

STATE 9-1-1 COMMITTEE
Certification Subcommittee
Michigan State Police Headquarters
Recruiting Conference Room
Tuesday, March 23, 2010
Meeting Minutes

A. ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. Roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

MEMBERS:

Mr. James Fyvie
Sheriff Dale Gribler
Mr. Vic Martin
Mr. Leonard Norman
Mr. Dave Piasecki
Mr. Scott Temple

REPRESENTING:

Clinton County Central Dispatch
Van Buren County Sheriff Department
Lapeer County Central Dispatch
Bay County Central Dispatch
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NON-VOTING MEMBERS:

Ms. Harriet Miller-Brown
Ms. Mary Jo Hovey
Ms. Janet Hengesbach

Michigan State Police
Michigan State Police
Michigan State Police

ABSENT:

Ms. Margie Hatfield (w/notice)
Mr. Steve Leese
Mr. Jim Loeper (w/notice)
Mr. Chris Luty

Hillsdale County Central Dispatch
Eaton County Central Dispatch
Gogebic 9-1-1
Michigan State Police Troopers Association

Sheriff Gribler reported to the members that Mr. John Bawol has resigned from the State 9-1-1 Committee and subcommittees due to a large amount of responsibilities with his employer. Sheriff Gribler chaired today's meeting.

B. APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 24, 2009 MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Piasecki made a **MOTION** to approve the minutes of November 24, 2009. Mr. Martin supported. The **MOTION** carries.

C. OLD BUSINESS

1. County Compliance Reviews

Montmorency County

Recently the Montmorency County 9-1-1 Coordinator contacted Sheriff Gribler, Ms. Miller-Brown and Ms. Hovey regarding some issues that have surfaced since the on-site visit. The team will re-visit the county around the middle of May.

Van Buren County

The 1st draft of the report is complete and has been forwarded to the team for their review.

Mason-Oceana County

The team visited this county on March 5, 2010. It is a nice, well run center. They received much cooperation and good comments from the staff. Mason-Oceana officials are working on becoming an Authority (Under the Urban Cooperation Act) in the near future.

Lenawee County

This is the next county scheduled for review. The team selected for the review is: Margie Hatfield, Vic Martin, Dale Gribler, Dave Piasecki and Ms. Hovey. Ms. Hovey will inquire to Mr. Luty regarding his availability for this review.

2. County 9-1-1 Plan

Ms. Miller-Brown and Ms. Hovey are working on the draft document that will be presented from the SNC. They are going through the statute to assure that all language is correct and add any items that could have been overlooked. Ms. Miller-Brown has been receiving correspondence from counties who are looking at opening their county plans. She is referring them back to the statute and their county legal counsel to draft a plan more tailored for their particular county.

D. NEW BUSINESS

1. Allowable 9-1-1 Surcharge Monies

a. Radio Charge - An inquiry was made recently to the State 9-1-1 Office regarding usage of 9-1-1 surcharge funds for the purchase of radios to be used by the FBI task force. They are not dispatched by a PSAP but monitor the local PSAPs and respond to situations nearby that may be relevant to their assigned task.

Members briefly discussed this request and noted that in the statute it says only EMS, Police, and Fire are dispatched by a 9-1-1 system. Following discussions, Mr. Fyvie made a **MOTION** that the FBI does not qualify in the direct dispatch of Fire, Police, or EMS through a PSAP. Mr. Norman supported. The **MOTION** carries.

(Mr. Johnson joined the meeting at 10:45 a.m. via conference call)

b. Employee Appreciation Meals – An inquiry was made to the State 9-1-1 Office regarding usage of 9-1-1 surcharge funds for an employee appreciation meal. Members discussed that while this is beneficial for employee morale and creates a nice environment for the dispatchers to know and see that they are appreciated, the original intention of the 9-1-1 surcharge funds is not for this purpose. The PSAP should be able to use their General Fund monies for this expense.

Mr. Fyvie made a **MOTION** that meals solely for purposes of appreciation of employees is not allowable to use 9-1-1 surcharge funds, Mr. Martin supported. The **MOTION** carries.

