

**SUMMIT COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
December 15, 2011**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Robert Ross, Chairperson (P)
Heidi Swindell (A)
Jim Nelson (A)
Bill Holland (P)
David Calderone (P)
Bob Carter (A)
Dale Panovich (P)
Jill Skapin (P)
Valerie De Rose (P)
Fred Zuch (P)
Michael Prebonick (A)
Dale Evans (P)
Deb Matz (P)
Mayor Bill Goncy (A)

MEMBERS ABSENT

Gus Kabbara (P)
Mayor Bollas (P)

ALTERNATES, GUEST AND STAFF

Tommy Smoot (S)
Carly Lange (S)
Jeff Funai (G)
Michael Szabo (S)
John Rutecki (S)
Doug Cincurak (G)

The meeting of the Summit County Emergency Management Executive Committee (EMEC) was called to order, by Chairperson Ross, on Thursday, December 15, 2011, at 10:35 am, in the Summit County Emergency Operations Center, Akron Municipal Building, 166 South High Street, Akron, OH 44308.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Deb Matz made a motion to approve the October 20, 2011 minutes; Fred Zuch seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

CHAIRPERSON'S COMMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Chairperson Ross reviewed the correspondence received by the Emergency Management Executive Committee.

Chairperson Ross reviewed the invoice from Suntrol Co. for the installation of the window film in the SCEMA office.

Chairperson Ross read a letter sent to Valerie De Rose from the American Red Cross thanking her for agreeing to serve on the Judge's Panel to select the professional rescuer heroes for the American Red Cross Acts of Courage and Real Heroes Breakfast SCEMEC Meeting, 12/15/11

Events.

Chairperson Ross read the letter from Denise Redovian apprising SCEMA of the needs of their dialysis facility, their patients and their staff in the event of a natural disaster. He also read the email response from Valerie De Rose addressing the letter. Chairperson Ross said Valerie De Rose told her in the event of a natural disaster in the Akron area, her first point of contact needs to be the City of Akron (9-1-1). Valerie De Rose stated in the email that if the City of Akron exceeds their ability to assist, they would assess the event and determine if the assistance of SCEMA was needed.

Chairperson Ross read the letter to Executive Pry from Chief B. Saley thanking him for allowing them to utilize the Edwin Shaw property for fire department operations training.

DOUG CINCURAK PRESENTATION

Doug Cincurak spoke about 800 MHz communications and how the City of Green cannot communicate with agencies (Stark County) outside Summit County. He wanted to know how they could have real-time communications with these agencies. Doug asked if he could use MAC radios for that. He said since there is a \$12 a radio user fee, he spoke with Mike Szabo who suggested use of MERC channels. Doug said MERC is already in radios outside the County and he was like to use MERC.

Chairperson Ross asked if was anticipating use of these channels for incidents in Green and/or outside the County.

Doug Cincurak said just when outside agencies come into the City of Green.

Valerie De Rose wanted the Committee to know that use of MERC is under purview of this Committee.

Fred Zuch asked what the geographic region for MERC, i.e. statewide.

Valerie De Rose said County-wide but agencies outside the County do have access to MERC.

Fred Zuch asked if these outside agencies have the ability/everything in place to use MERC.

Doug Cincurak said yes, but MERC can only be used when the EOC is activated.

Mike Szabo said the plan for inter-county communications was MARC's. He said this is a state system, but they are currently not giving out any new channels. Mike said the state is currently looking at changing the policy to allow for inter-county usage.

David Calderone said there are huge implications because the original purpose of MERC was for disaster communications with communities and the EOC. He said the purpose of MAC was for tactical communications. David wanted to know whether NPSPAC (National Public Safety Planning Advisory Committee) could be used.

Doug Cincurak asked if that could be used for day-to-day communications.

Mike Szabo said you could but that would not work well in Jackson Township. He said that new NPSPAC receivers could be added.

David Calderone said he would be willing to write up some considerations for the Committee to review. He says it is very important to develop a communications plan for communications with other Counties.

Fred Zuch wanted to know if SAC discusses this.

Mike Szabo said it had been talked about at the working group level and then it was presented to SAC at the last meeting.

Deborah Matz wanted to know what it would take to test NPSPAC.

David Calderone said we need to test communications with Green and see if it works.

Mike Szabo said testing NPSPAC would just require activation of the repeaters. He said he would look at taking one of Green's 5 repeaters and converting it to NPSPAC. Mike said that would require relicensing the channel with the FCC.

Doug Cincurak asked how long that would take.

Mike Szabo said there is currently about a 100 day turnaround for the FCC.

David Calderone asked if it is possible to use 1 of the City of Akron's 5 channels.

Mike Szabo asked if it was Doug Cincurak's intent to use MERC for callout and utilize another MAC/NPSPAC channel when on the scene.

