



CUYAHOGA COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Communications Committee Meeting Minutes

Date/Time: September 8, 2021 – 11:00 AM

Location: Paul W. Cassidy Theatre, 6200 Pearl Rd. downstairs, Room B
Cleveland, Ohio 44103

Attendees (Voting Committee Members)

NAME	Present	ASSOCIATION	ALTERNATE	Present
Steven Greene	X	Chairman		
Lisa Raffurty		Vice Chair		
Randy Kimbro		Southwest Radio COG	Lt. Tom Cramer	
Brad Handke	X	City of Cleveland	Courtney Newman	
Anthony Luke	X	City of Cleveland	VACANT	
Cmdr. Carla Ellis	X	City of Cleveland	Capt. Brian McEntee	
Jacquelynn Costa		CECOMS	VACANT	
Mark Christie		Cuyahoga County EMA	Adam Griffith	X
Melinda Burt	X	Cuyahoga County Public Safety	Nancy Kolcan	
Chief Papesh	X	Fire		
Chief Schepp	X	Fire		
Chief Bobak		LE – Municipal	VACANT	
Lt. Leff		LE – Non-Municipal	Craig Bollinger	
Sgt. Pat Devlin		LE – Sheriff	VACANT	
Chief Elliott		MARCS User Group	Chief Robinson	
Jim Heath		MARCS User Group	Chief Freeman	
George Balasko	X	City of Parma	Walter Samijlenko	X
T. J. Martin		City of Parma	Mike Lasky	
Nick DiCicco		Regional Dispatch	VACANT	
Ron Barlow	X	Regional Dispatch	Kristina Eich	
Mike Dever		Public Works	Bryan Hitch	X

Others in Attendance: Reyes

AGENDA ITEMS

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL / QUORUM DETERMINATION

Steve Greene called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. and conducted roll-call. A quorum was not present.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment

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3. APPROVAL OF 7/14/21 and 8/4/21 MEETING MINUTES

Minutes could not be approved due to lack of quorum. Approval of 7/14 and 8/4 minutes was tabled until the next meeting.

4. GRANTS UPDATE

Steve Greene relayed a grants update provided via email by Larry Tafe, Grants Supervisor from Cuyahoga County Public Safety and Justice Services:

- CSU is receiving the 15 radios originally purchased for Highland Heights.
- CSU's application for 20 radios was amended to five (5) radios in light of their receipt of the 15 radios from Highland Heights. PSJS will complete a purchase for five radios using UASI 2017 funds.
- 2021 State Homeland and State Homeland LE grant applications were submitted on 8/27/21 to OEMA. No Communications Committee projects were included as part of the these applications.

5. EXERCISE/DRILLS FOR COM-L PARTICIPATION

Adam Griffith, Cuyahoga County EMA, reported on upcoming trainings and exercises:

- G557 Rapid Needs [Damage] Assessment 10/25 virtual, MS Teams
- G300 Intermediate ICS 11/1-3 in-person at NE OH Regional Sewer District
- G400 Advanced ICS 12/6-7 in-person at NE OH Regional Sewer District

To register for these courses, visit the Ohio Department of Public Safety Training Campus website at <https://trainingcampus.dps.ohio.gov/CourseMill/pstc/pstc.html>.

Adam also reported that there was a full-scale HAZMAT and USAR exercise on August 27th at Tri-C West Campus. During the event Adam served as the communications evaluator and found no significant issues. On 9/21 there will be a mass casualty exercise at Hopkins Airport. Adam will serve as the COM-L for that event, but it is not communications-focused. Adam extended an invitation to individuals interested in observing.

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS/OTHER BUSINESS

George Balasko inquired on behalf of Parma Police Chief Bobak whether it would be possible to hold future Committee meetings virtually. Steve Greene and Lindy Burt both stated that state law no longer allowed the virtual exception to the Ohio Public Meetings Act, but Lindy Burt said she would research and confirm.

Brad Hanke stated that there has been some conflict with programmers from differing systems unknowingly reprogramming radios previously updated by another system's programmer. To prevent this from happening in the future, Brad asked that agency users send all programming requests to their primary system programmer, who will then coordinate with the alternate system programmer on changes needed. For example, if a MARCS user needs Cleveland channels, the MARCS user should submit that request to his or her MARCS programmer, who will then coordinate with the Cleveland programmer on behalf of the user. This ensures that all programmers maintain awareness of and preserve the radio's existing programming for various systems. Further discussion ensued about encrypted channels and who would qualify to have an encryption key programmed into a radio.

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7. EXECUTIVE SESSION

NONE

8. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the CESAB Communications Committee is scheduled for November 10th.

9. ADJOURNMENT

George Balasko motioned to adjourn the meeting. Steve Greene seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 11:21 a.m.