

OHIO AMBER ALERT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Live In-Person Meeting
2855 W. Dublin-Granville Road
Columbus, Ohio 43235
July 20, 2023

Ohio AMBER Alert Advisory Committee member, Brent Currence, called to order the July 20, 2023, meeting of the Ohio AMBER Alert Advisory Committee at approximately 10:10 am. The first order of business was the roll call taken by Captain Ron Raines.

I. ROLL CALL - PRESENT

IN-PERSON

Ohio Attorney General's Office	Brent Currence
Ohio Association of Broadcasters	Christine Merritt
Community Member	Harry Trombitas
Victim's Advocate	Kathryn (Ryn) Farmer
Buckeye State Sheriffs Association	Sheriff Jim Crawford
Ohio Association of Police Chiefs	Chief Clayton Harris (pending)
State Emergency Communications Committee	Paul Jellison
Ohio Department of Transportation	Leslie Prater
Ohio State Highway Patrol	Captain Ron Raines

ROLL CALL – ABSENT

Local/Regional AMBER Plan, Mid-Ohio AMBER Alert	Clark Donley
Federal Bureau of Investigation	Vacant
Ohio Emergency Management Agency	Brian Castner

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Ohio State Highway Patrol	S/Lieutenant Kristin Wickman
Ohio State Highway Patrol	AP4 Pam Walker
Ohio State Highway Patrol Dispatch Manager	Jared Reigh
Ohio State Highway Patrol – Public Affairs Unit	Jeff Grayson
Ohio State Highway Patrol	Lieutenant Reggie Streicher
Ohio 9-1-1 Program	Patrick Bridges
Ohio Emergency Management Agency	Andrew Elder
Ohio Department of Administrative Services	Angela Canepa

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE (via Bridge Call)

Ohio Department of Aging	Erin Pettegrew
Marion County Sheriff's Office	Captain Lydia Frey
Ohio Department of Public Safety – Legal Counsel	Samantha Scherger
CECOMS	Jackie Costa
OSHP Communication Center	Liz Bogue
OSHP Communication Center	Terri Bridges

II. APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 20, 2023 MEETING MINUTES

Brent Currence asked the Ohio Amber Alert Advisory Committee to review the minutes from the April 20, 2023 meeting. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Chris Merritt. Paul Jellison seconded. Motion carried by all.

III. OLD BUSINESS

A. Review of AMBER Alerts:

Staff Lieutenant Kristin Wickman advised there were four (4) Amber Alert activations during the second quarter:

1. 06/07/23 – activated by Grove City P.D. Children were recovered safe.
2. 06/16/23 – activated by Perry County Sheriff's Office. Children were recovered safe.
3. 06/17/23 – activated by CECOM. Children were recovered safe.
4. 06/24/23 – activated by CECOM. Child is still missing.

S/Lt. Wickman gave a full description of each alert. Each activation had an After Action Review (AAR) to define the problems and better communication on the activations.

Chris advised how helpful these details and AARs are for the committee. Brent added that issues come up and each case is unique. It's good that the review seems to bring up new issues that maybe weren't covered in training.

B. Review of Blue Alerts:

There were no Blue Alerts for this quarter.

C. Review of Endangered/Missing Child Alerts:

For second quarter, 2023, there were three (3) Endangered/Missing Child Alerts.

1. 05/14/23 – issued by Mount Healthy P.D. Children were recovered safe.
2. 06/06/23 – issued by Youngstown P.D. A ransom demand was received by the father. The child was recovered safe by law enforcement.
3. 07/07/23 – issued by Liberty Township. Children were recovered safe very quickly.

D. Review of Endangered/Missing Adult Alerts:

There were forty-one (41) Endangered/Missing Adult Alerts this quarter. Twenty-five (25) additional calls did not result in activation of an alert. Four individuals were unfortunately found deceased.

E. Alerts Training Update:

Captain Raines advised there was one (1) training during the second quarter. This training was held at the Patrol Academy and attended by 135 attendees.

There are eight (8) trainings currently scheduled between now and the end of the year.

Training video:

The current training video is outdated. Captain Raines introduced Jeff Grayson to the committee. Jeff is working with DPS Visual Communications in updating the current video. A lengthy discussion regarding the content of this new video was held.

Captain Raines made a motion to form a subcommittee to prepare the needed content for upgrading the video. Motion seconded by Chris Merritt. Motion passed. An email will be sent out to all committee members for suggestions for the new video.

Brent Currence asked for someone to chair the subcommittee. Brent offered to chair and he asked that interested members email him if they'd like to be on the subcommittee.

Governor's Appointment Update:

Captain Raines advised that two (2) members, Sheriff Crawford and Captain Raines, have received their appointments and have taken the Oath of Office. The appointments of Chief Harris and Erin Pettegrew are still pending.

State Fair Booth Update:

The "shared" booth with Ohio 9-1-1 is not happening at the request of Ohio 9-1-1's Administration.

F. 2023 Alerts Conference:

Ryn Farmer advised that the Conference will be held at the Highway Patrol Academy on Wednesday, October 11, 2023, from 9 am to 4:30 pm. A flyer will be sent out on August 1st. Ryn explained current plans for the conference and expected speakers. Registration is now open.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

The Safer Ohio Repository Committee (SORC) update:

DPS IT is working on upgrades to the SOR and giving access to Raines, Wickman and Stegner to be able to make changes and/or post to the website as needed.

Committee support for CART training:

The Fox Valley Technical College is having training on the Child Abduction Response Team (CART) October 24 – 27, 2023, at the Columbus State Delaware Campus on US 23. Lydia Frey asks that the Committee to support CART and that someone could attend this training. Captain Raines made a motion to allow Lydia Frey to use the Amber Alert logo on her marketing material to promote this training and have a committee member attend/speak at the training. Harry Trombitas seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Captain Raines introduced Samantha Scherger, DPS Legal Counsel. Should the Committee need legal advice she is the person to contact.

Patrick Brandt with Ohio 9-1-1 was introduced. Patrick has replaced Rob Jackson and he gave an overview of his experience.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Brent and seconded by Sheriff Crawford. Meeting was adjourned.


Brent Currence, Chairperson


Date