

9-1-1 Planning Committee
Wednesday, August 17, 2011
2:00 p.m.
Summary

Present: Norberto Colón; Mayor Joseph Cicero-Lyndhurst; Sherri Lippus-Olmsted Township Trustee; Martin FlaskóPublic Safety Director, City of Cleveland; Murray Withrow-CECOMS.

Absent: Mayor Dean DePiero-Parma

Norberto Colón opened the meeting advising this committee is beginning anew with regard to its roles and responsibilities; bearing in mind the County's re-organization under Public Safety is incomplete and final organizational structures for EMA and CECOMS will be released soon.

Discussions will center on what 9-1-1 should look like for the County under the Ohio Revised Code (ORC) and allocation of available funding. The County Executive has ideas which will be shared. A summary of our meetings will be available on the County's website.

The following agenda items were discussed along with review of informational binders provided to each member.

I. ORC 4931.41

The committee was encouraged to review Ohio Revised Code (ORC) 4931.41 and Ohio Attorney General Opinion No. 2011-014 highlighting the following points:

- Development of a Countywide 9-1-1 system.
- Requirement to have both a Planning and a Technical Advisory Committee.
- Amendment of Plan (original plan implemented in 1986)
- Funding cannot be used for radios or reverse 9-1-1 systems.

Over the next two years this committee will vote on recommendations to amend the plan. Some issues include: consolidation of Public Safety Answering Point's (PSAPs)-there are currently 47 PSAPs + CECOMS in Cuyahoga County; should Cleveland answer their own 9-1-1 calls?

II. 9-1-1 Plan Overview (1986 and 2006)

The Board of Cuyahoga County Commissioners adopted the original plan in 1986, as well as the 2006 revised plan by resolution. An amended plan will be presented to the County Council and County Executive. The 2006 revised plan was initiated by establishment of the 9-1-1 wireless service fund and to identify who would be responsible for answering those calls.

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Further discussion on the old network ran under Ohio Bell at a cost of \$3.6 mil, maintenance of the current network under AT&T by a .12 tax for home phone users and question as to where the funding would go if AT&T does not operate the 9-1-1 network. This committee will address what the new 9-1-1 network should be with regard to fiber optics, leasing, maintenance agreements, additional options, costs and funding.

Mayor Joseph Cicero asked what other parts of the country are doing, to which Norberto responded they are updating to fiber optics, and not necessarily through AT&T as the infrastructure is dependent on location. He further stated per the ORC the 9-1-1 operation does not have to go out for competitive bid, this committee can research to decide the best solution for Cuyahoga County. AT&T will be involved as a carrier and will eventually make a presentation.

Murray Withrow talked about the initial 9-1-1 connections with AT&T, and updating to establish regional hub-sites with PSAPs linking into them to eliminate the need for a freestanding 9-1-1 system in each police department-noting the costs for one system at about \$225,000, whereas connection to a regional hub-site would cost about \$80,000.

Norberto agreed with the establishment of hubs for countywide connection. He also noted issues being monthly recurring charges and possible non-approval of the December 2012 re-authorization. The group was advised to review the 2006 plan.

III. Attevo Study

Norberto commented on the County Executive's thoughts regarding the amount of funding available and putting the dollars to use as soon as possible. He cited a recent lightning strike in the City of Euclid and significant damage incurred to the PSAP as one example of how 9-1-1 systems are struggling.

The study by Attevo will be an assessment of all 47 PSAPs to include capabilities, budgets, and staffing. The study will involve cluster meetings, open table dialogue discussions, update of the plan, back-up for the City of Cleveland, technology and consolidation recommendations. The data will also be used to reconfigure CECOMS as an office. The study should be completed by the end of August.

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This committee was asked if they wished to see the presentation prior to the technical committee; consensus of the group was to preview it first for questions or clarification. Presentation for all PSAPs tentatively scheduled for September. It was noted Attevo was selected by Ohio State Term, having previously assessed Cleveland and CECOMS.

IV. Wireless 9-1-1 Budget Update

Review of allocation and disbursement since inception in 2005 of \$18.5 mil, and 2011 year end projected fund balance of \$10.2 mil. Norberto commented CECOMS is primarily funded by 9-1-1 revenue to include administrative and operational expenses. Phase II compliancy allows funding for operational purposes.

Although we are compliant with PSAP and mapping requirements, we recognize that many agencies may have financial barriers to updating equipment. With regard to compliancy of PSAPs and mapping, Martin Flask related the reason some municipalities are non-compliant is possibly because they cannot afford to be.

9-1-1 funding will provide for system enhancement, network and hardware upgrades that include maps. Mayor Cicero asked if the individual PSAPs would take wireless calls. Norberto responded they would not; however, this will be addressed in the future. The County Executive would like to focus first on municipalities that are willing to consolidate.

Mayor Cicero then asked when cities would be informed of available funding for upgrading; to which Norberto answered letters were sent to each Mayor informing of the study by Attevo as the basis on how 9-1-1 funding will be allocated.

V. Technical Committee Members

Membership must consist of the following per the ORC 4931.42 (C)

1. One representative from Cuyahoga County Fire Chiefs Association
2. One representative from Cuyahoga County Police Chiefs Association
3. Cuyahoga County Sheriff
4. Cuyahoga County EMA
5. One representative from Highway Patrol
6. One Representative from each telephone company
7. One Trustee Representative from a Township in Cuyahoga County

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Prior list of members and agency representatives was reviewed. The planning committee is represented on the technical committee. Updates to the technical committee membership to be adjusted as needed. This committee was asked to consider the following for the next meeting: when to convene the technical committee; who the membership should include; cellular phone company reps; suggested experts, and, are we required to continue the technical committee.

VI. Future PSAP Quarterly Meetings

- a. Informative and education about the industry and dispatching trends.

Quarterly meetings to be held; will alternately provide updates on planning and technical committee accomplishments; to include information and discussion on education and industry trends; future of 9-1-1; outside expert presentations from associations such as National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), National Emergency Numbers Association (NENA) and Association of Public Safety Communication Officials (APCO).

VII. Other Topics

- a. Call Statistics: To be presented in a format easier to read to ascertain call volume.
- b. Quarterly Meetings for Advisory Members: Previously discussed.
- c. Attevo Study Result Presentation: Planning Committee will be addressed first.
- d. How 9-1-1 works: AT&T will make a presentation to the Planning and Technical Committees.
- e. Legacy System versus NexGen: AT&T will do a presentation for later discussion.
- f. What about secondary PSAPs: Attevo will address some secondary PSAPs in their assessment; Fire Departments were not considered for the study; secondary PSAPs will be a subsequent discussion by this committee.
- g. Vote to open the Plan: Vote to be documented regarding any changes to the plan; legal review; appendix update.
- h. Introduce Resolutions to County Council.

Meeting adjourned 3:30 p.m.