

DELAWARE COUNTY 911 BOARD
MINUTES
November 3, 2009
DELAWARE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING ROOM

In attendance at the meeting was: Chairman Tom Homan, Commissioner Ken O'Brien, Trustee Phil Panzarella, Sheriff Davis, Chief Vest, Chief Martin, Chief Donahue, Chief Honeycutt, County Administrator Dave Cannon, 911 Director Greenlaw and Lt Church.

Also Present: Lt. Hrytzik – Powell PD, Capt Vance and Lt Buttler - DCSO, and Patrick Brandt

Not Present: Steve Lutz, Chief McIntire, Chief Farmer

- I. Chairman Homan called the meeting to order at 1:07 p.m with the Pledge of Allegiance.
- II. Reading and Approval of Minutes
 - A. Motion to approve the minutes of October 6, 2009 as presented by Commissioner O'Brien, seconded by Chief Honeycutt. Motion passed unanimously.
 - B. Chairman Homan welcomed and recognized Lt. Church from the Ohio State Patrol Post 21.
- III. Public Comment - None
- IV. 911 Director Report

Director Greenlaw stated that the center is working to develop a practice of “zero defects.” This is being obtained through a review of ProQa and the CAD operation. Emphasis is being placed on training, and ensuring that the right questions are asked about the situation/request so that the proper resources are dispatched and the information can be passed on to responding units.

A working group is being formed by the Fire Chiefs to ensure what is being asked by the Communication Center is being done. The focus is on professional excellence. Director Greenlaw stated that this equals Training + Quality Assurance + Peer Review.

Chief Martin asked if the ProQa had the flexibility to add local needs. Director Greenlaw stated that the system did have the capability.

- V. Committee Report
 - A. Technical Committee – Chief Donahue provided a brief overview of the Committee’s October 27 meeting. Chief Donahue stated that the goal is to have the technical aspects completed for a 1st Quarter 2010 transition. The

short-term goal of the committee is the consolidation. The long-term goals of the committee include radio replacements, CAD/Radio interface, automatic vehicle locators and the communication center back-up.

A County/City sub-committee has been established to work out the internal technical issues including the jail board and software interfaces. The next meeting is scheduled for November 11 and many of the questions are hoped to be answered then.

- B. Standards and Protocols – None
- C. Administrative – None

VI. Unfinished Business

- A. Recording Replacement – The contract was signed last week and the installation is planned to be completed in 30-60 days.
- B. 800 MHz Rebanding – Work continues to be progressing.
- C. 800 MHz Additional Channel – Equipment is arriving for the install.
- D. By-Laws – None
- E. FD Radio Template – Chief Donahue reported that at the last meeting, there was discussion on the development of a standard radio template for the fire service. This was distributed as part of the agenda and minutes packet. The focus on the template was the thought that all of the resources on the Delaware County radio system would be able to communicate. The inability to communicate is a safety issue as was scene during 9/11 and the collapse of the World Trade Center. The law enforcement saw the pending collapse; however, could not communicate to the other agencies. The template brings consistency to each radio. The template also expands the interoperability with the state and our neighboring jurisdictions. The expansion also includes the Sheriff Office Dispatch. Agencies have already had communication with Powell and Delaware PD. The Technical Committee has reviewed and supports the concept. Deputy Chief Hrytzik has also sent this out to the Delaware County Justice Association and has not received any comments, leading him to believe that there is not an issue. Chief Donahue stated that this is being brought forth for discussion and recommended adoption.

Chief Vest stated that with the merging of the radio systems, the focus is on the collective good. We look at and manage what works best. There is a need for consistency. The question he poses is do we have a protocol on how to handle this, and he does not want to force someone to go down a road that they do not want to proceed down.

Sheriff Davis stated he has spoken to the Delaware County Prosecutor and he does not believe that the 911 Board has the authority. He does not believe in being bullied. He stated that he knows of two incidents that have occurred without the challenge of being able to communicate.

County Administrator Cannon stated that he believes in interoperability and how do we get to where we need to be.

Chairman Homan stated that if the 911 Board does not have the authority, it does have at least the authority to research and make recommendation.

Chief Vest stated that concerns were raised with the ability to share channels with OSP. He has concerns and cautions that we do not want to just open everything up.

Chief Honeycutt stated that it is what it is. We are dealing with the need to communicate with the Sheriff. This is the place that it should be discussed, interoperability is needed. Chief Honeycutt gave an example that communication was needed with Genoa Twp PD as a result of wires being down. As a police officer walked through the area, the fire department was unable to communicate to the officer of the dangerous situation with the wires. Fortunately, the officer was not injured. He further stated that this is needed and the system is set-up with identifiers to identify anyone not properly using the radios.

Captain Vance stated that he wants to clarify the difference between interoperability and the template. Captain Vance stated that we have interoperability since radio to radio can communicate.

Chief Honeycutt stated that we may be able to do that with the existing radios; however, it is not functional in an emergency. Personnel having to switch from zone-to-zone and channel-to-channel creates a safety issue. He stated that the Fire Department's have requested the Sheriff personnel to switch channels and this does not happen.

Director Greenlaw stated that he believes the 911 Committee is the easy way to get recommendations to solution. This is the appropriate venue to discuss.

Chairman Homan stated that this will be moved to the Standards and Protocol Committee for review. County Administrator Cannon stated that it would be good to include some more from law and fire. Chief Honeycutt and Chief Martin were recommended.

Chief Martin stated that he is not opposed to the committee, and it is nice to have consensus, but this will not always happen. There has to be a certain realization that consensus is not always going to be the issue, whether it be this issue or others down the road.

The matter was referred to the Standards and Protocols Committee, and will be brought forth in a follow-up meeting.

VII. New Business

A. Elections - Chairman Homan stated that the election for the 911 Board is scheduled for the December meeting. Chairman Homan stated that he is going to step aside as Chair and allow the position to be filled. He thought that the positions could be rotated with the existing positions moving up one position, if the 911 Board desired. 2010 will be an important year for the 911 center.

B. Director Greenlaw stated that he has received a resignation from an employee. The hiring process for the existing open positions are continuing and preliminary testing is scheduled for next week.

VIII. There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned by the Chairman at 1:50 p.m.

IX. Next meeting is scheduled for December 1, 2009.