

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PAGER GRANT- A discussion relating to the possible Regional Communication Grant being considered. Many items were discussed that relate to the direction of the grant. Three basic directions exist. 1. Stay the same VHF Comms, VHF Pagers. 2. 800 Pagers and Comms but use VHF for fire grounds. 3. Upgrade all current equipment to 800 including Pagers, Portables, and Mobiles.

The County including Emergency Management and Communications are in favor of #3 as it would allow Dave to focus on a single platform. They also cited concerns with upcoming reductions in bandwidth to 6.25 MHz in the VHF spectrum. Finally interoperability was cited as a benefit. They agreed to fund the 20 percent match if 800 is the direction as long term savings would be realized.

Several Chiefs expressed concerns with 800 reliability along the state line which Dave is willing to investigate. Other concerns relating to control and the cost of any improvements like towers were also raised.

In the end the group decided to create a communication committee to help guide the process. This group will be Davidson, Tutko, Phelps, Jones, Lamb, and Brovold. They will reach out to those Chiefs not present to discuss the considerations and concerns of each approach. We would like to hold a vote at the next scheduled Chief's Meeting July 19th, @ 1830 hrs. to decide the direction of the grant. Departments are asked to have a representative with the authority to cast a vote to attend the next meeting.

911 – Smart911, Ravefacility, and First Responder Portal were all discussed as new tools available to us to help manage the way information flows into the dispatch center and can be used in the field. 911 and the Commissioners have asked that the State consider raising the current fees charged on cell phones to fund communication. Finally, Dave discussed the sharing of maps with the State Depository to provide next gen mapping.

Saint Joe Public Safety did a debrief on the LECO event and gave praises to the Dispatch Center for their role in the call. The maps provide were very helpful. They also said having the plant rep there in the command post was a big help.

DNR – None

Funeral Protocol – Berrien

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT/LEPC – Deputy Ron Bush reported on several classes that have been presented. Air Monitoring, Wide area search and air sampling have all been offered. LEPC plans are coming in and in process to be digitally distributed. He also touched on the DC Cook exercises which was the first time anywhere that the IPAWS system was used to alert. We used it again for the LECO event.

EMS-
None

SHERIFF- Per Ron, Beach enforcement discussed as well as fireworks safety.

RED CROSS- None

HAZ-MAT-. In Air Sampling Class

BCFA-. Next meeting at New Buffalo TWP– Meeting will be at the High School.

BCYF —. The fair coming up. Gerry needs help with fire safety, looking for sign-ups for working the Fire Education Center.

TRAINING —. Sgt Bush will be doing a 300/400 on the first 2 Saturdays in September and October.

Doug DeBest will be putting out a Tanker Shuttle Class in the near future. August 14 & 28th

Mi-TRT-5-. Oshtemo Quarterly training discussed as well as the loss of Chief Switalski who was the Chairman of the Executive Board.

MABAS-. Loss of Both Chief Switalski and Chief Nelson in the same week was tough. They will leave a huge hole to fill.

OLD BUSINESS -. None

NEW BUSINESS –

Next Meeting. July 19, 2017 @ 1830

RS Larry Lamb