

**Statewide Emergency Services Internet Protocol Network
Steering Committee
May 28, 2019**

The May 28, 2019 ESINet Steering Committee in-person meeting was scheduled at 11:09AM. Melissa Wulliger called the roll.

Members present:

Representative Rick Carfagna, Ohio House of Representatives
Representative Kent Smith, Ohio House of Representatives (arrived at 11:40AM)
Commissioner Ed Humphrey, County Commissioners' Association of Ohio
Matthew Hiscock, Ohio Municipal League
Jason Loree, Ohio Township Association
John Leutz, County Commissioners' Association of Ohio
Tom Robbins, Ohio Municipal League
A quorum was present

Other Attendees:

Rob Jackson, Ohio 9-1-1 Administrator
Staff from Senator Hoagland's office
Staff from Representative Smith's office
Staff from Representative O'Brien's office
Jay Somerville, Chair of the PSAP Operations Subcommittee

Rob Jackson started the meeting off with the first agenda item, which was to approve the meeting minutes from April 2019. Mr. Jackson asked if any of the members present had any revisions or comments regarding the minutes. There were no changes, so Mr. Jackson requested a motion. *A motion was made by Commissioner Humphrey to accept the April minutes and was then seconded by Mr. Robbins. There were no discussions and a roll call vote was taken:*

Representative Rick Carfagna – yes
Representative Kent Smith – (arrived after the vote)
Commissioner Ed Humphrey - yes
Mr. Hiscock – yes
Mr. Loree – yes
Mr. Leutz - yes
Mr. Robbins - yes

All committee members voted to approve the minutes. Mr. Jackson shared that those minutes will be posted on the website as usual.

Next on the agenda are the subcommittee updates. Mr. Jackson said that Dave Blackstone, Technical Standards Sub-Committee Chair, had a conflicting meeting. Mr. Jackson updated the Committee by stating that there was a combined PSAP Operations Subcommittee meeting (a quorum was established) and Technical Standards Subcommittee informational session (a quorum was not present) meeting to put finishing edits on the "What is NG9-1-1" educational document and Mr. Hixson will work with NENA to develop an educational webinar with similar material. Another topic of discussion was a question from Intelliquent. Mr. Somerville, PSAP Operations Subcommittee Chair, explained the question. The subcommittee felt that questions that arise will need some research and answers, so a task force was formed. Task Force members are Lydia Frey, Chris Santer, Roger Hixson, Jay Somerville, and Pat Goldschmidt. The ESINet

will give the Task Force direction as a recommendation because the State does not set that statewide policy, and once those questions are answered, those questions will be forward to all 88 counties.

Support and Compliance update – Mr. Jackson asked Sharon McMurray to share the Support and Compliance report. She said that 41 counties have submitted their information. Thirty-one of those are in full compliance and have received letters. Three have submitted half of their information, and three have not submitted.

County referral is a new phase for the ESINet Steering Committee, counties and the state. Mr. Jackson asked Jay Somerville to update the Committee on the rules and how they became authority. After Mr. Somerville explained the rules, Mr. Jackson will share the findings of Meigs County non-compliant Rule 5507-1-05 Minimum Staffing findings. Mr. Jackson read the non-compliance letter for the record.

Mr. Jackson asked for a representative from Meigs County to speak on their behalf. Mr. Randy Smith, one of the County Commissioners of Meigs County approached the podium. He shared their appeal to the non-compliant Rule 5507-1-5.

- Additional manpower – Meigs County would have to pay approximately \$300 to become compliant. He felt they would have to double the current staff.
- Meigs County EMS has been the sole owner of the 9-1-1 system.
- The County commits money to upgrade necessary equipment when necessary
- Average number of calls is 12,000 are successfully answered
- They feel this is an unfunded mandate
- NCO sales tax revenue was taken by previous administration which cost the county \$675,000, so to find additional funds to run a system that is working.
- The county has met with Senator Hoagland multiple times
- Go to voters for funding, but they feel that will not be successful, because residents are happy with their emergency services
- The Commissioners could implement a fee on parcels, 20,100, but feels that is not fair that non-residence use the system but does not pay
- Mr. Smith felt that it would be nice if someone on the ESINet Steering Committee truly had experience in the 9-1-1 world.
- Meigs County is very interested in remaining partners with the State of Ohio
- It should be noted that it will create a hardship for Meigs County if they lose \$90,000 of their funding

Mr. Jackson asked for questions from the committee, Rep. Carfagna spoke about the discussions that were had with surrounding counties and roll overs.

