



Friends of 9-1-1 Committee

What will Gratiot County 9-1-1 use the millage for?

Currently the surcharge funding we have in place is used to run the entire operation of the Gratiot County Central Dispatch Authority. The surcharge is 100% of our funding and our only source of income. These funds must maintain all our services such as call answering equipment and recording equipment. The computer aided dispatch (CAD) system we use to place all the calls for service, track, record, and report on all calls for service. The radio system we use to talk between all our public safety partners in police, fire, and emergency medical services was upgraded 3 years ago, and still has a hefty final payment due next year. All the systems in place must also have back-up systems in place in case of an emergency. The systems need updates, replacement, and the ongoing maintenance for the operation has increased greatly over the past five years. This millage will allow us to make the needed enhancements in our infrastructure and allow the 9-1-1 center to stay updated with the ever-changing technology.

Some of the items the millage will go towards:

- New Radio tower in the northwest area of the county to assist with inconsistency of the radio coverage in Alma, Riverdale, and Elm Hall.
- The current phone system requires a needed software upgrade for better operating services and expansion of the call answering platform.
- The Computer Aided Dispatch program is at its end of life and should have been replaced last year.
- Replacement of the Computer Aided Dispatch Server.
- The building is approaching 20 years old and the cost of maintenance of the systems is increasing. The generator on the building has another 3 to 5 years of life before it will need to be replaced.
- The furniture in the dispatch center is also aged and now in a semi-non-working state as we try to find parts to keep it up and running.

These are just a few of the items needed for Gratiot County Central Dispatch and why this millage is so important.



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