



CUYAHOGA COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Communications Committee Meeting Minutes (Regular)

DATE/TIME: September 11, 2024 – 10:00AM

LOCATION: Harvard Training Room A (Harvard Garage)
2501 Harvard Avenue, Newburgh Heights, OH 44105

ATTENDING VOTING COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

NAME	Present	ASSOCIATION	ALTERNATE	Present
A/C Jim Health	X	Chairman		
Lisa Raffurty	X	Vice Chair		
Randy Kimbro		Southwest Radio COG	Tom Sullivan	
Brad Handke		City of Cleveland	Courtney Newman	
Anthony Luke		City of Cleveland	Brad Englehart	
Cmdr. Brian McEntee		City of Cleveland	Phil DaVila	
Jacquelynn Costa		CECOMS	Stephen Kasik	
Mark Christie		Cuyahoga County EMA	Chris Minek	X
Jill Smialek		Cuyahoga County PSJS	Nancy Kolcan	
Chief Papesh		Fire	Chief Rega	
Chief Schepp		Fire	Chief Carcioppolo	
Chief Dietz	X	LE – Municipal	VACANT	
Sgt. Keeper	X	LE – Non-Municipal	Ofc. Leff	
Lt. Pat Devlin	X	LE – Sheriff	VACANT	
Chief Elliott		MARCS User Group	Chief Carroll	X
Dillon Crouse		MARCS User Group	VACANT	
George Balasko	X	City of Parma	VACANT	
Chief Lasky		City of Parma	T.J. Martin	X
Nick DiCicco		Regional Dispatch	VACANT	
Ron Barlow		Regional Dispatch	Kristina Eich	
Mike Dever		Public Works	VACANT	

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Lezlie White, Ella Amadeus, Dick Miller, Kyle Jamison, Carol Haddon, Bill Mandich, Richard Nickerson, Larry Geneva, Chuck Mehoronek, Matt Nickoson

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COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE**

AGENDA ITEMS

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL / QUORUM DETERMINATION

- Chairman Jim Heath called the meeting to order at 10:05a.m.
- Chairperson Lisa Raffurty conducted roll call. A quorum was not met.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

- None

3. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

- Approval of the July 10th meeting minutes is postponed until the November meeting due to no quorum.

4. MAIN CCESAB MEETING REVIEW

- Chairman Heath reported that there was a grants update given by Larry Tafe. Chairman Heath also reported that Mayors in attendance at the meeting had questions about why police departments could not figure out what to do during a power outage. He also stated that the Mayors asked why police can not switch to another channel when outages occur. A Mayor asked if the Committee was prepared in Cuyahoga County to communicate with the Secret Service in the event of an assignation attempt. Chairman Heath stated that some in attendance tried to explain to the Mayor that Cuyahoga County does not share those channels with the committee. It was explained that the way to get around that is if the Secret Service, EOC and the county EOC were in the same room. The Mayors also had questions about why the county tornado sirens are not available for communication to those inside buildings. Chairman Heath stated that the real push from EOC is that the tornado sirens are not made for inside buildings communication especially within the city of Cleveland. There is a push towards technology regarding tornado warning notifications via cell phones and national weather service apps.

5. GRANTS UPDATE

- Lezlie White stated the .GOV project is underway and they are working on helping municipalities to transition to .gov. The contract and vendor for this project are in place. Lezlie White also stated that the Regional Intrusion Detection project which involves creating a regional sensor for multiple municipalities to detect intrusions on their IT systems. The Bedford Police Department radios are on the FY2024 UASI. The award for this is expected to be due back to the state by the end of the year. Lezlie White stated that they also have a new contact at the Ohio EMA working on loading grants updates and modifications.
- Lezlie also recommended each Committee develop a list of projects so that when funding becomes available, the Committee is prepared to submit the project.
- Chairman Heath asked to add the development of a project list to the next meeting agenda.

6. RADIO REQUEST APPLICATION REVIEW

- None

7. COUNTY INTEROP TEMPLATE UPDATES

- T.J. Martin stated that a consensus at the meeting was that a back up is needed in case of a power outage. Chairman Heath stated that it was mentioned that there needs to be a way to determine who goes to what channel for everything in the event of an outage.

8. EXERCISES/DRILLS FOR COM-L PARTICIPATION

- None

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9. OLD BUSINESS

- None.

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS/NEW BUSINESS

- Dick Miller advised MARCS has 6 towable 35KW generators and multiple Tower on Wheels (TOW) deployable for extra capacity, planned events, outages, etc. They also carry 450 portable cache radios.
- C. Minek – The County EMA Summit is scheduled for October 30th.
- L. Raffurty – The Amber Alert Conference will take place October 23rd.

11. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- None

12. NEXT MEETING

- November 16th 10:00 a.m.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 10:42 a.m.