

Lake Consolidated Emergency Communications (LakeComm)



LakeComm Fire/EMS Chiefs Advisory Committee

Agenda Report - Final

Wednesday, December 4, 2024

1:00 PM

**LOCATION: Public Works Conference Room
648 W. Winchester Road Libertyville, IL**

1. Call to Order

- Pledge of Allegiance

2. Roll Call of Members

3. Approval of Minutes

- 3.1.** Committee action approving the LakeComm Fire/EMS Chiefs Advisory minutes from November 6, 2024.

Attachments: LakeComm Fire EMS Advisory 11.6.24 Final Minutes (pg. 3)

4. Public Comment

5. Unfinished Business

- 5.1.** Discussion on Scope of Services

Attachments: LakeComm Core Functions 10.23.24 (pg. 8)

6. New Business

7. Member Remarks

8. Adjournment

Next Regular Meeting: TBD

Lake County Illinois

Lake Consolidated Emergency Communications (LakeComm)



Meeting Minutes - Final

Wednesday, November 6, 2024

1:00 PM

**Public Works Conference Room
648 W. Winchester Road Libertyville, IL**

LakeComm Fire/EMS Chiefs Advisory Committee

PUBLIC COMMENT: The public will be afforded time to comment on matters related to the business of the Board.

Public comments will be presented at the beginning of the meeting under "Public Comment." A total of 30 minutes will be permitted for the Public Comment and no more than three minutes per Comment.

Individuals providing Public Comment will be recorded and will provide the following Information:

- * Name (Required)
- * Topic or Agenda Item # (Required)
- * Organization represented. (Required - If representing yourself, put "Self")
- * Street Address (Optional)
- * City, State (Optional)
- * Phone (Optional)

1. **Call to Order**

• **Pledge of Allegiance**

Chair Chief Lescher called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. **Roll Call of Members**

Chair Chief Lescher did a roll call of members:

Members present:

First Fire Protection District of Antioch: Jon Cokefair, Chief

Greater Round Lake Fire Protection District: Eric Hair, Deputy Chief

Fox Lake Fire Protection District: Ed Lescher, Chief - Committee Chair

Lake Zurich Fire Department: David Pilgard, Chief

Wauconda Fire Protection District: Patrick Kane, Chief

Mundelein Fire Department: Bill Lark, Chief

Gurnee Fire Department: John Kavanagh, Chief

Newport Fire Protection District: Tom Flader, Captain

Zion Fire Department: Justin Stried, Chief

Countryside Fire Protection District: Chuck Smith, Chief

Not in attendance:

Beach Park Fire Protection District

Lake Villa Fire Protection District

North Chicago Fire Department

Other Attendees:

Chas Buschick, Wauconda FPD, Deputy Chief

Jason Seeley, Mundelein Police, Chief

Jeff Giacinto, Wauconda

Kevin Timony, Vernon Hills - LakeComm Chair

Kristy Eckles, Countryside FPD

Lindsay Szafran, FoxComm

Michael Sheedy, Winthrop Harbor

Mike Davalle, Wauconda

Nichol Whitfield, CenCom

Steven Winnecke, LCETSB

Taryn Sofie, CenCom

3. **Approval of Minutes**

3.1 **[24-1544](#)**

Committee action approving the LakeComm Fire/EMS Chiefs Advisory Committee minutes from October 2, 2024.

Attachments: [LakeComm Fire EMS Advisory 10.2.24 Final Minutes](#)

A motion was made by Member Kane, seconded by Member Smith, that these minutes be approved. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

4. Public Comment

There were no comments from the public.

5. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business to discuss.

6. New Business

6.1 [24-1541](#)

Transition Manager Update.

LakeComm Member Board Chair Kevin Timony gave a brief update on the status of the Executive Director search.

6.2 [24-1542](#)

Discussion on Scope of Services.

Attachments: [LakeComm Core Functions 10.23.2024](#)

