



**PENNSYLVANIA EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT AGENCY**
2605 Interstate Drive
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17110-9364



MEETING: E9-1-1 EMERGENCY SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Meeting Date: January 10, 2006
Time: 10:00 AM
Location: PEMA Headquarters, Harrisburg PA

Attendees Present:

Attendee	Organization	Attendee	Organization
Michelle Musser	PEMA	John Haynes	Chester County
Richard Flinn	PEMA	David Cohick	Tioga County
Wayne Nothstein	Carbon County Commissioner	Marshall Sherer	Verizon
Dan Tancibok	Centre County	Walt Wise	PA Firefighters Association
Sharon Bader	Cingular	Bracken Burns	Washington County Commissioner
Joseph James	Philadelphia County	Nancy Serafino	Sprint

Additional Attendees:

John Hetrick	Potter County	Jane Benfer	PEMA
Craig Maroney	LR Kimball	Mitch Smith	PEMA
Ray Blouch	PEMA	Brian Jones	LR Kimball
Debbie Diamond	LR Kimball		

MINUTES

1. Call to order

The meeting of the E9-1-1 Emergency Services Advisory Committee was called to order at 10:10 a.m., 1/10/06 by PEMA Deputy Director Richard Flinn.

2. Welcome / Introductions

Deputy Director Flinn acknowledged members of the Committee, followed by the introduction of additional meeting attendees.

3. Opening Comments from Committee Chairman

Deputy Director Flinn briefly reviewed the wireless legislation and the roles and responsibilities of the Advisory Committee, followed by listing the agenda for the current meeting.

4. Minutes

The Committee was asked if any members had changes, corrections, or additions to the minutes of the last meeting that were sent out. The minutes were accepted as written.

5. Cellular Phone Initiative

After a briefing on the initiative by Michelle Musser, discussion from various members centered on the importance of up to date information. This initiative involved the capability of cellular providers to shut down certain tower sectors immediately upon receipt of a terrorist threat using cellular technology for detonation. Industry members were encouraged to keep the rest of the Committee informed of any updates in technology due to attention from the Department of Homeland Security and PEMA. Education for first responders about this initiative was also encouraged.

6. Statewide 9-1-1 Program Update

Points of discussion from the Committee were as follows:

Mapping

PA Map has been instrumental in this area with fourteen counties due to be flown this coming year. Some concern was given by various county members on some mapping not conforming to PSAP information due to the resolution of the orthophotography. This was due to some counties requiring higher resolution for urban areas vs. rural areas requiring less. The Committee expressed desire to set a standard resolution for the photography and the possibility of this being a shared cost. A polling of the counties was requested to obtain further information. Contact information for Jim Knudson from OA is (717) 705-9844 or he be reached via email at jkknudson@state.pa.us.

Plan Review and PEMA Website

PEMA is working close with legislation in the area of wireless 9-1-1 planning. LR Kimball and Associates is assisting PEMA in developing a web based planning tool for the counties. It is anticipated that this will provide ease of plan submission. The timeline for plan reviews will remain the same with both PEMA and the PUC reviews lasting 90 days. The industry members consider this a good tool that will allow them to input county data through a secure login. Inputs for the Governor's Annual Report are again able to be electronically input through the PEMA website

7. Wireless Program Update

Michelle Musser provided information on the PEMA wireless program. \$98,000,000 has been issued so far this fiscal year. Third quarter invoices are currently at the Comptroller's Office for issue. It is anticipated that an additional \$32,000,000 will be sent out fourth quarter. The application process for funding in the next fiscal year will commence March of this year. Audits of the county wireless spending will start in September. Representatives from LR Kimball stated that approximately 20 counties have requests filed for wireless Phase I or Phase II upgrades of service with their providers. A spreadsheet was provided for review by the Committee on individual county status.

8. Topics for Discussion

Legislation / Regulations / VoIP / PBX

John Comey stated that the General Assembly is addressing the VoIP requirements and how it could be incorporated into the present legislation. The Committee discussed concerns about the sunset of the wireless funding in 2009 and the potential loss of cell phone income with the availability of VoIP.

Training and Certification

Raymond Blouch briefed the Committee on proposed improvements to the certification process for telecommunicators. A survey was sent out recently to the counties for recommendations. Three counties responded. The proposal will be to have a panel of six volunteers create a battery of test questions for PEMA. This will allow more input from the counties on testing.

9. General Discussion

Points of discussion from the Committee were as follows:

Program Capability Review

Deputy Director Flinn briefed the Committee on a federal project presently being conducted assessing interoperability. This will affect all levels of government operations and will potentially increase preparedness.

Travel Reimbursement Forms

Michelle Musser provided travel forms for non-government employees needing travel and meal reimbursement.

National Emergency Number Association (NENA) Annual Conference

NENA will be holding its annual National Conference in Pittsburgh, PA from June 10 – 15 of this year. PEMA recommended that registration for one individual from each county be paid out of the wireless fund. A motion for acceptance of this issue was made and accepted. PA NENA will have a room set aside during this conference and it was suggested the next Advisory Committee Meeting be held there.

VoIP Legislation

Discussion of the House Bill was made by John Comey from a legislative position. A copy of the Bill will be provided to Committee members for review.

10. Future Meeting Date

The next meeting of the E9-1-1 Emergency Services Advisory Committee will be held during the National NENA Conference in Pittsburgh, PA. The day and time will be determined closer to the conference.

11. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting of the E9-1-1 Emergency Services Advisory Committee was made and accepted by all at 11:50 a.m., January 10, 2006.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Musser
PEMA 9-1-1 Coordinator

cc: All Attendees