

OHIO AMBER ALERT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

October 25, 2016

Ohio Department of Transportation
1980 West Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43223

Ohio AMBER Alert Advisory Committee Chairman, Captain Kenneth Kocab, called to order the October 25, 2016 meeting of the Ohio AMBER Alert Advisory Committee at approximately 10:04 a.m. The first order of business was the roll call taken by Lindy Davis, OSHP.

I. ROLL CALL - PRESENT

Department of Public Safety, Ohio State Highway Patrol	Captain Kenneth Kocab
Ohio Attorney General's Office, Missing Persons Unit	Brent Currence
Local/Regional AMBER Plan, Mid-Ohio AMBER Alert	Clark Donley
Community Member	Harry Trombitas
Ohio Emergency Management Agency	Ronald (Dave) Ford
Buckeye State Sheriff's Association	Sheriff Ronald Myers
Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police	Chief Clayton Harris
Ohio Department of Transportation	Leslie Bricker
State Emergency Communications Committee	Paul Jellison

ROLL CALL – ABSENT

Ohio Association of Broadcasters	Christine Merritt
Federal Bureau of Investigation	Special Agent Kristin Cadieux
Victim's Advocate	Maggie Maloy

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Ohio State Highway Patrol	Lindy Davis
Ohio State Highway Patrol	Staff Lieutenant Craig Cvetan
Ohio State Highway Patrol	DM Lydia Frey
Ohio 911 Program Office	Nick Levin
MOAA	Tiffiney Hatem

A QUORUM WAS DECLARED

II. APPROVAL OF THE JULY 26, 2016 MEETING MINUTES

Captain Kocab asked the Ohio AMBER Alert Advisory Committee to review the minutes. Harry Trombitas made the motion to adopt the July 26, 2016 minutes, Chief Harris seconded. Motion carried by all.

III. OLD BUSINESS

A. Review of AMBER Alerts

Captain Kocab indicated there was five (5) AMBER alerts requested for the reporting period with only three (3) activated. He gave a brief overview of each. The children were recovered safe.

B. Review of Blue Alerts

Captain Kocab indicated there was no (0) Blue Alerts for the reporting period.

C. Review of Endangered Missing Child Alerts

Brent Currence indicated there were four (4) Endangered Missing Child Alerts for the reporting period. He gave a brief overview of each. One (1) child was found deceased with all others recovered safely.

D. Review of Endangered Missing Adult Alerts

There were forty-seven (47) Endangered Missing Adult Alerts for the reporting period. Brent Currence provided a brief overview of several of the alerts. All adults were recovered safely, with the exception of one (1) individual who was found deceased.

E. Airport Update

Captain Kocab inquired with Sheriff Myers if he had an update on the Akron-Canton Airport. Sheriff Myers shared he did not, but would reach out to his contact again.

Captain Kocab inquired with Chief Harris if he had an update on the Cleveland Airport. Chief Harris indicated they are requesting a written proposal detailing our request. Chief Harris suggested Lindy Davis draft something from the airport notes taken when Rob Jackson was chair. Captain Kocab indicated he would review the notes and follow-up.

In Kristin Cadieux's absence, Captain Kocab shared there is no change to the Columbus Airport update.

Brent Currence asked if we should involve CECOMS since they issue alerts in the Akron, Canton, and Cleveland areas. Captain Kocab indicated we would get in touch with CECOMS to get their input before finalizing.

Clark Donley shared he was not able to make contact with the Public Transit Association. He attempted to go through COTA, but has not received a response to date. He will reach out again.

F. AMBER Website Update

Captain Kocab shared BCI has control over the Ohio AMBER Alert.com domain name and the Department of Public Safety (DPS) has control over the Ohio AMBER Plan.org domain name. BCI stated they were going to let the .com domain name expire in December. Captain Kocab indicated he is working with DPS IT to take over the .com domain name.

Captain Kocab also provided an update reference the AMBER Alert cancellation add on to the website that was suggested in the last meeting. He indicated originally the AMBER website returned to the home screen after an alert was canceled. Going forward, when an AMBER Alert is canceled it will be noted as such with a short update on the victim. This information will remain active on the AMBER website for six (6) hours. He also shared the timeframe can be adjusted, if needed.

Clark Donley suggested the cancellation information include an update on the victim and suspect. Captain Kocab will include the status of the victim and if the suspect was located.

G. Training Update

Captain Kocab provided an update on the alert training completed since the last quarterly meeting. Training was provided to the Bexley Police Department on September 29 by Captain Kocab, Brent Currence, and DM Lydia Frey. There were approximately 20-30 individuals in attendance. Additional training is pending at Bexley PD for their community group, as well as, at the Regional Dispatch Center in Summit County.

Sheriff Myers shared with the election year, there may be several new sheriffs. As a result, he anticipates requests for training could increase and he offered to facilitate through the BSSA, if needed.

