



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

Communications Committee Meeting Minutes (Regular)

DATE/TIME: May 8, 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	X	City of Cleveland	Courtney Newman	
Anthony Luke		City of Cleveland	Brad Englehart	
Cmdr. Brian McEntee		City of Cleveland	Phil DaVila	X
Jacquelynn Costa	X	CECOMS	Stephen Kasik	
Mark Christie		Cuyahoga County EMA	Kevin Friis	X
Jill Smialek		Cuyahoga County PSJS	Nancy Kolcan	X
Chief Papesh	X	Fire	Chief Rega	
Chief Schepp	X	Fire	Chief Carcioppolo	
Chief Dietz		LE – Municipal	VACANT	
Sgt. Keeper	X	LE – Non-Municipal	Ofc. Leff	
Lt. Pat Devlin	X	LE – Sheriff	VACANT	
Chief Elliott	X	MARCS User Group	Chief Carroll	
Dillon Crouse	X	MARCS User Group	VACANT	
George Balasko	X	City of Parma	VACANT	
Chief Lasky		City of Parma	VACANT	
Nick DiCicco		Regional Dispatch	VACANT	
Ron Barlow		Regional Dispatch	Kristina Eich	
Mike Dever		Public Works	VACANT	

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Lezlie White, Larry Tafe, Jim Colbert, Matt Reinke, ,
Dave Ray, Dave Perez, Chris Hampton, Kevin Friis, Carol Haddon, Bryan Kloss

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AGENDA ITEMS

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL / QUORUM DETERMINATION

- Chairman Jim Heath called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.
- Chairperson Lisa Raffurty conducted roll call. A quorum was met.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

- None

3. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

- George Balasko motioned to approve the March 13, 2024 meeting minutes. Jacque Costa seconded. The meeting minutes were approved.

4. MAIN CCESAB MEETING REVIEW

- Chairman Heath reported that there was a CCESAB meeting, not a lot to report other than grant review.

5. GRANTS UPDATE

- Lezlie White reported that there were two new projects. One was for Span which had ballistic plates that went for reallocation. The other was the Sheriff's Department project for PPE for filters and masks. The plates project was fully approved and funded based on there being only so much money set aside for reallocation. The Sheriff's Department project was approved and partially funded. Lezlie White also reported that there is always the caveat that some of the available funding is for emerging threats national priorities.
- Larry Tafe reported that during the next full CCESAB meeting on May 15th, UASI 2024 and State Homeland grants will be voted on. These applications are due and will be sent to the state by the end of May. This project along with 12 others from various committees and specialty teams will be voted on. Larry Tafe stated that The Bedford Police Sergeant or Lieutenant should attend this meeting so that they can present their project for 36 radios and chargers which was approved at the CCESAB Communications Committee meeting on March 13th.
- Lezlie White stated that the UASI grant allocation is for \$1.4 million. One thing that is different this year is that Ohio EMA is taking M&A (Management & Admin) off the top, they are allowed to take 5% off of the top.
- Larry Tafe recommended that project preparation be done before submission. Pricing should be known and whether or not the project meets the State's plan for that project.

6. RADIO REQUEST APPLICATION REVIEW

- Chairman Heath stated that there is one application in the queue and no other applications to review.

7. COUNTY INTEROP TEMPLATE UPDATES

- Interop talk groups for large scale incidents – Kevin Friis reported that the reason CCOEM went with Cleveland Regionals is because Brad Handke offered some of his talk groups for use. He suggested, that in light of email conversations that followed regarding the interop talk groups, a project proposal should be made for a grant funded vendor to reprogram radios county wide.
- Bryan Kloss stated Fire side is fine, there are too many talk groups in place on the law enforcement side that will not have interoperability if there is a mass casualty event. The purpose of the large-scale channel is to solve that problem. One idea he suggested is for EMA to create a map that defines the system as a whole and shows a full visual of what the current status of each system is and how the interoperability will

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affect others. He also stated that there needs to be a least two channels for all law enforcement agencies that everyone can get to.

- Chairman Heath asked if it would be possible inside county EMA, to train a group of programmers and have EMA conduct the training. Bryan Kloss responded that the EMA will assist where ever they can and can provide space for training.
- Brad Handke asked if an analysis can be done and have everyone respond to a questionnaire of what is in their radios. Bryan Kloss stated that EMA can facilitate the questionnaire if they are given a list of questions to ask on the survey. Brad Handke stated that the assessment should look at who has 700 and 800 interops, regionals, and CUYCO's.
- The group discussed sharing interops with outside counties. The Committee can send a letter to the radio system admin's allowing them to program certain talk groups in border county radios.

8. EXERCISES/DRILLS FOR COM-L PARTICIPATION

- Bryan Kloss reported that there will be a full-scale mass casualty drill at Holy Name School on Junes 21st which will be in two 4-hour blocks for first responders. August 1st EMA will be in the span region at Progressive Insurance. Details for this are still being worked out and for a third drill. Logistics for a drill at Hopkins are also being worked on.

9. OLD BUSINESS

- None.

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS/NEW BUSINESS

- Captain Leff reported he retired on April 5th and gave up that rank, he has returned as a Patrolman. He requests Sgt. Keeper be the new primary committee voting member and he be considered the secondary. No vote necessary, change will be made for next meeting.

11. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- None

12. NEXT MEETING

- July 10, 2024. 10:00 a.m.

13. ADJOURNMENT

- Jacque Costa motioned to adjourn the meeting. Dillion Crouse seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.