

# Eaton County Emergency Communications Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, September 17, 2020 @ 1000 hrs

## **Call to Order and Roll Call – 10:05 hrs**

Rodney VanDeCastele, GLFD  
William Fabijancic, WTES  
Mike Roman, DFD  
Dietrich Speights, MSP  
Chris Blievernicht, GLPD  
Kelley Cunningham, ECCD  
Michael Armitage, ECCD  
Jeff Cook, ECSO  
Paul Brentar, CPD  
Shawn Garcia, OPD

## **Others in Attendance -**

Greg Ginebaugh, DFD  
Ryan Wilkinson, Emergency Manager

## **Introduction of New Members and Guests - None**

**Reading and Approval of Minutes of the June 2020 Meeting** – Motion to approve the June 2020 meeting was made by Paul Brentar and supported. Motion carried.

## **Old Business**

Law Enforcement Subcommittee Report – Chris Blievernicht gave an update.

Fire/EMS Subcommittee Report – William Fabijancic gave an update.

Central Dispatch Operational Report – (Michael)

- Central Dispatch's call volume is back up to what it was before the COVID-19 pandemic hit.
- Technically on paper, Central Dispatch is back to full staffing, however we continue to have staff off for FMLA and COVID-19 leave.
- Robert Stahelin will retire on October 1, 2020. Francis D'Huyvetter will replace him as the support technician.

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## Central Dispatch Project Updates – (Michael)

Low-level interference has been identified from the Delta tower. Dispatch couldn't hear the radios in Grand Ledge. It appears to be the 1102 and Delta tower sites affecting the 700 MHz channels. John Imeson is working on it today with FirstNet and MPSCS. There has been concern with the 700 MHz channels working with the new radio system. Eaton County is the first in the area to try to solve the issues. Michael mentioned that he is getting great support from both FirstNet and MPSCS.

TAC 2 – We tried to have police switch to TAC 2 for incidents but an officer either couldn't find the channel or didn't know how to switch to the channel so we are evaluating the procedure and researching it with other dispatch centers. We currently are not switching to TAC 2 at this time.

Fire Toning – We will have a toning trial for fire departments in November. We will have one dispatch talk group for all departments. Mike Roman stated that he is opposed to this but he is willing to try it. He asked how the police are dispatched and it was stated that police are dispatched all on one channel.

Next week we will be adding monitoring to 911 lines and CAD-to-CAD. It will tell us when a connection goes down.

We are still working on the ASAP to PSAP project. It runs through LEIN, so there has had to be testing with the State. It should be up and running in a couple of months.

## **New Business**

None

## **Round Table**

VanDeCastele – He stated that he also opposes having one dispatch frequency for all fire agencies, but he is willing to try it.

Speights – A Second Amendment Rights rally is going on today at the Capitol.

Cook – He thanked dispatch for all of the work they have done with the radio project.

Cunningham – She will follow up with agencies regarding Stahelin's retirement.

Roman – The AVI training committee has been working on a reunification plan. They are working on developing an App with Eaton County's Tech Services. He hopes to have

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a tabletop exercise when it's completed. He stated that he appreciates everyone's work on the project.

Ginebaugh – He wondered what could be done about the dead spots along the County's east border. Michael said the dead spots should be resolved when Ingham County gets on the system. He thought it would be the end of October but it may be pushed back a little further now.

**Next Meeting Notice** – Thursday, December 17, 2020, 10 a.m.

**Adjournment** – Motion to adjourn was made at 10:34 a.m. and there was support. Motion carried.

DRAFT