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Hasil presented the Treasurer's report for October 31, 2022.

Total Revenues –October 31, 2022: \$108,929.71  
Total Expenditures – October 31, 2022: \$ 51,961.41  
Fund Balance as of – October 31, 2022 \$ 1,773,652.41

**Motion by Cole and supported by Hartrum to accept the October Treasurer's report and approve the payment of claims for November 2022 in the amount of \$249.05. Voice Vote. Motion Carried.**

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

Cole gave a report of the Personnel Committee meeting and the recommendations that they forwarded to the Finance Committee. Hasil then gave a report of the Centers overall position, the 2023 proposed budget and the Finance Committee's recommendations made to the full Board. After a discussion a motion was heard.

**Motion by Hartrum supported by Fritcher to accept the 911 Director's 2023 budget as presented in the amount of \$2,075,000.00, including items for personnel as recommended by Finance. A roll call vote was taken; Cole, yea; Coleman, yea; Fritcher, yea; Christians, yea; Hartrum yea; Herrema, yea; Maloney, yea and Mast, yea. Motion Carried.**

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

### Personnel

- Pat Dancz is retiring this month. Her final shift is on Thursday, November 24 and she is retiring with 27.5 years of service. At Pat's request, we will have a retirement party for her this Sunday, November 20 from 6-8 PM at 911.
- A supervisor gave 2-week notice and we are facing unprecedented low staffing. By the end of November, we will have one open full-time position. If the request for another full-time position for 2023 is approved, we will have 2 open full-time positions. We believe the best way to attract new employees is to do something that has not been done at Mason-Oceana 911 since 1995; place ads for hiring full-time telecommunicators. It is our belief that we will have much more interest because we are advertising for full-time positions that include great benefits.

### Collaboration Projects

- **Lake County CAD-** in 2014, grant monies funding a technical consolidation between Mason-Oceana and Newaygo Counties. The consortium, called 'NEMO' (NEwaygo, Mason-Oceana) built a shared E911 calling system and CAD. Over time, Newaygo eventually shared Mason-Oceana's NICE radio IP voice logger. Lake County has received quotes to join NEMO's CentralSquare Pro CAD, and also received standalone quotes. Lake Co plans to also purchase the RMS/JMS modules. In coming weeks, Todd, Chris and I will lead discussions that include Newaygo and Lake Co stakeholders. We will work to develop a recommendation for, or against, engaging to add Lake Co to the NEMO consortium. On a side note, Lake Co has already joined the Mid-Mitt consortium that serves 8 counties (6 PSAPs) in west Michigan. Mason-Oceana is the technology lead for that consortium.

### Radio Communications Updates

- **Lakeshore Coverage-** no update.
- **Radio Encryption on Law Enforcement Talkgroups-** the order for 911 consoles has been placed. With budgeting behind us, much more focus will be devoted to implementing ADP encryption.

### Other Updates

- **State 911 compliance review-** no update.
- **Facility upgrades**
  - Outbuilding

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Mileage rate – Cole stated that the Finance Committee recommended that we adjust the 911's mileage reimbursement to mirror the federal rate twice each year; January 1<sup>st</sup> and July 1<sup>st</sup>. Currently there is no policy on a set rate. After a discussion the following motion was heard.

**Motion by Cole and supported by Coleman to adjust 911's mileage reimbursement to mirror the federal rate to be reviewed twice each year; January 1<sup>st</sup> and July 1<sup>st</sup>. A roll call vote was taken; Cole, yea; Coleman, yea; Fritcher, yea; Christians, yea; Hartrum yea; Herrema, yea; Maloney, yea and Mast, yea. Motion Carried.**

911 Personnel Policy Full-Time Hiring Exemption – Currently 911's Personnel Policy states that all new telecommunicators are hired as part-time employees. Director Hasil requested a temporary exemption to this policy, allowing him the discretion to hire a new telecommunicators as a full-time employee as needed including outside of the current part-time employee list.

New Trainee Overtime and Holiday Exemptions – With prior approval, trainees may be trained on holidays and overtime situations if deemed necessary.

Duration of Exemptions – both 911 Personnel Policy exemptions listed above are effective immediately and through December 31, 2023. The need to further extend these exemptions shall be re-evaluated during the 2024 budget planning cycle.

After a discussion on the above requests from Hasil a motion was heard.

**Motion by Christians and supported by Fritcher to allow the above exemptions as requested by Director Hasil. Voice Vote. Motion Carried.**

Choice One CD Maturing, Diversion of Funds to Michigan Class account and Lump Sum Contribution to MERS Defined Benefit Plan –

Director Hasil advised that we have a CD with Choice One Bank that matures as of 12/20/22, that has a current balance of \$251,854.80 and \$133,121.09 in a regular savings account with Preferred Credit Union that is making very little interest. After hearing the financial forecast from our MERS Rep. Hasil is requesting to close both the above accounts/CD and move all the money over to MI CLASS. MI CLASS has been recommended by both Oceana and Mason County Treasurer's as top investments as the markets decline and interest rates go up. After further discussion a motion was heard.

**Motion by Maloney and supported by Cole to close out our account with Preferred Credit Union and move all funds into MI CLASS. Also, when Choice One Bank CD matures as of 12/20/22 move this money in full to MI CLASS. A roll call vote was taken; Cole, yea; Coleman, yea; Fritcher, yea; Christians, yea; Hartrum yea; Herrema, yea; Maloney, yea and Mast, yea. Motion Carried.**

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 12:04 pm.

NEXT SCHEDULED meeting will be December 21, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. at the Mason-Oceana 911 Conference room, located at 9160 N. Oceana Drive, Pentwater.

Respectfully Submitted,

Connie Blaauw,  
Secretary