

New River Valley Emergency Communications Regional Authority

Joint Advisory Committee Meeting

June 3rd, 2025

Montgomery County Public Safety Building

Minutes

Attendees:

Members: Michael Geary, *Chair, Chief, Montgomery County Fire-EMS*; Jessica Moye, *Vice Chair, Services Captain, Blacksburg Police Department*; Dr. Eric Stanley, *OMD, New River Valley Emergency Communications Regional Authority*; Brandon Marshall, *Services Lieutenant, Montgomery County Sheriff's Office*; Dave English, *Chief, Blacksburg Rescue*; Billy Hanks, *Chief, Christiansburg Fire Department*; Sean Smith, *Operations Captain, Virginia Tech Police Department*; Andrew Marinik, *Executive Director for Emergency Management, Virginia Tech*; Chris Ramsey, *Chief, Christiansburg Police Department*

Absent:

Staff: Jason Milburn, *Executive Director*; Derek Rogers, *Communications Systems Manager*; Deborah O'Brien, *Operations Manager*; Amber Pratt, *Executive Assistant*

Guests:

Recorder: Amber Pratt, *Executive Assistant*

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:00pm.

2. Approval of Agenda

The Chair presented the agenda for approval. A motion was made by Mr. Ramsey and seconded by Mr. English and passed unanimously.

3. Approval of the Minutes

The Chair presented the minutes from the March 4th, 2025 JAC Meeting (attachment a) for approval. A motion was made by Mr. English and seconded by Mr. Ramsey and passed unanimously.

4. Old Business

a. Radio Project Update

Mr. Milburn provided a rough timeline of the Radio System Project and the status of the contracts and stakeholder funding process.

5. New Business

a. 911 Center Tours

Mr. Geary reported that the recent tours of the Roanoke County and Henrico 911 Centers were beneficial in observing their operations.

Mr. English noted that several automated processes observed during the tours appeared highly beneficial and could potentially simplify certain tasks for dispatchers, with goal being to work towards a more streamlined approach overall.

Mr. Hanks commented that now would be the time to begin planning the ideal fire/rescue dispatch operations for after the transition to the new radio system, acknowledging that the process will require adjustments.

Mr. Geary reiterated that advocating for standardized procedures for fire/rescue operations would be beneficial for all parties involved.

Mr. Milburn stated that automation will likely become essential for the future of 911 dispatch operations to alleviate unnecessary workload from dispatchers. He also provided an update on recent training initiatives aimed at improving call dispatch times and ensuring units receive pertinent updates during active calls.

b. Committee Member Reports

Mr. Geary advised that the Metallica Concert went smoothly and gave kudos to the dispatchers for their part.

6. Public Comments

None

7. Committee Member Comments

Mr. Rogers advised the committee of a recent inmate transport for MCSO that required deputies to travel to Raleigh. Using the technology that the new radio system will eventually provide for all, communications were maintained between both locations and the radios were able to be tracked along the way.

Mr. Milburn provided the committee with dates of pertinent upcoming software updates.

8. Adjourn

JAC meeting adjourned at 3:27pm.