Mr. Smith shared they did reach out to surrounding counties. The primary issue was logistics. Frontier Communications, local telephone provider, and Horizon companies who laid fiber optic line and a broadband network. This network was only missing the final mile, but that cost to the County to hook up was going to be \$200,000 with a fee of \$5,000 a month. Frontier systems are not compatible and to become compatible would be very costly. The Sheriff's office runs an old jail and the dispatcher is also the corrections officer. The jailer cannot be tied up on a telephone call if they were to receive roll over calls. It is their understanding that the 9-1-1 dispatchers must only be answering the telephone. Mr. Jackson explained the rule of dispatcher can have

other duties but answering the 9-1-1 calls must be the priority. This county feels they are successful in providing emergency services. Mr. Hiscock asked for the county population which he answered 25,000 people and Mr. Hiscock asked the number of dispatchers. Mr. Smith shared they have four full-time, one part-time and then part-time people are scheduled as needed. They are scheduled 12-hour shifts. Mr. Hiscock asked about a disaster. Mr. Smith said that the county depends on volunteers and retirees. Any personnel in the building would answer telephones, because it does not have to only be the paid dispatcher.

Someone else from Meigs County shared that on a shift with one person and in an emergency situation they put out an all-hands on deck to answer the 9-1-1 calls. A lot of volunteers go in to help answer telephones.

Commissioner Humphrey feels that the estimate of Horizon making the last mile dark line active is exaggerated. Mr. Smith said the schools have the live lines from Horizon. The OARnet line is close to the 9-1-1 center.

Mr. Carfagna questioned the math and wanted to know the number of calls that go unanswered. Meigs met the rule for the answering time.

Mr. Carfagna questioned adding a \$15 tax. Mr. Smith thought that would be a big burden for residents. Meigs County does not believe they bill for false emergency calls and thought the fire department may charge.

Mr. Hiscock recapped Mr. Smith statement of the Commissioners would not support going to the people for additional funding to become complaint, and they do not feel they need two dispatchers.

Mr. Jackson requested a motion to issue a 30-day letter from the Committee that Meigs County became compliant and they will have 30 days to become compliant. It then goes to the ESINet Committee again to stop funding according to the Rule.

Mr. Carfagna and Mr. Loree discussed the option of putting out an RFP. Mr. Smith does not feel that is a viable option, because they still would not have funding for staffing the center. The Committee also recommended Meigs County to have another discussion with Horizon. The last conversation Meigs County had with Horizon was a year ago.

Mr. Somerville answered questions regarding the rule making process. The Committee reminded all that none of these Rules have been taken lightly and the ORC needs to be followed. Mr. Robbins believes that the citizens of Ohio deserve the best option for response in an emergency situation.

Mr. Hiscock made a motion, based on the information and discussions provided, to issue Meigs County a 30-day letter for non-compliance of Rule 5507-1-05 Minimum Staffing. He asked that the Ohio 9-1-1 Program office issue Meigs County a 30-day notice to become compliant according to above said Rule. A seconded motion was made by Mr. Robbins. Mr. Hiscock wants it to be noted the effort Meigs County has made to become compliant with every other Rule. Rep. Carfagna would like to see backup data regarding the discussed fees and costs. A roll call vote was taken:

Representative Rick Carfagna – yes

Commissioner Ed Humphrey - yes

Mr. Hiscock – yes

Mr. Loree – yes

Mr. Leutz - yes

Mr. Robbins – yes

Representative Kent Smith – yes

All committee members voted to issue the 30-day notice letter. Meigs County will have 30 days to become compliant before moving to the next level.

Mr. Jackson updated the members regarding the RFP process. The refreshed RFP should be out soon. Make sure if you are a vendor to provide us with your e-mail if you would like a notice.

Continuing with the agenda, the update on the Grant Process is that we expect to hear from the Federal 9-1-1 Grant Administrators by June.

The Wireless Government Assistant Fund Reconciliation Forms are still being sent in. These forms will be checked for compliance.

The National 9-1-1 Office is doing a data collection, so we will combine the FCC survey questions with their request for information and send out a survey. Once that information is received, it will be consolidated and submitted to the FCC and National 9-1-1 Office as done every year.

The Symposium date is September 18, 2019. More information to come.

Mr. Jackson shared that discussions on the ORC 128 legislative proposal has been paused due to the business change of the highest ranked vendor withdrawing.

Mr. Jackson called roll to specifically ask the Steering Committee members if they had any new business items to discuss:

Representative Smith - no

Representative Carfagna - no

Commissioner Humphrey - no

Mr. Hiscock – legislative tweaks will be coming

Mr. Loree – no

Mr. Leutz - no

Mr. Robbins – no

Mr. Jackson opened the floor for options on days to schedule the next meeting which will be a teleconference. The date selected was June 24, 2019, beginning 1:00PM. The Committee also selected July 25, 2019 beginning 11:00 for the next in-person meeting. Mr. Jackson then asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. *A motion was made by Mr. Robbins to adjourn and was then seconded by Commissioner Humphrey. There were no discussions and the meeting was adjourned.*