

BERKS COUNTY FIRE SERVICES WORKING GROUP
Meeting Minutes – March 29, 2018

ATTENDANCE:

Zone 1	<input type="checkbox"/> Matt Brett (alt)	<input type="checkbox"/> Ethan Kunkel	<input type="checkbox"/> “Open” (alt)
Zone 2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dean Dalious	<input type="checkbox"/> Blair Miller	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ken Quell (alt)
Zone 3	<input type="checkbox"/> Bob Martin	<input type="checkbox"/> Lester Feick	<input type="checkbox"/> Corey Hauser (alt)
Zone 4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Colin Hackman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Avery Leshen	<input type="checkbox"/> “Open” (alt)
Zone 5/6	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chris Bickings	<input type="checkbox"/> Chris Schaeffer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Eric Fox
	<input type="checkbox"/> Scott Reitnauer		
Zone 7	<input type="checkbox"/> Tom Kemery	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tom Rehr	<input type="checkbox"/> Brian Thorpe (alt)
BCFA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Roger Weidenhammer	<input type="checkbox"/> Leon Grim	
BCFPA	<input type="checkbox"/> Randy Minninger	<input type="checkbox"/> “Open” (alt)	
Task Force	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scott Landis	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Corey Heimbach	
Berks DES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brian Gottschall	<input type="checkbox"/> Sean Hart	<input type="checkbox"/> Tony Flores
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Todd Boughter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Christina Wood	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jon Fritz
Forestry 17	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Derrick Etter		

***Ron Wentzel, Vice Chair Emeritus**

Other Attendees: Richard Deppon

The meeting was called to order by Colin Hackman, Chair at 18:13 hours in the Berks County Department of Emergency Services conference room, located in the Direct Link Building, Bernville Road, Reading, PA.

The January 25, 2019 Meeting Minutes were emailed to the group by Chairman Hackman. There were no changes requested or made.

DISCUSSION

Forestry 17 - DCNR (Etter):

- Derrick Etter, introduced himself to the group, and reported that he will make it a point to attend the WG Meetings.
- There have been several changes with the local wardens.
- They asked DES about how to talk to Berks Departments on the radio. DES reviewed setting up links between Berks Departments and DCNR.

BCFPA: No Report

BCFA (Weidenhammer): No Report

Training: No Report.. The Committee did not meet due to inclement weather.

East-Central Task Force (Landis): The training is underway

Zone 1: No Report

Zone 2 (Daliou):

- There are concerns about the quality of the dispatching audio. It is believed that it is getting worse.
- The Zone would like a dedicated dispatcher for Ops Channels. DES reported that this is not possible now due to budgetary constraints.
- The Zone has concerns with the recently released House Siren Policy. Departments do not wish to have the house siren activated for assisting EMS calls. DES reported they will work with the departments with a house siren on a remedy.
- Zone 2 now has a Facebook page to help disseminate information.

Zone 3(Martin via email): Concerns about the level of tone and audio on dispatch channel. DES reported that it remains a dispatcher problem, and to contact the Watch Officer at the time of the problem.

Zone 4 (Hackman): No Report

Zone 5/6 (Fox): Questioned how come when an accident with no injuries is upgraded by police on location, the fire department is not always sent? DES reported that the call is coded by the information provided by the police.

Zone 7: No Report

DES:

- FirstNet: DES has met with ATT twice about the FirstNet program. According to DES the pricing is great for smaller department / plans. Berks County is currently looking into the service, but ATT has not been cooperative with requested information. Verizon will recently announced their own Public Safety System to begin by end of March 2018.
- Location Services: DES is working with Motorola with the possibility to enable the location services portion of the hand units and mobiles. Mobile units will need a GPS antenna installed in all apparatuses for the mobile radio to be functional for this service. Hand units will receive the necessary updates in the upcoming fleet update. All costs associated with this will be paid by the County.

A question was raised about the availability of history data for locations. DES reported that the information is available but will not be released without a court subpoena.

- P25 Bulk Purchase: DES is putting together the BID specifications, and the purchase will be completed by the BID only. Currently, the BID includes:
 - One large purchase with 3-year 0% financing with a price lock for any department
 - One template for initial programming. Department can have programming changed after purchase.
 - No shipping / handling costs.
 - 24-month warranty for pagers and 12-month warranty for accessories.
 - Loaner program if pagers require repair.
- House Siren: The new CAD will not have ability to have house siren tones set for specific call types. Departments will need to do one of the following:
 - Have house siren activated for all calls
 - Have house siren activated for no calls
 - Have house siren activated for all calls, except QRS/Assist EMS
 - Create a vehicle in CAD, and have it activated for local calls only

- Radio Re-fleeting:
 - Currently being held up by location services because of cost.
 - Departments need to make sure that all radios have been updated with any previous updates prior to re-fleeting flash.
 - New Zone layouts and all changes handouts provided (Attached)
- ECAD: Dispatchers will not have the ability to see who is due on the next alarms, as they are now. Departments will need to know how their run cards are set up.

