

# Eaton County Emergency Communications Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, June 17, 2021 @ 1000 hrs

## **Call to Order and Roll Call – 10:00 hrs**

Phillip Miller, WTES  
William Fabijancic, WTES  
Pete Smith, MSP  
Kelley Cunningham, ECCD  
Michael Armitage, ECCD  
Rodney VanDeCastele, GLFD  
Jeff Cook, ECSO  
Chris Blievernicht, GLPD  
Paul Brentar, CPD

## **Others in Attendance -**

Ryan Wilkinson, Emergency Manager

## **Introduction of New Members and Guests – None.**

**Reading and Approval of Minutes of the March 2021 Meeting** – Motion to approve the March 2021 meeting was made by William Fabijancic and seconded by Paul Brentar. Motion carried.

## **Old Business**

Law Enforcement Subcommittee Report – Chris Blievernicht gave an update of the April 2021 meeting. CurbsideSOS gave a presentation about their app for dispatch and wrecker services.

Fire/EMS Subcommittee Report – William Fabijancic gave an update on the May 2021 meeting. Batteries for radios and pagers was discussed.

Central Dispatch Operational Report – (Michael)

COVID restrictions are still in place prior to 6/1/21 at the County offices. The central dispatch building is still restricted and masks still need to be worn. The County is working with legal counsel on ADA and EOCC concerns.

Dispatch currently has two dispatchers in training and two in the hiring process. One supervisor is currently on disability and a telecommunicator just submitted their two-

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week notice. Fortunately, the last hiring process gave us two applicants to give conditional job offers to.

Chief Miller asked about the number of applications we have been receiving. Kelley stated that while in past years we would receive over 100 applications lately we have received 25-30 per opening.

Central Dispatch Project Updates – (Michael)

We have been working with PFN since 2016 on NG911 updates in the center. Recently, all of the old copper wire from AT&T was disconnected. We are receiving new phone hardware through a grant and the State will cover 97% and we have a 3% match. The cutover will be next week. There has been configuration issues with the old equipment and some 911 calls have been diverted to other dispatch centers.

The RAVE panic app agreement with Eaton County Schools will continue for the next three years. The grant expired last year. We bill the school districts based on their size.

For RAVE Alerts, Michael recently learned that cities could piggyback on our RAVE alert. It is \$1500 to join. Eaton Rapids and Charlotte are interested.

The radio equipment requests arrived. Once they are programmed, they will be sent out to the agencies.

Michael placed an order recently for 400 batteries from Chrouch.

Ingham County's new radio system will go live in the fall and Clinton County probably early next year. This summer all radios will need to be touched for maintenance and tuning. Some will need Ingham County's encryption key and talk group programmed in them. Michael is working with Ingham County in developing a list of talk groups.

The FCC ruling regarding surcharge fees used for radio equipment should come out this month. Michael stated that worst-case scenario would be for us to have to go back to the voters with new ballot language and pay for radio equipment out of the millage money instead of the surcharge money.

Michael is working on state legislation regarding the 911 Enabling Act that expires the end of this year.

Michael discussed necessary increase on telephone bills statewide for NG911. There is more to come on this, but the increase could be from 25 cents to 27 cents due to not enough money coming in from prepaid phones.

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## **New Business**

None

Motion to adjourn was made by William Fabijancic and seconded by Paul Brentar at 10:16 a.m. Motion carried.

**Next Meeting Notice** – Thursday, September 16, 2021, 10 a.m.

DRAFT