Core Functions

- *MABAS Dispatching – check off the list*
- *EMD/EFD – check off the list*
- *Fire Alarm Monitoring – check off the list*
- *Outside Agency Calls –*
 - o *Inspector’s Group will handle policy/vetting/board up list*
 - o *Lakecomm will have call list for private ambulances/utilities/etc*
- *Outdoor Warning Sirens – Investigating 3rd party application to merge existing outdoor warning sirens. Please check and report back if your owned sirens can be converted to cellular if possible.*
- *Staff Notifications*
 - o *USDD and CAD can handle administrative messages*
 - o *CAD also can notify Chiefs but is sometimes blocked as SPAM by cellular provider. D/C Buschick working with Steve W. on plan*
- *Station alerting while CAD is offline – Problem solved – CAD has an offline mode*
- *Edispatch/Active 911 – Remove from list – Interfaces are in place, it is each agencies responsibility to subscribe and pay if they want*
- *Storm/Heavy Call Volume*
 - o *CAD can handle holding calls in Storm Mode*
 - o *Will need to work with new ED on policies related to alternate channels/frequencies*
- *Data Collection and Sharing – Remove from list – will need to discuss with new ED data needs, but systems are capable of producing reports*
- *CAD dump to RMS – remove from list – CAD does this*
- *Fireground Radio Frequency Monitoring – will likely need to be a local investment if you want to record VHF fireground traffic. Lakecomm will not be able to hear low watt frequencies throughout county. Starcom tactical channels a possibility but not industry best practice.*
- *Radio Emergency Button – Jeff Giacinto will research the “revert” function of new Motorola radios to determine if there is a way that local IC and Lakecomm would be*

notified simultaneously of an emergency button press

6.3 [24-1543](#)

Discussion on Talk Groups.

Attachments: [LakeComm Primary Talkgroups 10.31.2024](#)

Talkgroups

- *Everyone seems to be in good shape with the talk groups as presented. May be able to get most agencies on StarComm by July 1, 2025. Still working on possibilities if a few agencies do not switch to StarComm. The dispatch counsels will be able to handle 2 different VHF channels on the same counsel if needed.*
- *Beach Park just got 6 additional portables through the Lake County ETSB grant that they missed out on*
- *Newport may be interested in some single band, EOL Starcom (I think the Motorola XTS6000 portables) radios from law enforcement if there are any available, to possibly provide to WI mutual aid departments...otherwise IFERN is the option for WI to communicate with Lakecomm.*

A motion was made by Member Kane, seconded by Member Cokefair, to accept the talkgroups as presented. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

7. Member Remarks

There were no Member remarks.

8. Adjournment

Chair Chief Lescher adjourned the meeting at 2:00 p.m.

Next Regular Meeting: December 4, 2024 at the Public Works conference room.

Lakecomm Fire Chief's Working Group

Meeting to Discuss Core Functions

10/23/2024

Core Functions Identified

- MABAS Dispatching- Consensus of the group. Must be part of LakeComm for all Division 4 departments MABAS dues can continue to pay the \$5000 yearly fee.
- Emergency Medical Dispatch, Emergency Fire Dispatch-All in agreement to continue EMD and EFD. Must be part of LakeComm.
- Fire Alarm Monitoring- Needs to be automated. Time frame 60 seconds to acknowledge. Still questions on trouble alarms and supervisory alarms. Some departments respond and some don't. Some are a function of their bureaus. Most are using FSS. Still work to be done.
- Outside Agency Calls (Utilities, Board-up, Private Ambulance Service, etc.) -The consensus of the group was to continue this as a function of dispatch. The inspector's group will take on the task of creating and updating a call out list of board up companies.
- Outdoor Warning Sirens/Reverse 911 Notifications -Chief Smith will work on this with Dan Eder from Lake County EMA. Will need to be a part of LakeComm.
- Staff Notifications (Hospital Bypass, Personnel Callback) -Hospital Bypass possibly a function of CAD. Not sure of exact notification procedure for crews to know. Chief notifications, D/C Buschick will be working on how CAD can assist with this. Possibly a text message, a tone for select unit codes, other options.
- Station Alerting- Consensus this is to continue. Need to figure out a backup system for when CAD is down.
- E-Dispatch, Active 911 (or other service as agreed)- Consensus this will be continued.
- Storm/Heavy Call Volume Incident Procedures- This will be a work in progress. Need to work with the ED on specifics of how this will be run. More to come.
- Data Collection and Sharing-Will need to be a function of LakeComm.
- CAD Dumps from CAD to Incident Reporting Software- Will need to be a function of LakeComm.
- Fireground Radio Frequency Monitoring- Low band VHF will not reach LakeComm from all over the county. LakeComm will not be able to monitor fireground frequencies. There was discussion on the possibility of LakeComm being able to

assign fireground channels to an incident if there are multiple incidents in the county. Will work with the ED on those possibilities.

- **Radio Emergency Button Monitoring**-Not currently being done the same by all agencies. Some go to their dispatch centers, some go to the incident commander. Discussion on routine calls going bad and who will hear the emergency alert. Need to create a policy with ED on how this might work.