



**MONTCALM COUNTY
CENTRAL DISPATCH AUTHORITY**
657 North State Street
Stanton, Michigan 48888
(989) 831-5253



TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

July 28th, 2010 at 9:00 a.m.
MCCDA/MCES Conference Room, 657 N. State St., Stanton, MI 48888

Present: Tim Scott – Central Dispatch Director
Tammie Pillard – Greenville Department of Public Safety
Brian Waber – Montcalm County Sheriff’s Department
Angel Ouwinga – Michigan State Police
Steve DeWitt – Small City and Village Police Departments
Dave Feldpausch – Montcalm County Emergency Services
Steven VanHolstyn – Fire Chiefs Association
Michelle Rose – Central Dispatch

Absent: Darin Dood – Small City and Village Police Departments

The meeting was called to order by Scott at 9:02 a.m.

Motion by Ouwinga, supported by VanHolstyn to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Motion by Rose, supported by Waber to approve the minutes from the May 11th meeting. Motion carried.

Public comments were offered; none received.

MCFA Report: VanHolstyn related the following information:

1. What was the status of returning Rescue units (26 and 29) to the EMS channel. Feldpausch responded that he is purchasing dual frequency pagers for R26 and R29 to use, allowing them to receive pages through the EMS channel and, if that is unsuccessful, the Fire channel.
2. Chief Kain from MVFD did NOT retire and is still the Chief for MVFD.
3. Clif Dickinson is now formally the Chief of the Montcalm Township Fire Department.
4. VanHolstyn is compiling a master listing of all departments’ Fire Chiefs and Assistant Fire Chiefs, to include phone numbers and e-mails.
5. Burn Ban procedures – there was a consensus that the Fire Chiefs need to be advised of the burn bans when they are issued. It was recommended that all Chiefs/Ass’t Chiefs sign up directly to be notified of the burn bans, and a CityWatch notification listing be

developed to be used to notify the Chiefs/Ass't Chiefs when burn bans are issued. VanHolstyn will be providing the Chiefs' and Assistant Chiefs' contact information to Scott or Feldpausch.

Police Chiefs Report: Various Police Chiefs related the following:

1. DeWitt related that the M-82 overpass was recently closed by MDOT with no prior notifications. That caused a significant re-routing problem. Scott advised that Central Dispatch receives closure notifications from the Road Commission but not from MDOT. Contact will be made with MDOT to try to alleviate future problems. DeWitt also related that on several instances a Howard City incident was issued a MCSD report number by mistake, necessitating several corrective actions. Pillard related that this has happened in Greenville as well. Rose related that she would look into that issue. DeWitt also reported that someone in HC had also impersonated a firefighter to the point of joining in a town parade representing a firefighter.
2. Pillard advised that a car show will be taking place on 7 Aug in the Meijer parking lot on Washington. The Danish Festival is scheduled for 19-21 Aug in Greenville. There is also a firefighter parade scheduled for 20 Aug.
3. Waber had no information to add.

Traffic Enforcement Projects: Ouwinga related that there are no current enforcement actions planned, and that MSP manning will be down for the indefinite future due to the departure of several officers.

MCES Report: Feldpausch related that someone removed a mobile radio from one of the ambulances while it was parked in the BVM. No suspects were identified. Feldpausch also related that progress was being made to get the ambulances equipped with modems so they could be dispatched based on actual location (which unit is closest to the incident) rather than an assigned area.

MCCDA Dispatch Report : Rose reported that the current 'Road Closure' process is too involved and requested that it be reviewed and streamlined if possible. She explained that even partial closures (one side of the road) were being reported as a 'closure' and all notifications were made. Scott advised that if the road was still passable by emergency vehicles, to not classify that as a closure and to make no notifications. Only if there was a complete closure and emergency vehicles would have to be re-routed would the notifications be made. VanHolstyn agreed with that assessment. Scott also related he would contact the Road Commission to see if any other concessions could be obtained.

OLD BUSINESS

Byrne Grant Program - Scott advised that all three mobile data terminals have been acquired and paid for, so this grant, other than some supplemental reporting, is completed. A computer was provided to MCSD, Greenville DPS and Lakeview PD. There are some issues still to be resolved by Casair, which is cooperating to resolve the outstanding problems.

Telephone Surcharge Vote - Scott advised that the surcharge increase (\$1.89 to a max of \$3.00) vote is scheduled for 3 Aug. Scott encouraged everyone to vote, and asked that they support this effort, and for attendees to ensure their personnel voted as well.

Radio 'Dead Spots' - Scott asked for support and cooperation from the police, fire and EMS representatives to advise him where the 'dead' radio areas are within the county. If the surcharge is approved, a primary focus will be to fund new antennae in these 'dead' areas to improve coverage.

NEW BUSINESS

Allocation of HSGP Narrowband Money - Scott advised that Montcalm County had received \$44,162.98 from the Region 6 Homeland Security Grant Program. That money was awarded based on the percentage of need, so Scott provided a sample allocation of that money based on the level of need expressed in the Narrowband Survey, and the Local Planning Team agreed with that distribution. That distribution provides Central Dispatch with \$8,081.83. Scott advised that he will approach the MCCDA Board about using that funding to purchase one of the fire frequency repeaters that needs to be upgraded.

Road Closures – This issue was previously discussed during this meeting, and Scott will follow-up with the Road Commission to ensure the system is streamlined as much as possible while still keeping the necessary people aware of the traffic problems.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by VanHolstyn, supported by Rose to adjourn. Scott adjourned the meeting at 10:14

Timothy A. Scott, Chairman
Technical Advisory Committee

Date