

**SUMMIT COUNTY**  
**System Administrative Committee**  
**August 26, 2010**

**PRIMARYS**

David Calderone	Coventry Fire Department
Kevin Read	City of Akron
David Gatie	Tallmadge Fire Department
Don Adams	Mogadore Fire Department
Michael Szabo	System Administrator
Lori Pesci	Summit County EMA

**ALTERNATES**

John Dolensky	Coventry Fire Department
Rob Ross	Akron Fire Department
Michael McNeely	Bath Police Department
Valerie De Rose	Summit County EMA
Ken Starcher	Cuyahoga Falls Fire Department
Lou Dirker	Stow Police Department

**GUESTS**

Michael Benson	Copley Fire Department
Dave Reichelt	City of Stow/L-TRONICS
Barbara Buckner	Summit County EMA
Kathi Russ	Motorola
Kent Bulgrin	City of Cuyahoga Falls
Paul Amonett	Stow Fire
Kim Baldwin	Barberton
Leland Mathery	New Franklin
Mike Prebonick	Akron Police Department
Brent Frey	Clinton Fire Department
Steve Phillips	Akron Police Department
Patrick Gaffney	Tallmadge

The meeting of the System Administrative Committee was called to order by Chairperson Calderone on Thursday, August 26, 2010, in the Fifth Floor Conference Room of the Akron CitiCenter Building, 146 South High Street, Akron, OH 44308.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chairperson Calderone reviewed the minutes from the July 15, 2010 System Administrative Committee meeting.

There was a correction made on Page 4, top paragraph, which should read as follows: "Chief Benson also stated that Chief Haas from Sharon Township is very excited about the possibility of a P25 Tower on the Eastern side of the County." Correction was duly noted.

Chief Adams made a motion to approve the July 15, 2010 minutes; Chief Goodrich seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

Chairperson Calderone stated he had no items at this time.

## **SYSTEM ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Szabo updated the committee that Metro RTA is coming on board with us. This is a substantial user and will help the interoperability in the event of a Mass Casualty issue to move people out of the city.

The Twinsburg Tower is moving ahead. Mr. Szabo stated they are in the process of hiring a Project Manager and currently looking to purchase property for the tower. When this project takes off, every effort will be made to ensure minimal interruption to current users' service.

Mr. Szabo stated Twinsburg Fire has also signed a User Agreement. Mr. Szabo stated he has also met with the Mayor of Macedonia, along with the Police Department, and they are currently testing our radio system out. There is definitely some interest in coming on board, but they are experiencing some budget issues right now. In fact, they have already purchased some radios under a grant, and he is going to work with getting them on as MERC users.

Mr. Szabo stated he has been working with the entities north of Route 303 to inform them of the quality of our system and to correct the misconception of poor coverage north of Route 303.

Mr. Szabo stated he had performed a coverage test earlier this month in Boston Heights and found that there is great coverage in the north.

Mr. Szabo stated he had an opportunity to talk to the Organization of Transportation Supervisors for the school districts. The only school board on our system is the City of Akron; everyone else is on their own system. There is no interoperability with those transportation partners and it is our goal to get them on to our system in the near future.

Mr. Szabo stated that overall the system is working very well. There are no reported problems or issues with the system at this time.

Chairperson Calderone stated that it has been three months now that there has been no complaints regarding the system's equipment or performance. He stated if there are any problems with the performance of the equipment, please put them in writing to the Radio System Administrator and they will be corrected immediately; therefore, he is taking Talk group Hopping Updates off the Agenda at this time.

Chairperson Calderone stated he has put the Usage Report under the Radio Systems

Administrator's Report, MAC, MERC, Emergency Button Activation, and Site Summary.

Chairperson Calderone referred committee members' attention to the handout received. He advised everyone that this will be the last time a hard copy will be provided. In the future, the report will be sent electronically.

Mr. Szabo gave a brief overview of the Site Summary Report to committee members. He stated they want to pay attention particularly to the number of block calls and percentage of usage. He confirmed that blocked calls are minimal and we have a lot of capacity on our system. We are currently at an average of 15% usage and this has been consistent over the past couple of years.

Mr. Szabo stated per Chairperson Calderone's request, the Emergency Button Activation Report has been sorted by users in order to identify which groups are using this feature and he was also able to sort it by Talk groups as well. Mr. Szabo commented that the University of Akron shows a high usage because the activation button is being pressed accidentally and they are currently training their users to avoid this in the future.

Mr. Szabo also reviewed with committee members the 50 Top Users Report.

