

# Kent County Dispatch Authority Administrative Policy Board

## Minutes

**AUGUST 27, 2007**

**Meeting Location:** Kent County Sheriff's Department – Administration Building

**Members Present:**

Curtis Holt	City of Wyoming;
Chuck Deschaine	City of Walker
Randy Gelderloos	City of Granville
Art Tanis	Kent County Board of Commissioners
Larry Stelma	Kent County Sheriff's Department
Jim Valentine	City of Lowell
Michael Young	City of Rockford
Steve Harper	Michigan State Police #61
Dave Peterson	Plainfield Township
Peter MacGregor	Cannon Township

**Members Absent/Excused:**

Harry Dolan	Grand Rapids
Greg Sundstrom	City of Grand Rapids

**Guests:**

Senez O. Rodriguez, KCEMS; Capt. Michelle Lajoie-Young, Kent County Sheriff's Department; Kevin Belk, Interim Chief, City of Grand Rapids; Ralph Gould, City of Grand Rapids; Mike Meijer, Life EMS; Harvey Becker, Michigan State Police; Dave Jones, Rockford Police Department; .

**Staff Present:** Jennifer DeHaan, Kent County Administrator's Office

**Media:** None

**1. Call to Order :** 9:01am

**2. Public Comment:** None

**3. Funding Recommendation to Kent County Board of Commissioners:** Chair Holt reviewed the purpose of this meeting which is to develop a funding recommendation for the Kent County Board of Commissioners. The draft that was circulated prior to this meeting would serve as a starting

point for identifying and working through some of the financial questions that had been identified in the workshops that were held by the State 911 Director.

Holt stated that the draft presented establishes a surcharge rate of \$0.45 per device per month. Jen DeHaan explained that the rate presented here was calculated based upon numerous assumptions. DeHaan noted that the State identified that statewide there are an average of .93 devices per person. Taking this into account, the County surcharge, based upon the 2005 population estimate would result in a charge of \$0.57. However, given that the Authority had previously identified that the surcharge rate of \$.67 based only upon landlines would generate the same amount of revenue; it was likely that with the addition of the wireless devices, the surcharge would decrease. Given this, and the expectation that a certain portion of the 450,000 landlines in the County would be un-billable, DeHaan stated that no estimate was available on the un-billable lines and that 25% was randomly chosen to reduce the number of billable landlines to 337,500. Working from the 337,500 and the fact that the State has assumed there is a 1:1 ratio of wireless devices to land-lines, the number of wireless devices were utilized at the same 337,500. Given this assumption, the total number of expected billable lines is 675,000 and when calculated at a rate of \$.45 the surcharge meets the estimated budget of the Authority. It was noted, that because there has never been a landline surcharge, there is no good estimate on the amount of billable lines.

Holt stated that the job of the Authority was to review this and to see if the Authority believed these numbers to be a good-faith estimate or if we needed to increase or decrease them.

Ralph Gould noted that the 25% reduction seemed like a reasonable guess and that the only way to actually get the number would be to count the number of lines and the service provider would likely not engage in that labor intensive process.

Art Tanis stated that he thought the number of wireless would be greater than the number of landlines, but that there was just no way to be sure.

Captain Young stated that the estimated of numbers presented above are very conservative and that the ETSC had previously suggested that other counties had come in as low as .62 devices per person.

A discussion ensued about the application of the surcharge to business lines. Commissioner Tanis stated that the businesses are assessed a per line charge for the first 10 lines and for every 10<sup>th</sup> line thereafter.

It was noted that the proposed surcharge would be equal to a 2.7% surcharge under the existing legislation which would sunset on December 31, 2007.

Holt requested an update on the status of SB 410 and 411. Commissioner Tanis noted that the bills were supposed to come out of committee, but have not. Everyone continues to wait.

It was noted again that the Authority needed to either use the numbers as presented or arrive at a different conclusion. A discussion ensued. Lt. Steve Harper stated that they seemed to be a conservative estimate and made a **MOTION** to approve the suggested plan of recommending that

the County Board amend the 911 plan to levy a County surcharge and to approve a surcharge of \$.45 contingent upon the approval of SB 410 & 411. The **MOTION** was seconded by Michael Young. A Discussion ensued. The **MOTION** was approved unanimously.

Holt noted that this would be a good opportunity to identify and provide other comments about the draft. He asked if there were other areas that the Authority believed that needed to be included.

Sheriff Stelma stated that he would like to see some additional language added which would address the issue of urgency of the matter as a result of the timelines that have been put into place if SB 410 & 411 pass.

It was also noted that there should be some discussion of the grant opportunity and the 25% local match that would be required. Curtis Holt asked Jen DeHaan to include these points in a revised draft and to circulate it to the Authority Board for review. Additional comments were to be provided to DeHaan no later than Thursday at Noon. The document would then be revised and a final copy would be transmitted to the Board on Thursday or Friday as well as delivered to the Board of Commissioners.

**4. Next Meeting** – Due to the MML conference the next meeting of the KCDA will be on Monday, September 17, 2007 at 8:00am at the City of Wyoming. A notice will be sent.

**5. Adjournment** – 10:10am