

Lake County 911 Program Review Committee (PRC)

Tuesday, October 8th, 2024

Meeting commenced at 1:00 pm

Meeting attended by: Commissioner John R. Hamercheck, Sheriff Frank Leonbruno, Chuck Hillier, Morgan McIntosh, Robert Carr, Ken Filipiak.

This meeting was conducted in order to address: the implementation of Next Generation 9-1-1 (can be referred to as NextGen or NG911); a system comprised of managed emergency services internet protocol networks, functional elements, and databases that not only replicates traditional enhanced 9-1-1 features and functions but provides additional capabilities.

Welcome/Opening Remarks:

Sheriff Leonbruno and Commissioner Hamercheck discussed the reason for this Committee.

911 Overview/NG911 Presentation:

Paul Stefanko, Director of Lake County's Telecommunications Department, shared a PowerPoint presentation in which he reviewed 9-1-1 definitions and provided a brief history of 911 up to and including where we are today. He explained the benefits of NG911 as well as estimated costs and he detailed training and requirements for Dispatchers. He referenced a potential increase in response times due to the additional information that would need to be managed and he outlined the equipment each Dispatch Center would need as well as estimated costs. He also discussed what needs to occur once the Final Plan is developed. He explained how the deadline is 5 years from when the State of Ohio DAS certifies the ESINET. The ESINET is the network that connects all of the 911 centers together. This should happen before December 31st, 2024 making the 5 year deadline December 31st, 2029. *(See Page 3 for a list of chapters that were reviewed from the Ohio Revised Code)*

A discussion ensued with committee members asking if this can be completed sooner than 5 years, what would happen if some PSAPs want to participate and others cannot (possibly for financial reasons, etc.), and how much control the committee has. Others expressed liability concerns if calls/info are not transferred quickly enough as well as concerns regarding the number of cell phone calls that are transient (individuals who live outside the county and just happen to be in our jurisdiction when an emergency arises), and if there would be an increase in nuisance/non-emergency calls.

Nina Germano, Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, explained that the Final Plan is determined by this Committee and it must include the location and number of public safety answering points, how they will be connected to the County's preferred 911 system, what territory each PSAP 911 calls, and will Enhanced 911 or Next Gen be used in that territory. The plan will be sent to each political subdivision to approve/disapprove. If passed, it is implemented and all must comply. If found in non-compliance, they can be subjected to legal action by Ohio Attorney General.

Commissioner Hamercheck recommended adding "Geographical Information System (GIS)" to the list of definitions. He also reminded the group that the plan can always be amended and that it is imperative to think of the end result which is the person (Dispatcher) the information is being provided to.

Next Steps:

It was determined the next meeting should include the PSAPs/appropriate individuals so expectations/requirements can be communicated clearly and they have the opportunity to ask questions. The Committee could then gauge initial impressions from this interaction.

The committee then reviewed a slide of a possible configuration and the costs associated with it if Central picked up Madison Twp, Madison Village and Mentor on the Lake and Willoughby picked up Wickliffe, Willowick, and Eastlake. This example was shown simply for illustrative purposes based on reported budgets and 911 revenue.

Next Meeting Date:

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday October 29th, 2024 at 1:00 pm. in Commissioners Chambers/ Lake Erie Conference Room. This meeting is to provide information on forthcoming NG911 changes and solicit input.

Meeting adjourned at 2:40 pm.

Applicable Chapters of the Ohio Revised Code

- 128 (Summary)
- 128.01 (911 Definitions)
- 128.05 (County 911 Coordinator)
- 128.06 (County 911 Program Review Committee) or PRC
- 128.07 (Final Plan Contents)
- 128.08 (Approval or Disapproval of Final Plan)
- 128.12 (Amendment of the Final Plan)
- 128.21 (NextGen 9-1-1 Core Services System Requirements and Coordination)
- 128.24 (Multi-Line Telephone System 911 Requirements)
- 128.241 (Requirements for Business Service Users)
- 128.242 (Exemptions for Business Service Users)
- 128.25 (County Contact)
- 128.26 (Deadline for NextGen)
- 128.35 (Charges on Real Property Owners)
- 128.37 (Monthly Telephone Bill Charges)
- 128.41 (Next Gen 911 Access Fee 40 Cents)
- 128.412 (Next Gen 911 Access Fee 25 Cents)
- 128.42 (NextGen 911 Access Fee on Prepaid Wireless Calling Services)
- 128.57 (Powers and Duties of Providers of Countywide 911 Systems Receiving Wireless 911 Government Assistance)