Doug Cincurak said yes but building MAC into the radios would be the best.

David Calderone said that idea would work.

Mike Szabo said there would be an issue because the communities/agencies would not be willing to pay for the radios. He said conversion of a NPSPAC receiver would be the solution to speak with Northern Stark County. Mike said he is willing to start testing with the Akron repeaters but this probably will not work in Stark County the way that Doug Cincurak wants. He said he will speak with the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials (APCO) and see if they are willing to start process of licensing for a new NPSPAC repeater.

Deb Matz asked if it is possible to provide temporary access to MAC.

Chairperson Ross said they already have the ability to do that.

Fred Zuch stated this would have to be available to all jurisdictions within Summit County.

David Calderone asked if it is possible to take one of Akron's repeaters and put it at the Akron Canton Airport.

Mike Szabo said yes it is possible but that is Akron's system and this would require the SCEMEC Meeting, 12/15/11

city's approval. He said there is still the issue with APCO/FCC for licensure.

David Calderone said the obvious long-term answer is the switch to P-25.

Chairperson Ross asked if the Committee is in agreement that SAC needs to address this.

Mike Szabo said the next SAC meeting is the following week and the discussion would be brought up.

OLD BUSINESS

Valerie De Rose spoke about Reverse Alert and how it is used. She told the Committee there is no cost to set it off. Valerie said there was a request from the City of Akron Public Works to activate for a water line repair. She suggested working with local public safety to see if it is necessary.

Dale Panovich asked couldn't Akron have posted signs, etc when they knew they were doing the work. She asked wasn't the purpose of the system was for it to be used during an emergency.

Fred Zuch asked how we get information about reverse alert out to the community. He asked if a media campaign could be done.

Valerie De Rose recommended working with Jill Skapin.

Chief Carter said it would be good to invite her to the meeting.

Dale Panovich said it is good to use the media to get out the message.

Fred Zuch said it would be a good idea to use local papers so the campaign can reach the smaller communities.

Mike Szabo agrees with using the small community papers.

Fred Zuch said it is sometimes difficult to hear the message.

Chief Carter says Everbridge is a good system with a good cost and currently there is strong push to start this media campaign.

Fred Zuch said it is a good system but it does not work effectively if you cannot hear the message. He just thinks this is an issue that needs to be discussed.

Valerie De Rose said a person is reading the message now and SCEMA is no longer using the computer voice.

Mayor Goncy said information can be brought to the Trustee/Mayor's Association meeting and to ask the communities to put up information on their website.

Dale Panovich said the campaign needs to share with the media/communities the

success stories and what emergencies it has been used for.

Valerie De Rose said changes have been made to avoid confusion. She said individuals with caller ID, the number will come up as a local number and not an 800 number. Valerie said the message now begins with Summit County Reverse Alert.

Chief Carter said the DPSC communications' subcommittee has discussed notification of off-duty personnel during an emergency. He said they are trying to encourage redundancy in first responder notification. The statement said:

- We recognize the critical need to notify on duty personnel of incidents and other information critical to performance of their duties.
- We recognize the critical needs to notify off duty personnel in order to recall them to duty during significant events which may vary in scope from local to regional to national incidents.
- We recognize that many public safety personnel rely on text messaging through the commercial cellular network and/or the commercial alpha paging network for notification purposes.
- We encourage appropriate agencies to consider redundancy and reliability as issues when determining means of notifying personnel.

Valerie De Rose said the discussion from the DPSC Communications subcommittee was to formally send out a letter from Chief Ross, the EMEC chair, and DPSC chairs as a reminder that we are taking a stance that redundancy in communications is important. Valerie asked for a motion to approve sending out this statement.

Dave Calderone made the motion with Dale Panovich as the 2nd. The motion carried by voice vote with no abstentions.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business

EMA AND SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Emergency Management Agency Report

Valerie De Rose spoke about the University of Akron tabletop exercise and how it did not go as well as planned. She said the expected facilitator was not at the exercise, so the discussions got off topic. Valerie said currently an after-action reported is being worked on.

David Calderone said failure is ok at the tabletop level because it gives the participants something to learn from.

Valerie De Rose said Daniel Stimmel is continuing to work on the Hazard Mitigation Plan. She said he was waiting for approval of the fire annex by the Summit County Fire Chief's Association. Valerie did bring Daniel Stimmel's handout highlighting the revisions to the annexes.

David Calderone said he would like a handout that lists all the annexes and a list of the members on all the subcommittees.

Valerie De Rose made a motion to adopt the revisions to the annexes.

David Calderone made a motion to approve the revisions with Deborah Matz as the 2nd. The motion carried by voice vote with no abstentions.