## **USAGE REPORTS**

Chairperson Calderone stated he submitted Usage Report for MAC to committee members. He stated there were 78 MAC requests from July 1st.

Chairperson Calderone stated there were not many MERC Users since the last meeting.

Ms. De Rose commented that Health and Hospital were testing the system between themselves last week.

Chairperson Calderone stated that during the Talon Shield Exercise, there were some MERC users. Also, there was NPSPAC (National Public Safety Advisory Committee, Non-Federal 800 MHz National Mutual Aid Channels.) usage in early August.

Chairperson Calderone stated there were some significant improvements made to their NPSPAC.

## **REBANDING PROJECT REPORT**

Mr. Read stated the MERC's proposal has been submitted to Sprint for their review.

Chairperson Calderone commended their efforts in redesigning "fail soft" in the area of MAC and MERC.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **WORKING GROUP**

There was nothing noteworthy to report at this time. The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, September 3, 2010 at Mason Park Learning Center at 10:00 a.m.

## HSR5IAC REPORT

Chairperson Calderone stated that the Region 5 Interoperability Advisory Committee is newly formed and almost a year old. This is a regional level committee. Chairperson Calderone stated that when he presents a report on behalf of this committee, he is giving an update on what the Region is doing.

The last Region 5 meeting was on August 13 in which Chairperson Calderone announced his resignation as Chairperson for this committee due to his time constraints. He commented that he will submit a request to EMEC that he be appointed as the Alternate, and Ms. McMurray the Chairperson.

Chairperson Calderone stated that Ms. McMurray has been an active participant of HSR5IAC (Homeland Security Region 5 Interoperability Advisory Committee). Therefore, at the next meeting scheduled for September 21, a movement will be made to elect Ms. McMurray as Chairperson. Ms. McMurray does have the support of her employer as well.

Chairperson Calderone stated they have been working on TICP (Tactical Interoperability Communication Plan). Ms. McMurray will be presenting to all 13 counties a walkthrough of the TICP Development Template on September 21, 2010. Also, the SIEC will be coming to the Region 5 meeting to do a 30-minute presentation on the National Emergency Communications Plan, Goal 2. Goal 2 requires an 85% interoperability of all first responders that must be demonstrated either by an actual drill or full blown exercise. The presentation on Goal 2 will be presented by OEC (Office of Emergency Communications) on September 21, 2010.

## STATEWIDE INTEROPERABILITY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (SIEC)

Chairperson Calderone stated there are 1,300 radio systems in the State of Ohio. Ohio has trained about 100 people on the NIMS ICS COML (Communications Unit Leader) Type 3 Standard in the past 18 months.

Cuyahoga County has requested a COML (Communications Unit Leader) Course, which will be the new version, and SIEC has approved funding for this course. Tuition and travel expense will be covered for attendees.

On September 24, Lake County and Cuyahoga County are hosting an Interoperability Summit at the Tri-C Eastern Campus. There will be discussions about the current status of communication on a national, state and local level. The purpose is to make elected officials aware of the need for their support with the radio systems.

The next SIEC Meeting in Columbus is scheduled for November 17 at the State EOC. Chairperson Calderone stated both Mr. Read and Ms. McMurray have been attending these meetings on a regular basis and thanked them for their participation.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### COPLEY/BATH/FAIRLAWN/NORTON RADIO TOWER PROJECT

Chief Benson gave committee members an update on this project. Chief Benson stated P25 is their chosen option. Motorola quote was for \$776,543, which fits within the grant

total of \$800,000.

Chief Benson commented that there are three streams of activity going on at once for this project: 1) Grant – an amendment for the P25 change has been drafted and will be submitted this week; 2) Radio Tower – the four communities have drafted a joint agreement for the project. They project the elected officials of each community will be presented with the whole project by September 15<sup>th</sup> with anticipation of passage in order to sign the contract with Motorola by October 29<sup>th</sup>; 3) Final Tower Status – the intent of the group is to continue to make this a Summit County radio tower in anticipation of a new P25 system for the whole county. In order to make this happen, the four communities are forming a working group to put together a presentation to the Owners and SAC. This is a priority for the group.

Chief Benson advised committee members that their next meeting is September 2, 2010.

Chairperson Calderone commented that the Owners will defer to SAC to give the necessary direction as to how to respond to Copley/Bath/Fairlawn/Norton's proposal.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Chairperson Calderone stated that now Mr. Szabo is on board with the County, there needs to be developed some long-term planning goals for the current system in the next 10 years. The Executive Management Executive Committee agreed to task Mr. Szabo with developing the next step by providing SAC with available options. Mr. Szabo will also provide the advantages and disadvantages of various systems so that SAC can make an educated decision as to the direction to go. Mr. Szabo will also provide a guesstimate of cost. Chairperson Calderone stated that Mr. Szabo is agreeable with this arrangement.

