

RESOLUTION NO. 11- 007

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR OF THE VILLAGE OF THORNVILLE TO ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE PERRY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO NEGOTIATE AND ACT UPON BEHALF OF THE VILLAGE OF THORNVILLE IN PROCURING PUBLIC SAFETY FUNDS THROUGH THE 2011 NATIONAL FIRE ACT GRANT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, the Village desires to participate with Perry County and other political subdivisions in Perry County in applying for a consolidated Regional Fire Grant to modernize the public safety communication system of Perry County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF THORNVILLE, COUNTY OF PERRY, STATE OF OHIO, TWO-THIRDS OF ITS MEMBERS ELECTED THERETO CONCURRING THAT:


Section 1. The Mayor is hereby authorized and directed to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Perry County Board of Commissioners and other political subdivisions in Perry County to have the County Commissioners negotiate and act upon behalf of the Village of Thornville in procuring public safety funds through the 2011 National Fire Act Grant in order to modernize the public safety communications of Perry County, Ohio.

Section 2. Council declares this Resolution to be an emergency for the reason that the grant application must be completed by July 28, 2011, and passage of this Resolution is necessary to ensure timely submission of the grant application. Accordingly, this Resolution shall become effective upon passage.

Passed this 25th day of July, 2011.


Beth A. Patrick, Mayor

ATTEST:


Sandy Davis, Clerk of Council

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

D. Michael Crites, Solicitor

**Public Safety Consolidated Communications Improvement Plan
Perry County, Ohio
May 2011**

Introduction

Lead Contact Information

Perry County EMA
121 West Brown Street
P.O. Box 657
New Lexington, Ohio 43764
Rita Spicer, Director
740.342.1141

Dispatch Contact Information

Perry County Sheriff
Primary 9-1-1 PSAP, County
110 West Brown Street
New Lexington, Ohio 43764
Randy Barker, Sheriff
740.342.4123

New Lexington Police Department
Primary 9-1-1 PSAP, City
215 South Main Street
New Lexington, Ohio 43764
Scott Ervin, Chief
740.342.4111

Radio Information Contact

Perry County Public Safety Radio Committee
121 West Brown Street
P.O. Box 657
New Lexington, Ohio 43764
John Arkley
740.342.1141

Perry County EMA
121 West Brown Street
P.O. Box 657
New Lexington, Ohio 43764
Brent Runge
740.342.1141

Managers of Radio Systems in the County

All political subdivisions manage and maintain their respective systems.

Executive Overview

Perry County's public safety agencies have struggled with outdated interagency communications systems for more than twenty years, utilizing a hodgepodge of various radios and frequencies. Recently, the county commissioners and the Emergency Management Agency committed to become part of the State of Ohio Tactical Interoperability Communications Plan (TICP). This move was complemented by the Perry County 9-1-1 system's installation of an IP (Internet Protocol) enabled system with computer-aided-dispatch (CAD with a GIS Location-Based Response System) in 2010. We are presently replacing the 1970's-vintage analog radio consoles with state-of-the art IP-enabled consoles, using approved EMA grant funds from 2008, 2009 and 2010.

The county effort is to now migrate to a more usable and robust communications plan over the next five years, following the TICP strategy. This plan is to build an IP platform, using the addition of a fiber optic cable the county's EMA radio tower as a base. To accomplish this, Perry County has

b) Generally describe the type of topography/terrain of service area.

i) Roads:

Three major highways transect Perry County, State Highway 93, State Highway 37 and State Highway 13. The Norfolk & Eastern Railroad also has a major line which transverses the County.

ii) Waterways:

The Rush Creek Watershed Project lies in the eastern part of the county.

iii) Terrain:

Perry County lies in the southeastern part of Ohio and is mainly comprised of rolling hills, woodlands and farmland.

c) Identify the type of structures that present special challenges within the service area (e.g. tunnels, high rise buildings, industrial complexes).

Perry State Forest is a popular tourist attraction.

Wayne Nation Forest is a popular tourist attraction numerous ATV trails, creating accidents and public safety responses of all types.

d) Identify dispatch center(s) that dispatch for the public safety agencies within geographic area.

The Perry County Sheriff is the primary public dispatching agency for the county and its townships villages. The New Lexington Police Department is the primary public safety dispatching agency for the Village of New Lexington.

Frequencies Used and Licensed in County

a) List frequencies used in the county and the agencies that hold the FCC license.

See Appendices A & B

b) List persons responsible for maintaining licensing of frequencies (FCC compliance).

See Appendices A & B

Intergovernmental Agreements

Briefly describe the formal and/or informal communications arrangements that presently exist within the planning area. Examples: memoranda of understanding, mutual aid agreements, historical perspective or practice, contract, etc.

The Perry County 9-1-1 Final Plan outlines some public safety communication agreements. Mutual aid agreements are in place in some agencies. A project is in place to reestablish continuity in all agreements.

have access to surrounding Sheriff's Offices MARCS frequencies. Perry County fire and EMS have the capability to talk to surrounding counties using portable radios on the State of Ohio MARCS system.

- e) Describe how current and planned channels will be implemented in the ICS system for major events.*

Each entity identified in the plan uses radio communications as described in Appendices A & B. All Fire Departments in the County are equipped with 450 MHz mobile radios and they have portable Ohio MARCS radios.

- f) Describe known interoperability gaps and challenges.*

There is no formal communications plan in Perry County that ensures interoperability. Perry County does not have a Mobile Command Post. The 33.98MHz backbone provides poor radio communications between agencies. There is no redundancy for communications within the County.

- g) Identify actions in progress to address short- and long-term problems and provide associated timeline for completion.*

Perry County will develop an ICS Communications Plan and include it in the Perry County EOP as an attachment. A copy of the Plan will also be placed in each emergency response vehicle.

Perry County is actively seeking funding to develop a completely interoperable digital microwave IP-based radio system.

Perry County will define the requirements for a Perry County Shared Radio 450MHz system, operating on the self healing digital Wireless LAN.

Perry County will include future requests to extend services to the Perry State Forest and the Wayne National Forest. Perry County will engineer a broadband solution based on defined requirements including equipment needed, frequency license requirements, repeater location agreements, etc.

Perry County will develop a system cost estimate and seek funding to implement.

Identify Countywide Problems

- a) Identify gaps and challenges that cannot be addressed at this time.*

There are no user-friendly inter-county communications. This problem will be compounded unless the surrounding counties actively develop their TICP programs.

- b) Identify or describe plans to conduct, or results of, any emergency management training exercises that test communications within the county.*

Emergency Communications Exercise/Drills are conducted annually by the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC).

- c) Identify existing communications plans, if any, of system users including on-going plans to develop the communications infrastructure.*

Perry County Public Safety Communications
121 W. Brown Street
P.O. Box 657
New Lexington, Ohio 43764
740.342.1141 Office
740.343.1685 Fax

Memorandum of Understanding

Date: July 26, 2011

This memorandum of understanding between:

Village of Thornville, 3 South Main Street Thornville, Ohio
(Political Subdivision and Address)

and the Perry County Board of Commissioners; 121 West Brown Street, New Lexington, Ohio 43764 authorizes the Board of Commissioners to negotiate and act on behalf of:

Village of Thornville
(Political Subdivision)

In procuring public safety funds through the 2011 National Fire Act Grant. We understand that this will be a collaborative agreement with all Perry County political subdivisions, to modernize our aging public safety radio communications system. We also understand that all funds made available through this grant will be used solely for the purpose of this project, outlined in the Perry County Broadband Public Safety Communications Plan (a copy is attached).

Signed:

Bea Patrick, Mayor

July 26, 2011
Date

Date

Date