



## CUYAHOGA COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

### Communications Committee Meeting Minutes

Date/Time: Wednesday, February 11, 2015

Location: Independence Fire Station  
6305 Selig Road  
Independence, Ohio 44131

#### Attendees (Voting Committee Members)

NAME	Present	ASSOCIATION	ALTERNATE	Present
Chief William Shaw	X	Chairman		
Steven Greene	X	Vice Chair – (Law Enforcement)		
Randy Kimbro		Brook Park	Lt. Tom Cramer	X
Brad Handke	X	City of Cleveland Rep.	Courtney Newman	
Laura Palinkas		City of Cleveland Rep.	Larry Jones II	
Debra Cavett		City of Cleveland Rep.	Lt. Reynaldo Oritz	
Supervisor Shawn Smith		CECOMS	Supervisor Jackie Costa	
Brandy Carney		Cuyahoga County		
Pete Greene	X	Cuyahoga County		
Chief Scott Gilman	X	Fire	Chief Rega	
Chief William Shaw		Fire	Chief Chris Lyons	
Kevin Freeze		Hospitals	Beth Gatlin	
Nick DiCicco		Law Enforcement	Carol Haddon	X
Chief Bruce Elliott	X	MARCS	Chief Tom Robinson	
Chief Dave Freeman		MARCS	Jim Heath	
Mayor Cicero		Mayors & Managers Rep.		
George Balasko	X	PARMA	Capt. Ronald Heffern	
Mike Lasky		PARMA	Lt. Tesmer	
Rob Jamieson	X	Public Works	Bob Girardi	
Lisa Raffurty	X	Regional Dispatch	Jack McCarthy	
Nick Pishnery – (Ron Barlow)	X	Regional Dispatch	Kristina Eich	

**Others in Attendance:** B. Jackson, J. McCarthy, C. Bollinger, D. Ferguson, R. Flaherty, T. Wolf, C. Folio, J. Meredith, T. Miller, M. Carroll, S. Garwood, R. Uhl, C. Newman, J. Draves, R. Chegan.

#### AGENDA ITEMS

##### 1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL / QUORUM DETERMINATION

- By Chief Shaw at 9:32 AM
- Roll Call, 12 voting members, Quorum established

##### 2. PUBLIC COMMENT

- None

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## 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Blasko motioned to pass the minutes, seconded by S. Greene. Voice Vote: Aye-all, Nay-none. Motion passed.

## 4. VOTING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- Need to communicate to those who are currently on the list but have not been seen lately.
- Ledford brought up that with new dispatch centers are coming on line so we may need to expand the regional dispatching votes.
- A letter needs to go out to address this and the make-up of the committee needs to better reflect the county.
- Handke will reach out to the Cleveland members to see what their intent will be.

## 5. INTEROPERABILITY WITH MEDINA COUNTY

- Medina present in the meeting to discuss the radio needs and how to communicate with agencies within Cuyahoga County. The concerns are interoperability. Strings vile has a mobile radio that they are currently adding to their dispatch center in order to patch radios.
- Ledford suggest having APX dual band radios in command cars. Handke brought up the Harris ISSI system that could patch the systems together.
- The Medina County representatives are looking for the easiest and cheapest solution. Fire and EMS have a very limited budget with 11 volunteer departments. Police seem to have a better budget but as a county as a whole, funds are limited.

## 6. ISSI AND HARRIS CORP BEON SYSTEM

- Balasko spoke on the Harris ISSI system. Cleveland Communications will be installing the device. There are discussions with MARCS and Cleveland to see about patching the systems together for better interoperability.
- Trunk to convention, multi bands and the Motorola ID's are all able to be passed. Smartphones are also able to be linked in so that they can be used as radios.
- BeOn is the name of the smartphone app.

## 7. MTAC CHANNELS FOR ODOT UPDATE

- Gilman has completed the process so that ODOT will have the MTAC's in their supervisor vehicles.
- Handke has offered up the Cleveland regionals as well. He will email Garwood the permissions to add these.

## 8. URBAN AREA HOMELAND SECURITY STRATEGY UPDATE

- Training was the only issue in the UAHSS that is of concern.
- Multiple ideas were presented on how to address this.
- P. Greene is heading the subcommittee and is looking for members to assist.
- Shaw wants the training group to have a well-rounded diversity so that all disciplines are covered.
- The focus is to provide training to key people who are able to return with material and training information so that everyone in an agency is also trained. This training is focused on interoperability, not day to day operations.
- Each agency should have day to day operations training to address their specific needs. This would be for air medical and other large scale incident and event situations.
- P. Greene and Elliot will attend the meeting on Feb 25.

## 9. CACHE/COMMAND AND CONTROL RADIO UPDATE

- Independence cache radios are programmed with the most recent and hopefully final template on the MARCS 7.X platform.
- At this point, MARCS is not charging for the cache radios.
- Programming will be daily users and limited user's templates.
- Programmers are held to program using the approved template and not change it.
- P. Greene will email out to service departments and command-control radios the web link to make sure that they know how to get 7.X ID's.
- Billing will not be now but very well could happen in the future. Notification will go out if that occurs so that there are no surprises.

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## **10. ANNOUNCEMENTS / OTHER BUSINESS**

- Shaw had asked members to think of issues that affect radio communications. Shaw was asking about a standard template so that all radios are the same.
- Handke and Balasko brought up that there are technical issues between radio brands and models where naming of each talkgroups is available or not. Zone names are just names, not the order or actual position within the radio.
- Training will have to be the key for each department or agency to be able to find a specific talkgroups. Gillman suggest that a simpler radio programming needs to happen for the boots on the ground.
- Chiefs and Incident Commanders are the only ones that need the multiple interoperability talkgroups. This is a goal that will take a lot more work and discussion. Elliot stressed training as a goal and issue.
- Flaherty will pursue the May visit of Jebb Bush to see if this could be a work session for radios.
- The EMA list of future exercises and drills can be used a base line for COM-L's to complete their tasks books.
- Brad mentioned that Motorola maybe up for sale.
- Shaw symmetrized that the goals are policy on recommended procedure for day to day operations, training for day to day, and coordinate communicate exercises for COM-L's.

## **11. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

- No executive session conducted.

## **12. NEXT MEETING**

- Next meeting: March 11, 2015 at 9:30 AM, Independence Fire station.

## **13. ADJOURNMENT**

- Shaw motioned to adjourn, seconded by all. All in favor at 11:26 AM.