There was some discussion by committee members regarding this matter. It was determined that Mr. Szabo will do the necessary research for this project. His timeframe to complete this research is not set, but it would be nice to have something by February, 2011 prior to the Annual Meeting.

Chairperson Calderone stated he did not want to put this task on the Working Group but preferred to use Mr. Szabo as the consultant for this project. Committee members recommended that they have an opportunity to review Mr. Szabo's findings prior to the meeting so that questions and recommendations can be made at the meeting.

Chief Ross stated that officially the directive to do the research will come from him as Chairperson of EMEC. Mr. Szabo will be asked to look beyond Summit County, and to explore those options. Chief Ross stated that this initiative will take some considerable time, maybe five years or more.

Ms. Russ from Motorola challenged SAC to have more of a voice that goes beyond Summit County. She stated that some of the other counties are using other radio systems and they need to recognize the need to regionalize systems.

Chairperson Calderone stated he believes we are moving in that direction. He commented how involved EMEC and the Owners are in obtaining as much information as possible on our radio systems.

All committee members agreed that before we can pursue other counties in the Region, we must first have a solid strategic plan for Summit County. In other words, Summit County should become the leader of this project, which will then encourage other counties to participate.

Chairperson Calderone stated he would like to establish a charter review of our By-Laws. There are some things in the By-Laws that are outdated and inaccurate. This committee will review By-Laws, better define the Working Group and its function, and provide better representation at SAC of more users than Owners.

Chief Goodrich cautioned incorporating too many users because they would be limited in speech and unable to vote.

Chairperson Calderone agreed with Chief Goodrich's remarks.

Chairperson Calderone stated he would chair this committee and asked for four additional volunteers to assist him in this task. Chief Goodrich did volunteer to participate in the review of By-Laws. It was recommended that the current By-Laws be attached to the minutes.

Chairperson Calderone stated that there are two tasks of the By-Laws: 1) Annually prepare the goals for the Regional Radio System, and 2) To improve operating policy.

Chairperson Calderone also stated that he will finish out the year as Chairperson of SAC, but will relinquish his role next year.

## **OWNER'S REPORT**

Ms. Pesci stated there is nothing to report at this time.

## **GOOD OF THE ORDER**

Lieutenant Amonett stated Stow Police are now on the 800 MHz radio system and it is working well for them.

Ms. Russ stated that the County will need to obtain a license for the use of 700 MHz radio system. She will work with Mr. Szabo to take care of this matter.

## **NEXT MEETING**

Chairperson Calderone stated the next meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, September 23, 2010, at 9:00 a.m., at the Fifth Floor Conference Room of the Akron CitiCenter Building, 146 South High Street, Akron, OH 44308.**

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Chief Goodrich made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Lieutenant Amonett seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.

Attachment (SAC By Laws)

<b>Community</b>	<b>SAC Representatives</b>	
	<b>Primary</b>	<b>Alternate</b>
City of Akron	Kevin Read	Robert Ross
County of Summit	Lori Pesci	Sharon McMurray
Munroe Falls	Jim Bowery	No Alternate Identified
Mogadore	Don Adams	Michael Rick
Tallmadge	Dave Gatie	Don Zesiger
Lakemore	Barry Saley	Dave Carter
Akron Board of Ed	Joe Tulak	Robert Boxler
Coventry	David Calderone	John Dolensky
Norton	Mike Schultz	Michelle Toris
Airport	Todd Laps	Barry Irwin
Springfield	Victor Wincik	John Smith
New Franklin	Perry Surgeon	Dan Davidson
Green	Bob Calderone	Doug Cincurak
Peninsula	Chief McCue	Tim Baker
Valley Fire	Charlie Reidel	Tim Baker
Humane Society	Tim Harland	No Alternate Identified
Fairlawn	Glenn Goodrich	Dave Mason
Bath	Bill Snow	Mike McNeely
Stow	Paul Amonett	Lou Dirker
Copley	Jim Rogers	Michael Benson
Clinton	John Yohey	No Alternate Identified
Silver Lake	Carl Harrison	Gary DeMoss
Metro Parks	Grant Van Fossen	Doug Sheppard
Cuyahoga Falls	Paul Moledor	Ken Starcher
Barberton	Paul Callahan	Kim Baldwin

/blb

Attachment

cc: File