

# BUTLER REGIONAL INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM

## ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

**Date:** January 22, 2015

**Location:** 1810 Princeton Rd. EOC

**Board Members Present:**

**Absent:**

Meeting called to order by Co-Chair Chief T. Goller

**Meeting Minutes:** Motion to accept the minutes from the meeting on September 25, 2014: 1<sup>st</sup>: Dennis Dick 2<sup>nd</sup>: John Jones. **PASSED**

### **BRICS System Updates:**

- Deputy Bill Vedra-
  - Emergency Alarm Update- Communications Centers are knocking down emergency alarms that do not belong to them. There is a draft revision available after the meeting to the policy. The initial policy was adopted in 2010. Since then there have been upgrades to connect us with MARCS.
    - John Jones discussed where the Law Talkgroups revert? The emergency reverts back to your center.
  - Vedra continued that the center can get to the emergency alarm log.
- Outstanding issues on the consoles
  - The shared status buttons are not working properly on the consoles. Motorola has an open case and is still working on the issue.
- School Emergency Radios
  - Hamilton and Talawanda School Districts currently have their radios installed. However, they are having issues roaming to other sites. We have an open case with Motorola. We are holding off further installs until the problem is corrected.
- System upgrade
  - We are due for our regular system upgrade in March of this year. This will bring our backroom equipment up to 7.15. Users should not experience any issues with this.
- BCRTA
  - BCRTA has added new users to the system with the acquisition of the Middletown Buses.
- Interop Users
  - Chief Dickey asked what we provide LE for interoperability. If encryption available they get Law and TAC banks. If no encryption they are given the Mutual Aid bank.
- Statistics
  - In 2014 we had 8,814,516 PTT's.
  - 287 busy's. 2/3 of the busy's were during the upgrade in September. We should have the additional channels online before the next meeting.
- Subscriber Planning
  - The group is meeting every other month on the off month of the AB.
  - The XTS/XTL line is no longer being produced and is in the support phase. Parts will be available until 2018.
  - Partners in Prime are now Community First Solutions. They are in the process of purchasing APX radios as they are adding services.
  - The committee hopes to have a recommendation soon on replacements for the XTS/XTL line of radios.

- Chief Dickey asked about pricing of the APX line for budget purposes. The price is around \$4500 per radio.
- Did PP look at other vendors before purchasing APX? Since they are using ADP encryption they did not look at other vendors.
- The next meeting is February 26<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 PM.
- Financial
  - Discussion by Capt. Franke on how maintenance works.
  - BRICS made a big push on PM'ing radios last year. Motorola recommends alignment before placed in service, again at 1 year and then every 2 years. After 2 years the radios stabilize. We automatically align any radio which comes into the shop for service.
  - The AB and Commissioners approved mobile maintenance at \$50 per year in 2010. We have not started billing yet at \$50. In addition we are supposed to be billing mobiles at \$80 per hour outside of normal work, which we have not been doing.
    - Discussion on this; Chief Goller reports agencies have already put their budgets in place for 2015 and this could be a hardship on them. The Fire Chief's Association will discuss at their next meeting and let BRICS know how to proceed.
- Questions?
  - Chief Detherage asked about 2<sup>nd</sup> touch on fire radios.
    - Secretary Miller reports waiting the testing of the panic buttons before we program. Lt Pater reports in their testing they cannot see a difference in the panic button timings.
    - Secretary Miller brought up the discussion point of Mobile Emergency Alarms. Warren County disables theirs because of accidental pushes. We have observed accidental pushes on our mobiles.
    - Both items will be taken back to the Chief's Assn and they will report back.
    - Secretary Miller discussed the mobile installations. Capt. Franke added this is where the \$80 per hour could come into play.
  - New Construction
    - Deputy Vedra reports the Ohio Fire Code requires radio coverage in all new construction. This is through the use of amplifiers. We missed on all of the new schools in Hamilton but have been working with Liberty Twp. on the new Children's Hospital construction.
    - Oxford is getting ready to build a school so the local agencies need to keep track of this.
    - Please keep in mind any new construction. The Sheriff's Office cannot enforce this, only the fire dept. We have reached out to the building departments to discuss this.
    - Lt Jones; Can we go back and enforce after construction? Usually not, just new construction and major refurb.

