

OHIO AMBER ALERT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

January 16, 2018

Ohio Department of Public Safety
1970 West Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43223 – Room 1106

Ohio AMBER Alert Advisory Committee Chairman, Captain Kenneth Kocab, called to order the 16th January 2018 meeting of the Ohio AMBER Alert Advisory Committee at approximately 10:10 a.m. The first order of business was the roll call taken by Lydia Frey, OSHP.

I. ROLL CALL - PRESENT

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

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Ohio State Highway Patrol	Dispatch Manager Lydia Frey
Ohio State Highway Patrol	Disp. Supr. Laura Windbigler

A QUORUM WAS DECLARED

II. APPROVAL OF THE OCTOBER 24, 2017 MEETING MINUTES

Captain Kocab asked the Ohio AMBER Alert Advisory Committee to review the minutes. Harry Trombitas made the motion to adopt. Clark Donley seconded. Motion carried by all.

III. OLD BUSINESS

A. Review of AMBER Alerts

Captain Kocab indicated there was one (1) AMBER Alert for the reporting period. He gave a brief overview of the alert and noted the "WEA" played a part in the recovery of the child. Harry Trombitas made a recommendation to ask the suspect after the alert was cancelled if he or she was aware of the alert and if it played a part in their decision to return the child. The "After Action Report" will be reviewed to see if it can be updated with this information.

B. Review of Blue Alerts

Captain Kocab indicated there were zero (0) Blue Alerts for the reporting period.

C. Review of Endangered Missing Child Alerts

Brent Currence provided a review of the Endangered Missing Child Alerts to date for 2017. Four (4) children were recovered safe. An overview was provided on the alerts. There have been a total of 19 alerts for the year.

D. Review of Endangered Missing Adult Alerts

Brent Currence provided a review of the Endangered Missing Adult Alerts to date for 2017. There were thirty (30) Endangered Missing Adult Alerts for this reporting period. Two were found deceased. Agencies are doing better with requesting the alerts. Fewer alerts were issued in 2017 than in 2016. After hours, the helpdesk at BCI handles the alerts. Brent does it during regular business hours. Vicki German's replacement has not been fully trained yet. Social media sites for agencies on alerts were also discussed with the group.

E. Airport/Public Transit Update

Captain Kocab had no updates on the airport and Clark Donley had no updates on the municipal league. Leslie Bricker was going to check with her contacts for additional information on the municipal league, however, she was not present at the meeting.

F. AMBER Website Update

Captain Kocab is still working with DPS IT on the recommendation to add stats for the alerts. Hopefully they will have something to test in the next couple of months. He is also working on the end of the year reports. Information from 2017 will be archived once this meeting is completed. No other updates to report.

G. Training Update

Captain Kocab provided an update on the training since the last quarterly meeting. Staff Lieutenant Cvetan and Lydia attended training in Northeast Ohio. Brent had CART training scheduled for January 17, 2018, but it was cancelled. He also did some training on Missing Persons Alerts in Youngtown Ohio.

H. Ohio AMBER Alert Advisory Committee Appointments

Captain Kocab advised committee member appointments were completed. Certificates were handed out to Chief Harris and Brent Currence.

I. 2017 Ohio Alerts Conference Surveys

Christine Merritt discussed the comments on the surveys. Of the 153 attendees, half responded with surveys. Overall, ratings were pretty high. Most beneficial – Holly Nick/family of victims speaking, FBI – Behavioral Analysis, and the breakout sessions. Improvements needed - issues with AV equipment. One suggestion was to have a designated IT person on site during the conference. Other items discussed listed on the survey – length of the conference day, tighten it up or make it two days. Other training topics – more case studies and table top exercises and sessions related to human trafficking. Dispatch focus training – call intake related to AMBER Alerts. Dispatcher related training was discussed with committee. Conference vs. separate training. Fox Valley will do a table top but it is all day and requires a minimum of 70 students. Brent was going to bring this topic up at the next training meeting with the committee. Training class with Ohio APCO and Alerts Committee was also discussed. Brent and Lydia are checking on the dispatch training. Regional training vs. training held in

Central Ohio. Sheriff Myer from Harrison County SO is also checking with training for dispatchers within BSSA. Also discussed Lydia, Brent and LEADS doing the training.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

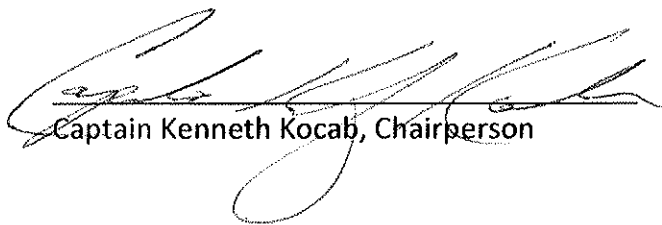
2018 Ohio Alerts Conference – Brent will have Vicki’s replacement at the upcoming meetings. Discussed members on the conference committee. Adding Dave Ford for the IT portion. Brent’s assistant will send a few dates to the committee for the first meeting. It will continue to be at the Shipley.

Dave Ford – Blue Alert – Emergency Alert System – The FCC approved the EAS to be used for Blue Alerts on December 14, 2017. Manufacturers have 6 months and vendors have 12 months to create a code for the Blue Alert. Broadcasters already have the equipment, they just need the code. For cell phones, the vendors are given 18 months. This is volunteer for the originators but mandatory for the receivers (cell phone carriers and broadcasters). EAS plans are in the process of being updated. The Ohio Plan is being updated with this information. It has not been updated since 2003 so additional changes had been made to it. OSP will need to update their alerts plan. 20 counties in Ohio have IPAWS. Franklin, Delaware and Hamilton Counties just received their IPAWS equipment. Dave also noted there is no test side for WEA.

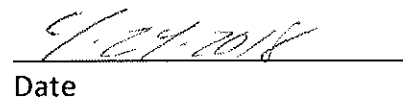
New Business – Clark Donley asked if anyone heard of Drive TV (streams videos, etc.). No one had heard of it.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:19 a.m. was made by Sheriff Harrison, seconded by Christine Merritt. Motion carried by all.



Captain Kenneth Kocab, Chairperson



Date