

DELAWARE COUNTY 911 BOARD
MINUTES
APRIL 29, 2008
DELAWARE COUNTY EOC

In attendance at the meeting was: Tom Homan, Steve Lutz, Glen Evans, Chief Russ Martin, Chief Gary Vest, Chief Gary Honeycutt, Chief John Donahue, Chief Morris (for Chief McIntire),

Absent: Sheriff Davis, Dave Cannon, Rob Farmer, Bill Shively and Lt. Heidi Marshal

Also in attendance: Gloria Rose-James Delaware PD-911, Patrick Brandt Delaware County Data Center, Jay Somerville- Dublin PD.

- I. Chairman Homan called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.
- II. Minutes – Motion by Steve Lutz and seconded by Chief Martin to approve the minutes as modified. Motion passed unanimously.
- III. Committee Report
 - a. **Technology Committee** – Chief Donahue reported that the Technology Committee met last week. At this meeting, they continued to work to obtain pricing. The Committee also discussed possible locations for the equipment that will be relocated. This facilitated discussion on the layout of the communication center. Patrick Brandt was going to develop a floor plan from the discussion.

Presentation #1 - Chairman Homan stated that we have a guest to speak answering questions about the radio system that was raised at the last meeting. Chief Donahue introduced Patrick Brandt from the Delaware County Data Center, who oversees and manage the radio system and the computer system and networking for the County 911 Center.

Patrick Brandt provided an overview through PowerPoint of the radio system. The PowerPoint presentation is included as part of the minutes.

Chief Honeycutt asked who determines what agencies are permitted to go onto the radio system. Patrick stated that he determines and has always allowed public safety agencies on the radio system. When a public safety agency requests access to a specific agencies radio system (i.e. Delaware and Powell PD), he has always contact that agency for authorization. Patrick stated from a non-public safety standpoint, there are none on the

system. Park Conservation and ODNR are law enforcement agencies that operate in Delaware County.

Patrick stated that there was discussion with the County Engineers office to come on board; however, the Engineer found that it was too costly. The concept of adding them to the system was that they would pay in whole or part for an additional channel on the system, increasing the capability of the system.

The Board discussed the need to develop policy and protocol to decide who comes on board with the County radio system. Chief Martin suggested that the new 911 Director develop this policy.

The following were additional points that Patrick brought forth during the PowerPoint presentation.

- City of Columbus busy signals are in the high teens each month.
- Delaware County radio system utilization is typically in the 14% range; however the maximum was 32%. He was unsure of the reason for that. Maximum utilization for a system such as ours would be 50%, and then additional channels would be added. Jay Somerville stated that Delaware County system was very good. Dublin is at a 40% load and has 15-20 busy signals per month.
- The time issued pertaining to the CAD stations and the radio system has been resolved.
- Delaware County's Code Red is now up and running. It was utilized to conduct a callout for a SWAT response and completed 72 calls in 2.08 minutes.

Presentation #2 - Jay Somerville of the Dublin PD was then introduced by Chief Martin. Jay stated that he is excited about what is currently occurring in Delaware County with the 911 and communication system. He stated that everyone will benefit with this direction. Jay stated that interoperability, as planned with Dublin and Worthington will make our system better. Delaware has one of the best systems in the State of Ohio.

Jay reviewed the PSIC Grant that involves Delaware County, Dublin and Worthington. This grant was required to be submitted through Emergency Management and was very competitive. Our County and Dublin and Worthington will receive \$1.9 million to complete the interoperability of the radio system.

Jay stated that he has been promoting interest in the 911 Director and has received phone calls. Our dispatch and communication center will be only the second consolidated center in the State. The questions he has been

receiving are from excellent candidates who are asking the right types of questions, specifically, where we are now and where are we going. We are on the right track with how we are proceeding. Chief Martin asked Jay about the proposed salary range. Jay stated that the range is respectable.

Jay stated that with the benefits to consolidation, all agencies must share the common goals, and a combined philosophy. This includes sharing the vision of customer service, how staffing is done, and also setting the bar high on expectations. Jay stated that he will be happy to assist us if and when needed.

Commissioner Evans asked about a standardization policy on how we are to operate. Jay responded that it is important to have technology work for us, not us work for the technology. He stated that we should be focusing on items that include ring time to dispatch. Then looking at why aren't we meeting those times (process problems, procedural problems, training...).

- b. **Standards and Protocol** – No Report
- c. **Administration** – Chairman Homan stated that he and Steve Lutz still need to meet and put together an organizational chart identifying how the 911 Board will communicate and work with the County Administration and Commissioners.

IV. Unfinished Business

- a. **Job Description** – None
- b. **Vision Statement** –The status of the Vision Statement was discussed. Comments from the April 15 meeting were reviewed. It was suggested to look on the web and see what else was available.
- c. **Press Release** – Chairman Homan asked if there were any further questions or comments concerning the drafted press release. Chairman Homan stated that since there was none, we will run this through the City's Community Affair Office.
- d. **Monthly Reports** – Chief Donahue stated that he receives monthly reports from the City Dispatch. He feels the information is valuable for the board. Steve Lutz stated that he felt that it would be beneficial, but we should keep it simple and not kill trees. Jay Somerville stated that these reports are beneficial and should be used as a barometer. Chief Vest agreed with Jay and stated he would like to see what others were doing.

V. New Business

- a. None

- VI. Motion by Steve Lutz and seconded by Chief Honeycutt to move into Executive Session pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Sections 121.22 (G) (4) personnel. Approved unanimously at 2:50 p.m.
- VII. Board reconvened from Executive Session at 3:10 p.m.
- VIII. The board discussed the need to meet on May 6. During April, the board met on three different occasions. The board is scheduled to meet in May on the 6th and 20. The board indicated that it was necessary to meet on May 6.
- IX. Motion by Chief Morris and seconded by Chief Honeycutt to adjourn. Approved unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.
- X. Next Meeting is scheduled for May 6, 2008 at 1:00 pm. Delaware County EOC.