H. 2016 Ohio Alerts Conference Recap

Lindy Davis provided a recap of the 2016 Ohio Alerts Conference held in August. She indicated there were 146 individuals registered with 125 in attendance. The overall conference rating was 4.5 out of 5.0. The highest rated areas were the Jessica Lunsford Case Study, registration, and the venue, all with a rating of 4.8. The suggested improvements include more CART information, more handouts, and information on media perspective. The topics suggested for the 2017 conference included more case studies and information on the alerts, CART, and Project Lifesaver.

Lindy Davis asked for feedback from the committee members in attendance. Clark Donley suggested bringing someone from the academic area in to discuss public relations. This may be beneficial in helping to facilitate communications between agencies and their local media. Tiffiney Hatem pointed out, based on the feedback, the largest area for opportunity was CART information, but the least appreciated was Search and Rescue. She suggested going forward that Search and Rescue include more small case studies. Brent Currence shared there were extenuating circumstances that may have impacted this rating.

Lindy Davis indicated the planning of the 2017 Ohio Alerts Conference has already started. Brent Currence shared if anyone is interested in joining the planning committee to contact Lindy Davis.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Ohio AMBER Plan

Captain Kocab indicated the draft of the Ohio Alerts Plan was sent out to the committee for review. He shared a few minor changes were made after the draft was sent. Clark Donley

asked who the attended audience was for this document. Captain Kocab shared it is a source document that is generally kept in-house, but Fox Valley had requested a copy as part of their annual review. Tiffiney Hatem suggested adding an acronym listing to the document. Lindy Davis will make the requested changes.

B. WEA Improvements

Captain Kocab shared the FCC approved improvements to the WEA which will be implemented within the next 30 months. The improvements include:

- Increase the maximum length of the WEA messages from 90 to 360 characters for 4G LTE and future networks.
- Require participating wireless providers to support inclusion of embedded phone numbers and URLs in all WEA alerts, including WEA AMBER alerts.
- Require participating providers to deliver the alerts to more granular geographic areas.
- Create a new class of alerts to convey essential, recommended actions that can save lives or property. For example, emergency shelter locations or a boil water order.
- Require participating providers to support transmission of alerts in Spanish.
- Make it easier for state and local authorities to test WEA, train personnel, and raise public awareness about the service.

Brent Currence asked who writes the WEA message? Captain Kocab indicated we write the message based on an agreement with NCMEC. He shared EMA is switching to IPAWS and once the transition has been made, we are considering sending the WEA message in-house. As a result, when NCMEC calls we will inform them we have done the WEA and to go ahead and do the secondary distribution. Dave Ford shared they are training people now for 24 hour coverage.

C. 2016 AMBER Alerts - NCMEC

Captain Kocab indicated at the request of NCMEC, we provided an update of the Ohio AMBER Alert totals for 2016. As of 10/11/16, our AMBER alert count is six (6) and this is consistent with NCMEC's totals for Ohio.

He shared that NCMEC has received all the requested alert information (to date), with the exception of the last AMBER alert. Once the After Action Report is received from the requesting agency and the alert summary complete, Lindy Davis will forward the information to NCMEC.

D. 2017 Ohio AMBER Alert Advisory Committee Meeting Schedules

Lindy Davis shared the 2017 Ohio AMBER Alert Advisory Committee meeting schedule is enclosed in the committee packets. She indicated there has been a change in venue for 2017 and all quarterly meetings will held at the Shipley Building on the first floor.

Captain Kocab asked if there were any additional questions or topics. Clark Donley inquired about the expiration of the committee appointments. Lindy Davis will check the appointment dates and follow-up with the committee, via e-mail.

Sheriff Myers updated the committee reference the Ohio Educational Broadcasters. He shared they have been working on a system to send alerts across the state using the twelve public TV stations. He indicated they are going into the DAS system using the fiber optic network

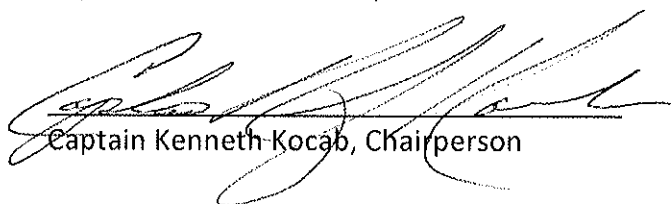
distributed around the state. This will be an enhancement to the current system and should be going online soon.

Brent Currence shared the participation in the National Missing Children's Day poster contest has been lacking in recent years. He asked the committee members to share the information with their agencies and resources to help boost participation. Clark Donley asked if the poster contest rules have been updated to include an online entry system for children that do their artwork on tablets. Brent Currence indicated the poster size is very specific and he would follow-up on digital submissions.

Nick Levan from the Ohio 911 Program Office spoke on behalf of Rob Jackson. He said Rob wanted to extend his gratitude to the committee for partnering with them on the 2016 Ohio State Fair booth. He said the booth was well received and a success.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:50 a.m. was made by Paul Jellison, seconded by Sheriff Myers. Motion carried by all.



Captain Kenneth Kocob, Chairperson

01-25-2017
Date