New Business:

- County-wide Recruitment / Retention Program: A conversation was presenting by Chris Bickings asking everyone's opinion about researching a county-wide recruitment / retention program. Chester County recently received a grant for one and has hired a marketing firm to assist with the program.
- 911 Memorial Ride: There will be a 911 Memorial bicycle ride on Saturday, April 21, 2018.
- Corey Heimbach asked is Boyertown Area Fire and Rescue officers could be added to all vehicle reported in a structure dispatches so that the collapse unit has the ability to prepare if there is a need for them to respond. After a discussion, DES informed Corey that the individual departments would need to request that for their run cards.
- The State Fire Assistance Grant for forestry is currently open for applications until the end of May.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 29, 2018 at the Direct Link conference room. The start time will be determined.

Respectfully Submitted,
Chris Bickings, Secretary

ATTACHMENTS

13-13

County Fire Programming Template - Updated 2018-02-21

Front Display	Brks Fire A	Brks EMS	EMS-Hospital	RdgEMS	Rdg Fire	Brks Fire Pol	Brks Interops	Local EMA	Brks Fire Trg	
Top Display	BrksFirA	BrksEMS	BrksHosp	RdgEMS	RdgFire	BrksFPol	BrkIntOp	BrksLocalEMA	BrksFTrg	On Some Radios, There Could Be 1-3 Customer Zones In This Position
C1	BrksFireA	BrksEMS	MedComm	Rdg EMSDisp	Rdg FireDisp	Fire Pol CW	L/L IOp	BrksLocalEMA	BrksFTrg1	
C2	BrksFireB	BrksEMSOps 1	RHTH Command	Rdg EMSOps1	Rdg FireOps1	FP Ops N1	L/H IOp	BrksDES	BrksFTrg2	
C3	BrksFirOps 1	BrksEMSOps 2	RHTH Report	Rdg EMSOps2	Rdg FireOps2	FP Ops N2	VCall10 IOp	BrksDES Ops1	BrksFirTrgN1	
C4	BrksFirOps 2	BrksEMSAadm1	SJMC Command	MedComm	Rdg FireOps3	FP Ops S1	VTact14 IOp	BrksDES Ops2	BrksFirTrgN2	
C5	BrksFirOps 3	BrksEMSAadm2	SJMC Report	RHTH Command	Rdg FireOps4	FP Ops S2	295 IOp	BrksFireA	BrksFirTrgS1	
C6	BrksFirOps 4	Rdg EMSDisp	Disast Hlth 1	RHTH Report	Rdg FireAdmn	BrksFireA	.070 IOp	BrksFireB	BrksFirTrgS2	
C7	BrksFirOps 5	Rdg EMSOps1	Disast Hlth 2	SJMC Command	Rdg FM	BrksFireB		BrksFirOps 1	BrksExerCW	
C8	BrksFirOps 6	RdgFireOps1	BrksEMSOps 1	SJMC Report	Rdg EMSDisp	BrksFirOps 1	UCall40 IOp	BrksFirOps 2		
C9	BrksFirOps 7	BrksFireA	BrksEMSOps 2	Disast Hlth 1	Rdg EMSOps1	BrksFirOps 2	UTac41 IOp	BrksFirOps 3		
C10	BrksFirOps 8	BrksFireB	Rdg EMSOps1	BrksEMS	Rdg EMSOps2	BrksFirOps 3	UTac42 IOp	BrksFirOps 4		
C11	BrksFirAdm N	BrksFirOps 1	Rdg EMSOps2	BrksEMSOps 1		BrksFirOps 4	8Call90 IOp	BrksFirOps 5		
C12	BrksFirAdm S	BrksFirOps 2		BrksEMSOps 2		BrksFirOps 5	8Tact91 IOp	BrksFirOps 6	Rdg EMSDisp	
C13	BrksEMS	BrksFirOps 3		Rdg EMA	Rdg EMA	BrksFirOps 6	8Tact92 IOp	BrksRedCross	Rdg FireDisp	
C14	Fire/EMSDisp	Fire/EMSDisp	Fire/EMSDisp	CWIntraOp	CWIntraOp	Fire/EMSDisp	8Tact93 IOp	Fire/EMSDisp	Fire/EMSDisp	
C15	CWIntraOp	CWIntraOp	CWIntraOp	RdgIntraOp	RdgIntraOp	CWIntraOp	BrksKnox	CWIntraOp	CWIntraOp	
C16	County EMERG	County EMERG	County EMERG	Rdg EMERG	Rdg EMERG	County EMERG	County EMERG	County EMERG	County EMERG	

