



**CUYAHOGA COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD
COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE**

Communications Committee Meeting Minutes

Date/Time: Wednesday, July 11, 2018

**Location: Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District
4747 East 49th Street
Cuyahoga Heights, Ohio**

Attendees (Voting Committee Members)

NAME	Present	ASSOCIATION	ALTERNATE	Present
Steven Greene	X	Chairman	N/A	
Steve Rega	X	Vice Chair	VACANT	
Randy Kimbro		Southwest Radio COG	Lt. Tom Cramer	X
Brad Handke	X	City of Cleveland	Courtney Newman	
Laura Palinkas	X	City of Cleveland	John O'Flaherty	
Debra Cavett	X	City of Cleveland	Lt. Reynaldo Oritz	
Lisa Raffurty	X	CECOMS	Jacquelynn Costa	
Melinda Burt		Cuyahoga County EMA	Nancy Kolcan	X
Pete Greene	X	Cuyahoga County EMA	Adam Griffith	
Chief Scott Gilman	X	Fire	Chief Schepp	
VACANT		Fire	VACANT	
William Telfer	X	Center for Health Affairs	Beth Gatlin	
James Foster		Law Enforcement – Muni	VACANT	
Chief Bruce Elliott	X	MARCS User Group	Chief Tom Robinson	
Jim Heath		MARCS User Group	Chief Freeman	X
Jeff Scott		Law Enforcement – Non-Muni	David Leff	X
George Balasko	X	PARMA	Walter Samijlenko	
T. J. Martin		PARMA	Mike Lasky	
Nick DiCicco	X	Regional Dispatch – East	Shawn Smith	
Ron Barlow	X	Regional Dispatch - West	Kristina Eich	
Mike Devert		Public Works	VACANT	

Others in Attendance: L. Tafe, H. Bogart, E. Schepp, J. O'Flaherty, D. Miller, T. McMillan, M. Flynn, W. Samijlenko, B. Kaminski, S. Garwood, D. Merchalt, J. Wagner, D. Roche, G. Rowe, A. Griffith, C. Bollinger, M. Carroll, P. Ward, D. Rzeszut, R. Katona, M. Celiga.

AGENDA ITEMS

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL / QUORUM DETERMINATION

- Called to order by Steven Greene at 9:32 AM.
- Roll Call conducted, 17 voting members, quorum met.

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2. PUBLIC COMMENT

- None

3. APPROVAL OF MAY 9, 2018 MINUTES

- No comments made, Palinkas motioned for the minutes to be accepted and Cramer seconded. Voice vote: Balasko abstained, all others were yeas, no nays. Motions passed.

4. RADIO ALLOCATIONS

- Ad-hoc committee met and had two applications. South Euclid and Notre Dame.
- The County is not ready to make the purchase so we are still accepting applications.
- DiCicco pointed out that the main CCESAB approved South Euclid in the last meeting.
- Mayor of Richmond Heights asked which grant that the funds will come from.
- Larry Taff explained the grants are from the 2017 UASI funding.
- Chief Rowe asked about the process and how these agencies are getting radios prior to his department.
- Steve Greene made mentioned that there has been a change in that South Euclid not ready to move onto a new system.
- Tafe mentioned that two bids have come in and the hopes are to make the purchase real soon. 2016 funds became available prior to spending 2017 funds so those funds are being used to get radios.
- Chief Rowe mentioned that he has 14 batteries that are not holding solid charges and has 800 MHz antennas. He was asking what would happen to them after they are done using them and is there a budget to replace batteries?
- Gillman explained how the CCESAB cut the radio budget so that funding can cover other projects. He also explained that this committee has bent over backwards to accommodate the needs of Richmond Heights.
- RH mayor asked about how can they get batteries and was trying to understand the process of maintaining them for use.
- Pete Greene explained the historical move from cache radios to no longer being used.
- Rowe explained the historical transition and how new radios were not provided, just loner radios.
- RH Mayor asked about loaner radios from the State.
- Chief Elliot mentioned that he had changed out antennas but wasn't sure if there has been a real change.
- Steve Greene mentioned that he would have to reach out to MARCS and ask.
- Dick Miller said that MARCS has emergency resources that are available if not being used elsewhere.
- No other comments

5. THIRA

- Mack explained that FEMA has made some changes that affect the County. He said that FEMA is asking for communications and core capabilities are still being met to deal with a threat hazard.
- This report still needs to be completed to drive exercises and how we respond to incidents.
- A communications working group will need to be developed to address the radio response and capabilities.
- A sub-committee will need as many people as possible to form this and address the needs.

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6. MOU WITH WARRENSVILLE DEVELOPMENT CENTER

- Peter Greene presented the letter and MOU request.
- DiCicco mentioned that the Center already has the secondary talk group for both Highland Hills Police and Fire so they are okay. Therefore no need for a County Talk group.

7. MARCS USER FEES

- Peter Greene read the email from Rick Schmahl that agencies should budget for \$20 per radio, per month but right now the fee remains \$10 with no future increase on the horizon.
- Dick Miller agreed.

8. COML/T TRAINING & EXERCISE

- Cleveland Hopkins Drill is September 14, 2018.
- VA NDMS exercise is August 14-15, 2018
- Trying to set up training with the BSSA Communications truck out of Geauga County.

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS / OTHER BUSINESS

- Steve Greene had a question about the ad-hoc back-up committee. Brad mentioned that the committee has not met.
- Adam Griffith mentioned that the County OEM lays out a schedule of the MYTEP and any exercises should be on that. National medical response at Burke is happening soon and is looking for volunteers for that drill. Adam has copies of the fliers.
- Dick Miller asked for any updates for the Shaker Heights fire last night. DiCicco said that 17 agencies responded. Chief Carroll mentioned MARCS and Cleveland systems worked well. Miller saw an increase of 5,000 push to talks with 22 busies that happened because one person tried to talk over another. Almost all 16 talk paths were used but it went well and no one reported any issues. O'Flarerty mentioned the Availability of Cleveland Fire if needed.
- Elliot asked about State Homeland Security funds. Tafe mentioned that specialty teams are the focus and the amount of money is usually lower.

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- No executive session conducted.

11. NEXT MEETING

- Next meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 12, 2018 @09:30a. Location is the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District on East 49th Street.

12. ADJOURNMENT

- Motion to adjourn by Balasko, seconded by all.
- Adjourned at 10:22 AM.