### **Secretary Updates:**

- We need to know who the committee members are for the Advisory Board
  - Butler County Sheriff's Office- Capt. Matt Franke
  - Butler County Commissioners- Mr. Don Dixon
  - Butler County Engineer's Office- Mr. Fred Stitsinger
  - Butler County Chiefs of Police Assn.- Chief Mike Dickey, Fairfield PD
  - Butler County Fire Chief's Assn. - Chief Tony Goller (RETIRING), West Chester FD. Next Chief's meeting will appoint new Rep.
- **Communications Representatives**
  - West Chester Township- Manager Dennis Dick

- Sheriff's Office- Lt. Carrie Schultheiss
- City of Hamilton- Capt. Marc McManus
- City of Oxford- Lt. John Jones
- City of Middletown-
- City of Fairfield- Chief Don Bennett
- City of Trenton-
- City of Monroe-
- **Board Secretary**
  - Rick Miller, Butler County Sheriff's Office
- The Secretary will reach out to the agencies to appoint their reps for 2015.

### **Committee Updates:**

- PSAP, Manager Dennis Dick, Chair
  - No report, the committee will meet next week.
- LE, Chief Michael Dickey
- All is good
- Fire, Chief Paul Stumpf, Chair
  - Chief Goller reports Paul Stumpf was appointed as Chair at the last meeting.
  - They will be reviewing policies.
- Plain Talk, Chief Matt Fruchey, Chair
  - Capt. Franke reports we need to clean up the plain language policies system wide.
  - Jeff Galloway reports he has a CD of training for Plain Language. He will provide this to BRICS.

### **Old Business: None**

### **New Business:**

Capt. Franke; we need to look to the future, plan for replacements, enhancements, expansions, etc for the next 5 years.

We will have to update our simulcast from circuit based to ip based since we are connected to MARCS. This is a couple of versions away.

We should not have to add any towers in the fringe areas since we are now connected to MARCS and can roam onto their towers.

We could add channels to the system but we will need to purchase radios, etc.

RTA is very happy with us as they add buses they don't have to work on the radio side.

Are new users paying user fees? Yes, if none public safety they are paying user fees starting at \$10 per month per radio.

#### **Subscriber Planning Sub-Committee**

Chief Dickey discussed the subscriber group and how it needs a charter to guide them.

Capt. Franke discusses early decisions need to be made including pricing for mass purchase vs. individual agency purchase. This includes our future with AES encryption vs. ADP encryption. Service life ends on 12/31/2018, but we will be able to maintain them beyond this date.

Chief Dickey discussed that we should have a financial strategic plan in place, to include all aspects of the system.

Motion by Chief Mike Dickey to direct BRICS to come up with a Financial Strategic Plan for the next 5 years, including all aspects of the radio system. Second by Chief John Detherage. **PASSED**

**Good of the Order:**

Jeff Galloway; when radios are re-touched does the committee pass this to BRICS? EMA Template is a mess since last touch. Law templates were not critical with last touch.

Capt. Franke reports the templates were brought to the Advisory Board and they approved them. Jeff Galloway would like for templates to be looked at by the agencies before programming into the radios. EMA channels are no longer encrypted, which causes issues.

Capt. Franke reports the non-encrypted was a mistake. BRICS will correct that as soon as possible. The PSAP mains were discussed early on in the Advisory Board to restrict the mains.

Chief Detherage; this needs looked at again as mutual aid is a problem with channel assignments.

Galloway; EMA needs to have main channels for use in an emergency. EMA will not make a habit of talking on mains; will only be used in an emergency. Additionally, they cannot scan firegrounds.

Capt. Franke; Firegrounds came from the AB also for managing fires. Commanders carry extra radios when at an incident.

Chief Detherage; Maybe we need to look at a different template for Commanders.

Dennis Dick; West Chester was a proponent of allowing local mains to be opened. The bigger problem is firegrounds are not being utilized properly so the main is the way to get ahold of the agency.

Capt. Franke; we will look at this

Thank you to Chief Tony Goller for his years of service to the committee. He has been here since the beginning and we thank him for his service.