Front Display	Brks PW	Brks Disaster	Maint & Admin	800 Nats	700 Nat 50	700 Nat 60	700 Nat 70	700 Nat 80	700 NatAir2Grd	800 Mob Rptr
Top Display	BrksPW	BrksDstr	M&A	800Nats	700Nat50	700Nat60	700Nat70	700Nat80	700NatAG	800MbRpt
C1	BrksPW R 1	Disaster N1	POP 25	8CALL90	7CALL50	7LAW61	7CALL70	7LAWB1	7AG59D	8MOBRPTR1
C2	BrksPW R 2	Disaster N2	Rad Maint N	8CALL90D	7CALL50D	7LAW61D	7CALL70D	7LAW81D	7AG60D	8MOBRPTR2
C3	BrksPW R 3	Disaster N3	Rad Maint S	8TAC91	7TAC51	7LAW62	7TAC71	7LAW82	7AG67D	8MOBRPTR3
C4	BrksPW R 4	Disaster N4	Rad Main CW	8TAC91D	7TAC51D	7LAW62D	7TAC71D	7LAW82D	7AG68D	
C5	BrksPW R 5	Disaster N5		8TAC92	7TAC52	7FIRE63	7TAC72	7FIRE83	7AG78D	
C6	BrksPW R 6	Disaster S1		8TAC92D	7TAC52D	7FIRE63D	7TAC72D	7FIRE83D	7AG80D	
C7	BrksPW R 7	Disaster S2		8TAC93	7TAC53	7FIRE64	7TAC73	7FIRE84	7AG85D	
C8	BrksPW R 8	Disaster S3		8TAC93D	7TAC53D	7FIRE64D	7TAC73D	7FIRE84D	7AG88D (LZ)	
C9	BrksPW R 9	Disaster S4		8TAC94	7TAC55	7MED65	7TAC74	7MED86		
C10	BrksPW R 10	Disaster S5		8TAC94D	7TAC55D	7MED65D	7TAC74D	7MED86D		
C11	BrksPW R 11	Disaster CW1			7TAC56	7MED66	7TAC75	7MED87		
C12	BrksPW R 12	Disaster CW2			7TAC56D	7MED66D	7TAC75D	7MED87D		
C13	BksPWIntraOp	Disaster CW3			7MOB59		7TAC76			
C14	Fire/EMSDisp	Disaster CW4			7MOB59D		7TAC76D			
C15	CWIntraOp	Disaster CW5					7MOB79			
C16	County EMERG	County EMERG	TelePatchADP	BrksKnox			7MOB79D			

Front Display	700 Tac
Top Display	700Tac
C1	Brks7TAC1D
C2	Brks7TAC2D
C3	Brks7TAC3D
C4	Brks7TAC4D
C5	Brks7TAC5D
C6	Brks7TAC6D
C7	Brks7TAC7D
C8	Brks7TAC8D
C9	Brks7TAC9D
C10	Brks7TAC10D
C11	Brks7TAC11D
C12	Brks7TAC12D
C13	
C14	
C15	
C16	

NOTE - This is an "A" template. For a "B" template the programming is identical except the Fire A and B positions are reversed.

Summary of Subscriber Changes Spring, 2018

Radio Model(s) Impacted	Primary Discipline	Change
All – Zone Mode Map	EMS	ALS and BLS Command/Report Talkgroups redesigned – see detailed information on these changes
All – Zone Mode Map	ALL	FlightOPs 1 and 2 - Talkgroups decommissioned
All – Zone Mode Map	LAW	BksPDIntraOp - Talkgroup decommissioned
All – Zone Mode Map	LAW	LawOps CW 2 – Talkgroup created; replaces BksPDIntraOp in ZMM
All – Zone Mode Map	ALL CITY	RdgDID 1 – Talkgroup renamed to RdgDID
All – Zone Mode Map	ALL CITY	RdgDID 2 – Talkgroup deleted
All – Zone Mode Map	ALL CITY	RdgParking – Talkgroup created; new agency on system
All – Zone Mode Map	ALL CITY	RdgWater – Talkgroup deleted; agency left system
All – Zone Mode Map	LAW	SEBrks RegPD – Talkgroup renamed to Amity Reg PD
All – Zone Mode Map	CITY EMS	In RdgEMS zone, RdgFireDisp and RdgEMSAdmin have been deleted and replaced with both local hospital report TGs. See radio templates for reordering sequence.
All – Zone Mode Map	FIRE	BrksFireOps 7 and 8 – New talkgroups created
All – Zone Mode Map	CITY FIRE	Rdg FireAdmin and Rdg FM – New talkgroups created
All – Zone Mode Map	SHERIFF	All (6) Sheriff Warrants TGs deleted and replaced with (3) Sheriff Warrants TGS BrksSherWr 1, 2, 3
All – Zone Mode Map	CITY EMS	RdgEMSAdmin – Talkgroup deleted
All – Zone Mode Map	ALL	Maint and Admin Zone Changes – DynRgrp – Talkgroup deleted. All POP25 talkgroups deleted except one,
All – Zone Mode Map	ALL	Updated ZMM templates for disciplines/groups are available at www.berksdes.com . These new templates reflect any reordering/changing of modes within zones.
All – Zone Mode Map	ALL	TGs have been updated with respect to their site broadcast access. See the TG appendix of the Fireld User SOP for details. Generally, most previously “south only” talkgroups now broadcast in both sites but remain with a south only name to designate their intended use.
All – Zone Mode Map	ALL	Removed any County designated legacy zones that remained in the radios from system cutover (Old City 800, Zone 4 VHF channels, etc.)
All – Zone Mode Map	ALL	Per NIFOG 1.6 a new package of interop channels have been implemented following the existing 700 MHz interop channels. These channels are designated for air to ground use. NOTE – local aircraft do not have this capability at this time and, like the other 700 MHz interop channels, these are generally for use during a major incident and are added in the radios to keep the radios current with national standards for the provision of mutual aid.

