

New River Valley Emergency Communications Regional Authority

Joint Advisory Committee Meeting

October 17 2017 1:00-2:30 PM

County Admin Conference Room at the Montgomery County Government Center

Minutes

Attendees:

Members: Mark Sisson, Chair, *Police Chief, Town of Christiansburg*; David English, Vice Chair, *Blacksburg Rescue*; Kevin Foust, *Chief of Police, Virginia Tech*; Neal Turner, *Emergency Services Coordinator, Montgomery County*; Hank Parton, *Sheriff, Montgomery County*; John Akers, *Chief, Shawsville Rescue*

Alternate Members: Brian Roe, *Captain, Town of Blacksburg*; Billy Hanks, *Chief Christiansburg Fire*

Guests: Drew Smith, *Blacksburg Fire Department*; Deana Jones, *Town of Blacksburg Police*; Kris Weaver; *Captain, Montgomery County Sheriff's Department*

Absent: Michael Mulhare, *Director of Emergency Management, Virginia Tech*; Anthony Wilson, *Chief of Police, Town of Blacksburg*

Staff: Matt Hobson, *Executive Director*; Deborah Stump, *Operations Manager*; Derek Rogers, *Communications Systems Manager*; Valerie D'Intino; *Training Coordinator*

Recorder: New River Valley Regional Authority Staff

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM

2. Roll Call of Members

The Recorder performed a roll call of members.

3. Approval of Agenda

Neal Turner moved to accept the agenda as presented. John Akers seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

4. Approval of the Minutes

The minutes of the March 15, 2017 Joint Advisory Committee meeting were sent to all members via electronic mail for review prior to the meeting with a request that corrections be sent to the Recorder. No corrections were sent to the Recorder. Neal Turner moved to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Chief Foust and passed unanimously.

5. Public Comment

No public comments were received.

6. New Business

a. Public Safety Communications Radio System

Director Hobson opened the discussion about the current radio system. Mr. Hobson gave examples of the radio issues for the area:

- Several different agencies responding to one event talking on each other.
- Coverage issues in the county
- Improving communications on mutual aid events.

Mr. Hobson presented a memorandum for the future radio system for the county. Director Hobson requested the opportunity to access the current radio systems in the area as short-term goal. The long term goal would be to manage a public safety communications radio system. The floor was open for the agencies to ask questions and discuss any concerns. After further discussion of concerns and questions, the resolution to adopt the memorandum has been tabled at this time.

b. 10 Codes

The Montgomery County SO, Blacksburg PD, and Christiansburg PD has proposed a list of modified 10 codes In addition to plain language. David English advised he has spoken to the EMS and Fire agencies all but one is not in favor of the 10-codes.

Chief Sisson said no one is opposed to implementation of the 10-codes. Hank Parton made a Motion that the 10 code list presented will be implemented on January 1, 2018, motion was seconded by Brian Roe.

A vote was taken all agreed with one opposed vote Chief Foust.

c. EMS Dispatch Policy Updates

David English addressed concern with the current EMS dispatch policy. Had concerns with the way the calls were being dispatched. Mr. English feels the dispatch process is getting better and the concerns are less.

7. Old Business

a. EMD Update

Derek Rogers advised EMD training is going to start November and continue until the middle of December. Currently looking at the first week of January for implementation.

b. Personnel/Hiring Update

Deborah Stump advised in the process of hiring two and possibly a third in November, which will bring the agency to full staff.

8. Committee Member Comments

No comments

9. Adjourn

2:20pm