

**Statewide Emergency Services Internet Protocol Network  
Steering Committee  
October 27, 2020**

The October 27, 2020 ESINet Steering Committee teleconference was scheduled at 11:00AM. Rob Jackson called the meeting to order and Melissa Wulliger called the roll:

**Members present:**

Representative Kent Smith, Ohio House of Representatives  
Representative Rick Carfagna, Ohio House of Representatives  
Commissioner Ed Humphrey, County Commissioners' Association of Ohio  
John Leutz, County Commissioners Association of Ohio  
Jason Loree, Ohio Township Association  
Lee Czerwonka, Ohio Municipal League

**Other Attendees:**

Rob Jackson, Ohio 9-1-1 Administrator  
Senator Sean O'Brien's staff  
Richard Schmahl, MARCS Director

Mr. Jackson opened the meeting by asking the committee to review the September draft meeting minutes for edits and then asked for a motion. *A motion was made by Commissioner Humphrey to approve September meeting minutes and was seconded by Mr. Czerwonka. There were no discussions and a roll call vote was taken:*

Representative Smith – yes  
Representative Carfagna - yes  
Commissioner Humphrey – yes  
Mr. Leutz - yes  
Mr. Loree – yes  
Mr. Czerwonka – yes

Next on the agenda was the subcommittee updates. Mr. Jackson called upon Mr. Blackstone, Chair of the Technical Standards subcommittee, but he had a conflict and did not attend. Mr. Jay Somerville, Chair of the PSAP Operations subcommittee also had a conflict. However, he did ask Mr. Jackson to share that the next PSAP Operations subcommittee meeting will be held November 9. Efforts will be made to final changes and recommendations of the PSAP Operations Rules in order to share these final recommendations with the ESINet Steering Committee at their next meeting.

The next agenda item is the 9-1-1 Administrator updates:

The Support and Compliance report. Sharon McMurray reported that 82 out of 88 counties have submitted documentation for 2020. 79 have been reviewed. 70 have received agency responses. The remaining 9 counties are working on minor issues or documentation. There are a couple

counties having issues with compliance to the rules, and Mr. Jackson will keep the committee apprised.

Mr. Jackson talked about the 9-1-1 location testing. The Program office has completed testing in Crawford County. There were a few issues noted and addressed.

Mr. Jackson talked about the grant partnership with Commerce. An update meeting is scheduled to update and share information. The grant is moving forward.

Next agenda item is the RFP. Mr. Jackson shared that there are no changes to the RFP. Even though the contract has been awarded, nothing will take place because it is contingent on funding and legislation passing.

The next discussion will be on the wireless monthly fee, local 9-1-1 committee, legislation, and MARCS. Rick Schmahl, MARCS Director, attended the meeting in order to provide information and answer questions.

Mr. Jackson referred to a document previously sent to the ESINet Steering Committee which proposed language according to previous discussions during ESINet Steering Committee meetings:

**Language for 128.06**

*(A) A county shall maintain a 9-1-1 program review committee, which shall serve without compensation and shall consist of six members as follows:*

- (1) A member of the board of county commissioners, who shall serve as chairperson of the committee, and another elected public official from within the county, appointed by the board of county commissioners.*
- (2) The chief executive officer of the most populous municipal corporation in the county. When determining population under this division, population residing outside the county shall be excluded.*
- (3) A member of the board of township trustees of the most populous township in the county as selected by majority vote of the board of trustees.*
- (4) A member of a board of township trustees selected by the majority of boards of township trustees in the county pursuant to the resolutions they adopt.*
- (5) A member of the legislative authority of a municipal corporation in the county selected by the legislative authorities of municipal corporations in the county pursuant to resolutions they adopt.*
- (6) An elected official from within the county appointed by the board of County Commissioner.*

*Members of the committee shall serve at the pleasure of their appointing authority.*

*(B) The committee shall maintain and amend a final plan for implementing and operating a countywide 9-1-1 system. The committee shall, not later than March 1 of each year,*

*submit a report to the political subdivisions within the county and to the 9-1-1 program office detailing the sources and amounts of revenue expended to support and all costs incurred to operate the countywide 9-1-1 system and the PSAPs which are a part of that system for the previous calendar year. Any amendment to the final plan shall require a unanimous vote of the committee. The county shall provide the committee with any clerical, legal, and other staff assistance necessary.*

More specifically, Mr. Jackson referenced the discussions concerning the sheriff being placed on the above referenced committee. The BSSA representative confirmed this and stated that the Sheriffs do want to be a part of the 9-1-1 Planning Committee. Chief Brad Shull also shared a point that the BSSA has a solid position on the local Technical Standards Subcommittee where research and decisions are recommended to the local planning committee and requested that the language presented remain as written. Commissioner Humphrey concurred. There were no additional discussions amongst the committee.

