P.O. BOX 484; PHONE (218) 681-6161

CARBYNE

Imagine being able to video chat with a 911 dispatcher to show them your emergency rather than telling them about it. That will soon be a reality for Pennington County thanks to a new software called Carbyne. Carbyne Inc. is a global leader in public safety technology, and Pennington County is taking a huge step forward by enhancing their 9-1-1 phone system.

Getting crucial information during an emergency isn't always an easy task. More and more people are calling on a cell phone. When you call from a cell phone your exact location is not given, and you'd be surprised how many people don't know their exact location. To improve on this, Pennington County 911 has made an agreement with Carbyne's c-Lite system and will be the first in Minnesota to use the Carbyne technology.

With this technology after a 911 call is initiated, depending on the situation, the dispatcher will ask to send you a text to see what you're seeing. You have to quickly accept the software, hit download and within seconds your location will be sent to the dispatcher and your phone's camera and mic will be activated. It may seem like a tiny addition, but it can make a huge difference to first responders. Once video is sent to them, they can see what they're responding to. Instant messaging is also a feature when verbal communication might not be an option.

Pennington County feels this type of technology is going enhance the emergency response efforts tremendously.

FEATURES OF THE NEW ENHANCEMENT INCLUDE

LIVE VIDEO CALLS - Send live, streaming video of emergency situations to 9-1-1, helping call takers to better prioritize your situation to get the help you need.

PINPOINT LOCATION - Provide your exact location to 9-1-1 when you are using smart mobile devices. Most 9-1-1 systems approximate caller locations. With the new enhancements, your device can tell us where you are when you call, even when you are in motion.

LIVE CHAT TO 9-1-1 - When you are in a situation where verbal communication is uncomfortable or dangerous, the call can be turned into a chat session.