

DELAWARE COUNTY 911 BOARD
MINUTES
November 4, 2008
DELAWARE COUNTY EOC

In attendance at the meeting was: Tom Homan, Steve Lutz, Glenn Evans, Sheriff Davis, Chief Martin, Chief Vest, Chief Stewart (for Chief Honeycutt), Chief McIntire, Chief Donahue and Chief Farmer.

Absent: Bill Shively

I. Chairman Homan called the meeting to order at 1:08 p.m with the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Reading and Approval of Minutes

- A. Motion to approve the minutes of October 7, 2008 as submitted by Chief Vest, seconded by Chief McIntire, and passed unanimously.
- B. Motion to approve the minutes of October 10, 2008 as modified to indicate a "Special Meeting" by Chief Vest, seconded by Chief Martin, and passed unanimously.
- C. Chief Donahue reported on the tour to Miami County 911 Center. Attending the tour was Capt Vance and Stephanie Stephens from the Sherriff Office, P. Brandt from Delaware County, Capt. Pijanowski from DPD, Jeff Kolosky from Delaware IT, Chief Morris from Tri-Twp FD, Chief Honeycutt from Genoa FD and Chief Donahue.

Chief Donahue stated that the tour was extremely beneficial. Miami County had representatives from the County Commissioners office, the 911 Board, and the administration of the 911 Center. It was apparent to all involved that the 911 Director ran the center. The Center was extremely focused on serving the end users. They employees were County employees and fell under their policies and procedures. Discussion focused on operations and responsibility between the entities. A tour of the facilities also occurred and they are currently in the process of updating the center to include the CAD and radio system.

III. Committee Report

- A. Technical Committee – Chief Donahue stated earlier this year the Committee had brought forth an overview of the identified costs concerning consolidation. One of the items identified was the purchase of two (2) radio consoles. The pursuits of these items were placed on hold to look at the short and long-term impact and goals. Patrick Brandt stated that as a result of the wind storm on September 13, one of the issues identified during an After Action Review was the need to have additional consoles. These will be placed

at the call takers desks that will allow the positions to be fully dispatching positions. Chief Farmer asked for clarification concerning the placement and layout of the communication center. Concern was made while discussing the proposed desk assignments for the City. It was clarified that the layout was focused on all law enforcement being together as was all Fire and EMS. This would allow the ability to support each other as needed.

Motion by Chief Donahue to recommend to the Delaware County Commissioners to purchase the Motorola radio consoles at a cost of \$64,114. Seconded by Chief Vest. Passed unanimously.

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

IV. Unfinished Business

A. Chairman Homan stated that he has been in discussion with Dave Cannon concerning the options of filling Gary Lyons position. At the Special Meeting, discussion focused on the possibility of hiring an outside consultant on a temporary basis. This was researched and discussion occurred with RW Kimball. The cost for the consultant was \$100,000. Chairman Homan and Canon discussed other options. The first option was to have the Sheriff temporarily run the center. The second was to have Captain Pijanowski from the City run the Center. Chairman Homan stated that he and Chief Martin met with the Sheriff on Monday and a third option was discussed of a co-leadership. This would involve Capt Pijanowski overseeing the Administrative responsibilities and Stephanie Stephens overseeing the Operational responsibilities. In his conversation with Dave Canon, Dave stated the 911 Center currently has no leadership. Chairman Homan stated there is a benefit of having Capt Pijanowski overseeing as this will begin building bridges.

Steve Lutz asked if the personalities would allow a split responsibility system to work. Sheriff Davis stated he feels both are good people and will work together to make it work. He further stated that Capt Pijanowski is a level headed individual who will listen.

Chief Farmer stated that the intent and need is to have someone residing in the 911 Center. The 911 Center needs immediate leadership.

Chairman Homan stated that the City wants to continue the link towards consolidation. He questions how co-directorship would work.

Sheriff Davis stated that the Administrative Responsibilities would handle the Administration and Payroll. The Operations would oversee the day-to-day operations. Both of these people would then report to the 911 Board. He believes this to be a temporary fix.

Chief Farmer stated that with the lawsuit, he questions if this would impact the lawsuit, by allowing the Sheriff to oversee the Center, even on a temporary basis.

Sheriff Davis stated that these individuals would not be establishing policies. He is not sure the impact it would have on the lawsuit.

Chief Stewart stated he has concerns of serving two masters.

Sheriff Davis stated that he currently has in his Office a Captain overseeing the Administration and one overseeing Operations.

Chief Donahue stated that both of those Captains report to the Sheriff who oversees the office. He stated that he is looking at that concept as having two Sheriffs in the County. Chief Donahue stated that one person needs to be in-charge and report to this Board. In dealing with the current investigation, both these individuals would have been involved.

Sheriff Davis stated that he thinks this is a positive set-up, as it provides checks and balances. He sees that co-directorship as being a positive set-up.

Chairman Homan explained that if Capt Pijanowski in a capacity went to the County, it would be on a temporary basis, and the County would reimburse the City for his costs. Sheriff Davis stated that Stephanie would be doing the same.

Chief Donahue stated he is concerned if the authority issue is not addressed with the County, that we will be setting ourselves up for failure.

Chief Vest stated that he has concerns with co-leadership. He stated that we were unable to control the environment with Gary Lyons, and he shares the concern that we are setting them up for failure. He recommends that a consultant be hired. The consultant would allow a third party assessment of what is occurring. If we do this ourselves, it will leave ourselves open to questions.

Chief Martin stated that the he met with the Sheriff and both parties are capable. He disagrees with the co-leadership, but has concerns with the money invested for hiring a consultant for the short period of time. He recognizes the need to set the table for the next Director.

Chief Vest stated that he has concerns as Capt Pijanowski report Chief Martin and Stephanie works for the Sheriff. He stated that their loyalty lies

with their bosses. We are talking of saving money, but funds have not been spent for 18 months.

Chief Donahue stated that there are actually two positions that have not been filled. These are Larry Fisher's position of Emergency Services Director and John Tracy's Communication position.

Sheriff Davis stated that Chief Vests direction of hiring an outside consultant might be the right thing to do and also look right.

Chairman Homan stated that he was hoping that moving Capt Pijanowski to the County would help bridge gaps.

Sheriff Davis stated that Stephanie or someone needs to be part of the process that is familiar with the system and it needs.

Chief Vest stated that we need to engage the new Commissioners with this process.

Chairman Homan stated that he will discuss with Dave Canon moving forward with RW Kimball. Chairman Homan stated that he also spoke with Mediator Jerry Lawson who is agreeable to spending time with the Commissioners Elect, this Board. He would also review with all parties their role and responsibilities.

Chief Martin stated that this would be a good idea to place on the agenda.

Chief Vest stated that he supports bringing in the Mediator and the Commissioners elect and we can see what happens.

V. New Business

A. None

- VI. Motion by Chief Farmer and seconded by Steve Lutz to move into Executive Session pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Sections 121.22 (G) (4) personnel. Approved unanimously at 2:17 p.m. All listed parties in attendance were included in the Executive Session.
- VII. Motion by Chief Farmer and seconded by Chief Martin to move out of Executive Session Approved unanimously at 2:21 p.m
- VIII. There being no further business before the Board, Motion by Steve Lutz, seconded by Chief Farmer to adjourn. Motion passed at 2:22 p.m. Next meeting is scheduled for November 18.