Next meeting: March 26, 2015

Meeting adjourned at: 3:05 PM

Respectfully,

*Richard A. Miller*  
Secretary



Butler County Sheriff's Office  
Communications Division



# BRICS

Butler Regional Interoperable  
Communications System

800MHz Advisory Board  
January 22, 2015



# Update Agenda Items

- New Agencies & Users
- Statistics
- Subscriber Planning
- Radio Maintenance Plan

# New Agencies & Users

## ■ BRICS Users

- BCRTA - Middletown

## ■ Interoperability Users

- Forest Park FD (48)
- Glendale FD (1)
- Mariemont FD (18)
- Milford PD (22)
- North College Hill PD (28)
- Red Cross (1)
- Springdale FD (2)
- Woodlawn PD (6)



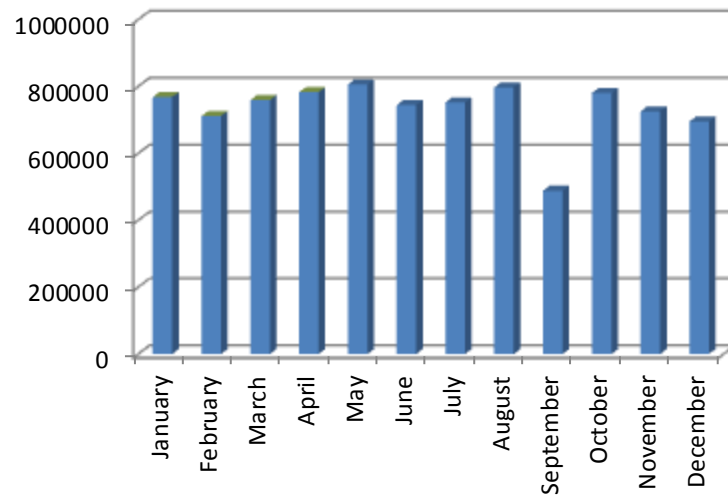
# Statistics

## 2014 (Jan – Dec)

- 8,814,516 PTTs
- 287 Busy Calls  
(Radio System Upgrade / MARCS Integration September, 2014)

## 2015 (Jan)

- 417,257 PTTs
- 13 Busy Calls / Total of 27 seconds



Jan - Dec 2014	
Radio PTTs	
January	768,473
February	711,962
March	759,514
April	783,315
May	806,420
June	744,451
July	752,612
August	797,520
September	488,456
October	780,382
November	726,065
December	695,346

2015	
Radio PTTs	
January 1-19	417,257

- 2945 radio users
- 370 talkgroups
- 33 dispatch consoles at 8 dispatch sites
- 15 channels
- Repairs and purchases
  - 2014 – 1476
  - 2015 – 19

# Subscriber Planning

- XTS / XTL Discontinuation. Our radios:
  - Manufactured in 2008, into service in 2009
- We will need a phased approach for replacement.
- Subscriber Planning Committee
  - Committee has met a few times to discuss the APX line of radios
  - Meet next month (Thurs 2/26 @ 1:30pm)

## NOTIFICATION OF INTENT TO CANCEL

This email serves as the Intent to cancel notification for the XTS 5000 & XTL 5000 ASTRO Subscriber Radios.

XTS 5000 PORTABLE RADIOS



XTL 5000 MOBILE RADIO



XTS/XTL 5000 Last Order Entry: October 31, 2013  
XTS/XTL 5000 Last Customer Scheduled Ship Date: November 30, 2013  
XTS/XTL 5000 Last Field Service 5 years Support to conclude: December 31, 2018.

Note: There are no cancellation dates set for XTS 2500 & XTL 2500 at this time.

# 2014 Radio Maintenance Plan

<i>2014 Pay-In</i>	
Butler County Commissioners Projected Budget	\$98,875.00
Portable/Mobile Maintenance Invoiced	\$52,550.00
Portable/Mobile Maintenance Received	<b>\$51,125.00</b>
Portable/Mobile Maintenance Outstanding	\$1,425.00
Repair/Purchase Invoiced	\$32,505.31
Repair/Purchase Received	<b>\$31,067.31</b>
Repair/Purchase Outstanding	\$1,438.00
<i>2014 Expense</i>	
Battery/Parts Purchase	\$44,800.00
Motorola Repair Depot Cost / Mobilcomm Service	\$20,882.01
Service Monitor Rental - Radio PM	\$8,400.00
Total Expense	<b>\$74,082.01</b>



# Committee Reports

- PSAP Committee
- Fire Communications Committee
- Law Enf. Communications Committee
- Plain Language Committee



# Meeting Schedule

- Schedule:

- January

- March

- May

- July

- September

- Next meeting

March 26<sup>th</sup> @ 1:30p