

# OHIO AMBER ALERT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

July 24, 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 24<sup>th</sup> July 2018 meeting of the Ohio AMBER Alert Advisory Committee at approximately 10:08 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 Department of Transportation	Leslie Prater
State Emergency Communications Committee	Paul Jellison
Ohio Association of Broadcasters	Christine Merritt
Buckeye State Sheriff's Association	Sheriff Ronald Myers
Victim's Advocate	Kathryn (Ryn) Farmer
Ohio Emergency Management Communications	Ronald (Dave) Ford
Ohio Department of Aging	Grace Moran
<i>Brent Currence- not available</i>	
<i>Chief Clayton Harris-absent</i>	
<i>Kristin Cadieux-absent</i>	

## OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Ohio State Highway Patrol	Dispatch Manager Lydia Frey
Det. Morrissa Reed	Greenville Police Department
Pam S. Sullivan	OSHP Retiree Association

## II. APPROVAL OF THE April 24, 2018 MEETING MINUTES

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

## III. OLD BUSINESS

### A. Review of AMBER Alerts

Captain Kocab indicated there were two (2) AMBER Alerts for the reporting period. One alert was from Athens County and the other from Champaign County, this brings the total to 5 this year. He gave a brief overview of both the alerts. The Athens County alert was statewide.

### B. Review of Blue Alerts

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

C. Review of Endangered Missing Child Alerts

Two (2) endangered child alerts, which brings us to five (5) for the year. There was one in Franklin County and one in Stark County. Both recovered safe.

D. Review of Endangered Missing Adult Alerts

There were thirty eight (38) alerts from April 1 to June 30, 2018. All recovered safe.

E. AMBER Website Update

No update.

F. Training Update

Captain Kocab provided an update on the training since the last quarterly meeting. Lydia, Staff Lieutenant Cvetan and Brent conducted training in Huron County EMA and with several agencies in Huron County. We have 13 training classes coming up in August. Also, Fox Valley training coming up in Columbus, Cleveland and Troy, August 13, 15, 17, 2018. Captain Kocab reached out to the committee to invite them to open up the session trainings coming up in August.

G. 2018 Ohio Alerts Conference

Capt. Kocab gave a brief overview on details pending regarding one of the main speakers. All partners have been notified of the date for the conference, November 2, 2018.

**IV. NEW BUSINESS**

Captain Kocab introduced new committee member, Grace Moran from the Ohio Department of Aging.

Discussion of the Hamilton County AMBER alert where the EAS and WEA were activated but there was a breakdown in the system. An EAS was not sent out.

Ronald Ford provided a handout on WEA and gave an overview of how the system works. IPAWS is geared towards new technology and sending information directly to cellphones. IPAWS is the new technology for sending EAS revolutionizing the EAS alert system by streamlining the processes because it's a computer interface and has 7 steps. He further explained how the alerts are received through the CAD and disseminated according to relevance. The system is tested monthly statewide, they test all 4 paths using simultaneous paths and using audio and text to speech features. Twenty eight (28) counties in Ohio have submitted the application for utilizing IPOS software. Ford explained the training process and requirements for the IPOS software, that includes taking federal courses. EAS alerts are voluntary for Counties in Ohio.

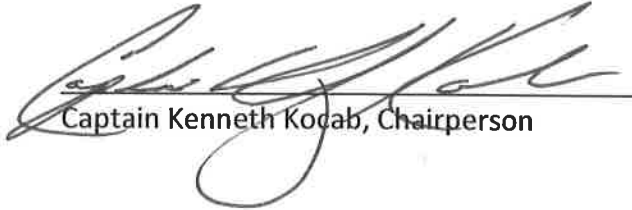
Further discussion was held on WEA, sent if the message is considered a threat to the community and other possible uses like weather emergencies. Also, there is no testing for WEA therefore no way of measuring its accuracy.

IPAWS is going to help because it is better for tracking, easier to use and has better capabilities. When IPAWS if you select statewide it will send the message to all the broadcasters simultaneously as opposed to the relay message the Sage boxes use.

Ronald will follow up with FEMA to determine if a CAD message was sent along with the WEA.

**V. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:03 a.m. was made by Clark Donley seconded by Paul Jellison.

  
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Captain Kenneth Kodab, Chairperson

10-23-2018  
Date