*A motion was made by Mr. Czerwonka to approve the proposed language for ORC 128 as written and was seconded by Mr. Leutz. There were no discussions and a roll call vote was taken:*

Representative Smith – yes  
Representative Carfagna - yes  
Commissioner Humphrey – yes  
Mr. Leutz - yes  
Mr. Loree – yes  
Mr. Czerwonka – yes

Important proposed language was read by Mr. Jackson which was written by Mr. Leutz regarding the wireless fee:

**Language Associated with the Fee:**

*Mr. Leutz made a motion that the Steering Committee address the funding issue by imposing a universal access fee of \$. 25 for a two-year period from the effective date of legislation **with collections beginning January 1 of 2020**. After the two-year period of \$.25, then the Steering Committee is given the authority to increase on an annual basis the \$.25 surcharge up to \$.30 during that five-year period and at the end of the five-year period the fee be reduced to \$.25 with the obligation of the Steering Committee to provide a report to the General Assembly recommending a fee level appropriate for future needs.*

Mr. Jackson stated that clearly the collections date stated “beginning January 1 of 2020” must be removed. He continued to read the second part of the proposed language:

*The second part to this motion is to review and rewrite current local revenue raising options for 9-1-1 and clearly indicate that the local options of sales tax, property tax and property assessments and the special situations for a limited number of counties be rewritten to include and allow basically the option of providing a complete emergency response communication system within the county.*

Mr. Jackson brought up the discussions regarding MARCS from the last ESINet meeting. There were issues and questions regarding MARCS sustainability and being a part of the wireless fee recommendation. Mr. Schmahl, the MARCS Director, did offer insight and shared his concerns regarding MARC fees assessed to the counties and offered to answer questions from the committee.

Mr. Leutz proposed that the date be permanently removed and felt the paragraph should stand as written. Mr. Rob Herrington, Jefferson County, spoke on behalf of the county 9-1-1 coordinators association. He shared concerns for MARCS and the low monthly wireless fee that Steering Committee is proposing. There were discussions amongst the ESINet Steering Committee members regarding MARCS and the wireless fees, but ultimately it was decided to keep the paragraph intact and focus on just wireless 9-1-1. Mr. Jackson recapped the method used when arriving at the fee currently being proposed and asked the ESINet Steering Committee members to determine a path forward.

*A motion was made by Commissioner Humphrey to incorporate the fee language previously discussed remains as stated below.*

*“The Steering Committee address the funding issue by imposing a universal access fee of \$. 25 for a two-year period from the effective date of legislation. After the two-year period of \$.25, then the Steering Committee is given the authority to increase on an annual basis the \$.25 surcharge up to \$.30 during that five-year period and at the end of the five-year period the fee be reduced to \$.25 with the obligation of the Steering Committee to provide a report to the General Assembly recommending a fee level appropriate for future needs.”*

*The motion was seconded by Mr. Loree. There were no discussions and a roll call vote was taken:*

Representative Smith – yes  
Representative Carfagna - yes  
Commissioner Humphrey – yes  
Mr. Leutz - yes  
Mr. Loree – yes  
Mr. Czerwonka – yes  
*Said motion passed*

Next on the agenda, Mr. Jackson asked for new business:

Senator O’Brien’s staff - no  
Representative Smith – no  
Representative Carfagna - no  
Commissioner Humphrey – no  
Mr. Leutz - no  
Mr. Loree – no  
Mr. Czerwonka – no

Mr. Jackson opened the floor for possible dates to schedule the next teleconference and November 23, 2020 beginning at 11:00 was selected. Mr. Jackson then asked for a motion for

adjournment. *Mr. Loree made a motion to adjourn, and it was seconded by Representative Smith. No discussions and all were in favor. The meeting was adjourned.*