2. New member on Subcommittee - Mr. Chris Luty is the newest member of the Certification Subcommittee.

3. Correspondence from Benzie County – Ms. Miller-Brown received a request from Benzie County for the Certification Subcommittee to perform a “by request” review. Currently the 9-1-1 Center is housed in the Benzie County Sheriff’s Department. They are looking at moving it to a county department. Because the subcommittee members would be looking at the Sheriff’s Department budget, Ms. Miller-Brown asked of Benzie County officials that this be a joint request from the 9-1-1 Advisory Board and the Sheriff’s Department. The letter was re-submitted by Benzie County from the Advisory Board and the Sheriff.

Mr. Martin made a **MOTION** that the Certification Subcommittee recommends to the SNC that a By-Request review be performed at Benzie County, Mr. Norman supported. The **MOTION** carries.

4. New County for Review – The members decided that depending on how the SNC votes on the Benzie County request, they will not chose another county until Fall 2010 as there are a number of reviews in process at the present time.

E. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Fyvie discussed HB 5927 which proposes PSAP consolidation in the state of Michigan. He reported the MCDA is in support of consolidation but not necessarily down to 5 PSAPs in the entire state.

Mr. Piasecki inquired about HB 5927 discussing consolidation of Michigan PSAPs. The bill is very generic and requires the consolidation plan shall contain equipment that accepts text messages, calls, and other communications from wireless communication devices but does not specifically mention "9-1-1 calls". Ms. Miller-Brown added that she has no idea who introduced this bill.

Mr. Fyvie also discussed the Department of Treasury report (Overview of Wireless Fund Distributions to Date) that is submitted each year for inclusion in the Annual Report to the Legislature and was specifically inquiring about the amounts noted for MSP, MSP 911 Admin, and MSP Dispatch. Ms. Miller-Brown explained the amounts noted on this report are a cumulative amount for what has been distributed to the entities noted for the last 10 years.

He also said that since the Certification Subcommittee goes into each county and reviews their budgets, why shouldn't the State 9-1-1 Office budget be reviewed by the SNC each year. Ms. Miller-Brown reminded Mr. Fyvie that her office receives 1.87% of the .19 state surcharge which is approximately \$500,000 per year. This amount pays for salary and benefits for the office staff, the Office of the Auditor General's report (\$48,000), Attorney General's expenses and the individual mailings to the counties regarding Dispatcher Training, Annual Report to the Legislature, and notice to the Communications Providers among other expenses. Ms. Miller-Brown reminded him that this information is available for anyone to review and is reviewed annually by MSP and the Office of the Auditor General during each annual audit.

Sheriff Gribler reminded the members that the state surcharge was reviewed last year and comments were being accepted on whether to increase or decrease the surcharge. Back then Mr. Fyvie voted to not reduce it because the revenue generated was unknown. Mr. Fyvie explained that if he had to make a decision on whether to increase or decrease that amount presently, he is not so sure he would vote the same way. Mr. Fyvie also reported that from the MCDA's perspective, they are encouraging the members to reduce their dependency on state funds as much as possible. Sheriff Gribler believes that Mr. Fyvie should look at the data – if the fund revenue is up from the last couple of years then he would keep increasing the state surcharge amount.

Mr. Fyvie stated that some members of the MCDA feel the Certification Subcommittee is digging too deep into their county's business regarding the compliance reviews. The SNC should only be looking at funds received and what is expended out. Ms. Miller-Brown suggested this issue should be brought to the entire State 9-1-1 Committee, and also reminded the members that she is accountable to MSP and the Office of the Auditor General. (Note: This question was turned over to legal counsel at the AG office.)

Mr. Fyvie stated that a county should have the option of either a financial review or an operational review when they are selected for a compliance review.

Mr. Norman inquired as to who was making the comments from the counties regarding the reviews. Mr. Fyvie said this comes mostly from counties who have not been through the review process. Ms. Miller-Brown reminded the members that the review process was originally developed by the ETSC. The original plan was to do 10 reviews per year, but realized that was too many so voted on one review per quarter. She reminded him that the subcommittee cannot look at spending without looking at operations.

F. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be Friday, June 11, 2010. Ms. Hengesbach will secure a conference room and advise the members.

G. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p.m.