All – Zone Mode Map	LAW	Nat PD IOp has been added into the BrksIOp zone in radio intended to be so equipped. In non-LAW radio, this mode appears as a BLANK.
All – Zone Mode Map	All CITY NON- EMERG	The BrksFireTrg zone has been added to all City non-emergency agency templates to ensure that these agencies can participate in training/exercises with emergency agencies if desired.
All – Zone Mode Map	LAW	Mode 2 in the Regional Police zone in all law enforcement radios is standardized as Sheriff Patrol.
All	ALL	800 MHz conventional interop channels have had their channel width and deviation changed to 4 kHz/20kHz to match national standards and surrounding counties on these channels (8Call and Tacs)
All	LAW	Channel announcements and zone announcements have been added for all talkgroups/zones that did not previously have them except PDDispA, PDDispB and regional PD TGs.
All portables except APX 4000	ALL	Scan on/off has been moved to ABC slider on top of radio (A – scan off; B or C – scan on)
All portables except APX 4000	ALL	Top side button (purple) is now audio playback instead of scan on/off – long press of button will begin playing back any audio received by radio in the last 30 sec. Follow-up presses will end message being played back and go to next message. Total number of available transmissions are shown on screen during playback.
All	ALL	Time difference between emergency button press (activation) and emergency button press (deactivate) has been increased. This is an attempt to avoid accidental reactivations when deactivating. The deactivation press is now 3000 msec.
All Portables	ALL	Made significant changes to audio parameters to improve perceived audio quality by brightening the sound. This involved an implementation of new audio parameters available in most current firmware.
All Portables	ALL	Updated programming of radio audio profiles as above. Surveillance, Normal and Loud profiles have matching audio parameters now (we cannot delete these, so they must remain there but redundant). The only difference among these profiles is that Search/Surveillance will turn off lights and radio generated tone/audio for such operations.
All XE portables with Xtreme One-Sided Noise Reduction	ALL	This adds a 4 th profile to the radio that is configured as per Motorola default for noise cancellation in “XTREME” environments. Testing has indicated that there is not a need to use this profile as the level of noise at which it is required is beyond that in which someone would reasonably be using a radio. This profile imposes incredible limitations on the use of the radio and agencies that own radios with this capability are encouraged to be sure they understand what this does and use it with caution.

BERKS COUNTY FIRE SERVICES WORKING GROUP

March 29, 2018 – Attendance Sign-in Sheet

Zone 1

Matt Brett (alt)

Dean Dalious

Dean Dalious

Ethan Kunkel

Zone 2

Blair Miller

"Open" (alt)

Ken Quell

Ken Quell (alt)

Zone 3

Bob Martin

Colin Hackman

Colin Hackman

Lester Feick

Avery Leshert

Avery Leshert

Corey Hauser (alt)

Zone 4

Chris Bickings

Chris Bickings

Zone 5/6

Chris Schaeffer

Eric Fox

Eric Fox

Scott Reitnauer

"Open" (alt)

Zone 7

Tom Kemery

Roger Weidenhammer

Roger Weidenhammer

Tom Rehr

BCFA

Leon Grim

BCFPA

Randy Minninger

Scot Landis

Scot Landis

"Open" (alt)

Task Force

Corey Heimbach

Corey Heimbach

Berks DES

Brian Gottschall

Brian Gottschall

Todd Boughter

Todd Boughter

Sean Hart

Christina Wood

Christina Wood

Tony Flores

Jon Fritz

Jon Fritz

Forestry 17

Troy Withers

Troy Withers

Other Attendees

Richard Deppan