

**COLUMBIANA COUNTY 911
EMERGENCY SERVICE COMMITTEE MEETING
November 3, 2022
1:00 – 2:00 P.M.**

Those in attendance: Brian Rutledge, Tim Weigle, Jeremiah Cole, Brian McLaughlin, Scott Mason, Joe Capuzzelo, Jenn Swords, Brett Todd, Jenn Tucker, Victor Trimmer, Jason Hurford, Jim Brown, Bill Myers, Keith Drabick, Dave Casto, Wayne Chamberlain

The meeting called to order by Commissioner Weigle followed by the Pledge of Allegiance

Following the Pledge of Allegiance Commissioner Weigle reviewed the 911 Wireline and Wireless funds for the county.

Motion to except 911 finances by B. McLaughlin 2nd by Jeremiah- all in favor

Meeting turned over to 911 Director Brian Rutledge

Minutes distributed from previous meeting via email and available for review. with no additions or corrections- Motion to except minutes by Jeremiah 2nd Mason- all in favor

Brian received a letter from the State 911 Administrator stating that Columbiana County is in full compliance in meeting the Support and Compliance requirements. Again, thank you goes out to all the PSAP Chiefs and those that assisted in getting the information required for the annual submittal. (Copy of the letter attached to the minutes from this meeting)

Brian and Peggy recently attended a meeting in Akron as part of a regional 988 group. It's a fact the 988 is here to stay and that they will continue to try and figure out how 988 and 911 can work together for those who need the assistance. Brian is currently having discussions with neighboring counties on the direction everyone is going with this. Whatever is decided on it'll have to be discussed with the PSAP Chiefs, SOP Committee and approved through the Commissioners and Prosecutors Office. More to come on 988

HB445- The House bill is still in Committee and still needs to come out of Committee to a vote of Representatives and then over to the Senate for discussion and a vote. There has been a group formed of those that went to support the bill in Columbus (Commissioner Weigle, Peggy and Brian are part of) along with members of both sides of the House. The goal is to try and still get it passed in the lame duck session however, it will be tough to get that to happen with it still in Committee. Brian will keep everyone updated on how it's progressing.

At the last 911 Committee meeting it was asked if the PSAP's were to consolidate could the existing radio equipment in the county be used or repurposed to make a countywide radio system that worked. Commissioner Weigle, Peggy and Brian met with Victor Trimmer and Jason Hurford in early October and asked them to prepare a high-level view of the counties radio systems and present it at the November meeting. Vic and Jason presented a power point containing maps of the county showing where all the radio towers are along with who uses them. They also provided a break down of what agencies are using in terms of P25, DMR or Analog. There was an extensive discussion between Jason and Vic between several members of the 911 Committee. Jim Brown spoke about the radio issues with EPPD and Columbiana PD being on the same frequency and the inability to talk sometimes because radio traffic is

extensive. Keith Drabick stated that come the first of the year EPFD will be isolated with only 2 of the mutual aid departments they work with will be on VHF/ analog. There were multiple Committee members that stated that MARCS was not the answer for the county. Jim Brown stated that he intends to move to his own frequency in the coming year to alleviate his issue and that even if the county consolidates 911 centers, he will keep his dispatch and be on that radio system. Jason and Vic discussed that if the county consolidates the thought is that the county would be divided into zones to utilize already in use equipment. Commissioner Weigle reminded the Committee of the Final Plan, and it would have to be amended for any major changes such as consolidation or radio changes. The Final Plan then must be approved by 65% of the county government bodies. The radio discussion continued in what could work or not work in the county. The radio discussion could go on for some time and will be continued at the next 911 meeting. The whole radio discussion comes back to the passing of HB445, and we are still waiting on that. More to come on the radio discussion-

Brian mentioned that in one of the upcoming meetings we will be discussing the April 2024 Solar Eclipse. Although we aren't in the direct eclipse zone, Columbiana County will be impacted significantly by the tourist travelers that will most likely stay in the county then travel into the eclipse zone to view it. In previous Solar Eclipse's it has increase the workload on 911 centers significantly.

There's another PST/EMD class starting next week with 5 currently and we hope to have both wrapped up before the middle of December

There are some changes to the required members that make up the 911 Committee in HB445 so we will be looking at our current membership to make sure we fall in line with those. There are some members that no longer wish to serve on the 911 Committee so we will be looking at individuals to replace them.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 2, 2022 @ 1pm at the EMA office.

Motion to adjourn by Jerimiah Second by B Todd