Valerie De Rose talked about the Summit on Dispatch event. She said the reason for the meeting was to inform the communities the impending changes in public safety communication technology. She said there was a large involvement from the communities. Valerie said some individuals were worried consolidation was going to be presented as the only option. She said overall it was a very successful event where people took away a lot of good information.

Dale Panovich said Executive Pry made it clear at the Township Trustee meeting this would not be a consolidation event but an informative meeting on new technology.

Valerie De Rose said the upcoming February meeting is when budget and membership appointments/approval happens.

Tommy Smoot passed out a handout for upcoming trainings. Tommy said he is putting this training information up on WebEOC. He told the Committee there are many trainings upcoming but highlighted the importance of the EOC training.

Valerie De Rose said her office is trying to encourage using WebEOC more and would like to start posting information on the site; ex- Hospitals will be using it more.

Carly Lange gave a grant update to the Committee. All of the approved projects are now encumbered and in process. She said there was nothing pending at this point because there was no December DPSC meeting. Carly said FY09 SHSP grants, which need to be spent by the end of March; has a balance of \$57,000 and \$9,000 out of MMRS (end of March 2012). She said there are about 4 projects that are to be presented to DPSC on January 6 and LE subcommittee is meeting to discuss some other possible projects. For FY10, there is still a \$20,000 available in SHSP (April 2013) and \$50,000 for MMRS (July 2013). Carly said there is still no official FY11 grant award/agreement but did receive the amount which was cut about 50% from \$464,000 to \$249,696.

Valerie De Rose talked about John Rutecki's transfer to the Public Safety Department.

Valerie De Rose talked about the HazMat vehicle purchase and how the decision was made to wait until after the holidays to put the spec out to bid.

Summit County Public Health

Gene Nixon said there was no report. Valerie De Rose said the agenda needs changed to reflect the change to Summit County Public Health.

800MHz Radio System Report

Mike Szabo talked about the security camera upgrade for the Green tower which is in process and supposed to be done by end of January.

Mike Szabo said they are working on acquiring spare parts and talked about purchasing some equipment from Lake County for the County system.

Mike Szabo said the rebanding project is moving forward and have a timeline worked out with Motorola. Mike said the 700 licenses that were needed have been approved by FCC (repeaters, etc). He said Motorola is working from southern end of County and moving north.

Mike Szabo said he is continuing to work with retirement of MARC's IDs (181 done by Akron PD).

Mike Szabo said a taskforce has been formed to look into migration to a P-25 system. He said the taskforce is looking to create and RFP and look into funding options. The RFP has been completed and changes to the RFP will be discussed at the January taskforce meeting.

Domestic Preparedness Program

Valerie De Rose said Ali Capoun is working with the subcommittees on what process they need to follow to request purchases. She said a retreat was discussed for mid-year.

Gene Nixon said DPSC is looking at the overall goals and objectives of the Committee.

Incident Management Assistance Team

Chief Calderone had no local report.

Chief Calderone there is going to be a change in team size (20 members to 40 members). He said the state wants to have 8 regional teams which will be led by a regional advisory committee. He wants to see the County have an IMS team to be on advisory committee.

Valerie De Rose asked if the State was going to be giving guidance.

Chief Calderone said they may but some do not want to tell them what to do.

Fred Zuch asked if this is the group that can go out of state for incidents.

Chief Calderone said yes, but that is not the role of the County team, but is the role of the State team.

Citizen Corp Council

Valerie De Rose said the SOG and Policy and Procedure manuals were completed and approved at the last Citizen Corp meeting. She said Marlene Martin applied for a grant
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and received \$20,000 to train volunteers.

SWAT Collaboration Study

Valerie De Rose said the exercise will have participation by Akron, U of A and SCSO SWAT and they will be working together on this exercise.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Mayor Goncy said Mayor Bollas is at home resting but feeling better.

Valerie De Rose said April 19, 2012, the Northeast Central Ohio Region 5 is having a functional tabletop exercise. She said not everyone would need to participate but they would appreciate our participation. Valerie asked if the Committee wanted this to be the function of the April meeting which the Committee approved.

Chief Calderone informed the Committee this would be his last meeting representing the Fire Chiefs. He said Fred Jackson will be the rep with Chief Carter remaining as the alternate. Chief Calderone has been an active member of EMEC since 1989 and would like to thank everyone for their diligence and their participation. He wanted to let the Committee know that emergency management is his passion.

Valerie De Rose said she wanted to wish Chief Calderone the best but knows that he will stay actively involved.

NEXT MEETING

Chairperson Ross stated the next meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, February 16, 2012 at 10:00 a.m., in the Emergency Operations Center, 166 South High Street, Basement Level, Akron, OH 44308.**

ADJOURNMENT

Deborah Matz made a motion to adjourn with David Calderone as the 2nd. The meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Emergency Management Agency

/jr

cc: File