#### **GREENE COUNTY COMMISSION**



HAROLD BENGSCH COMMISSIONER 1ST DISTRICT BOB CIRTIN
PRESIDING COMMISSIONER

ROSEANN BENTLEY
COMMISSIONER 2ND DISTRICT



# MINUTES Daily Briefing September 2, 2016 Greene County Commission Office 9:00 a.m.

Two documents were submitted and are attached herein as Exhibit A and Exhibit B.

Presiding Commissioner Bob Cirtin called the meeting of September 2, 2016 to order.

Roll Call – Upon roll call the following Commissioners were present:

Present: Bob Cirtin, Harold Bengsch, and Roseann Bentley

Absent: None

Others Present: Chris Coulter, Kathryn Wall, Katie Towns, Kate Morris, Jennifer McClure, Zim Schwartz, Fire Chief David Hall, Larry Woods, and Erin Hedlun.

#### <u>Informational Items</u>

#### 9-1-1—Zim Schwartze, J. R. Webb & Chief David Hall

9-1-1 Emergency Communications Director Zim Schwartz updated the Commission on the 9-1-1 Emergency Communications Department. Ms. Schwartze said the department is working on phone upgrades and trying to analyze possibilities for the next version of Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD) for an upgrade in 2017.

Chief Hall presented a summary of the 2016 9-1-1 Staffing Study (Exhibit A) to the Commission. Chief Hall said the study has proven to be extremely valuable. The 9-1-1 Advisory Board agreed with some, but not all, of the study recommendations. He said the overall theme is that the department is significantly understaffed and there should be 16 additional positions in place with another 14 positions needed in five years. It was noted on the summary regarding moving 9-1-1 IT personnel to the City's IS Department. Commissioner Bengsch said this could possibly be problematic if the two Greene County IT personnel moved under city staff.

#### Health Department—Kevin Gipson & Clay Goddard

Assistant Director of Health Katie Towns reported for the Health Department and told the Commission that the Springfield-Greene County Health Department is completing its accreditation documents to be submitted on Wednesday, September 7, 2016. Staff has been involved with the assessment of the community Health Improvement Plan, which was just approved by the Healthy Living Alliance. This plan will be featured on the Health Department website in the near future. Ms. Towns said staff is also preparing for the flu season.

#### Office of Emergency Management—Larry Woods

Office of Emergency Management (OEM) Interim Director Larry Woods and Public Information Officer Erin Hedlun presented the Commission with the OEM Summer Newsletter (Exhibit B). Mr. Woods reported the Public Safety Center (PSC) has hosted 8,755 visitors this year, and that the numbers are estimated to be 12,000 to 13,000 by the end of the year with 553 meetings held at the PSC since January of this year. Mr. Woods stated this is Jonathan Ayres last day of employment. Mr. Ayres was the IT Systems Administrator and the position will be advertised next week. OEM is working closely with the Auditor's office regarding salary budget adjustments related to expenditures for alternate needs.

The FEMA Emergency Management Institute (EMI) trip to Maryland in February 2017 is slated to take place, despite staff turnover. Mr. Woods stated the trip will be good training for new staff.

Commissioner Cirtin inquired about the Sheriff's office request to use the PSC Media Room on a regular basis. The request will be reviewed.

#### **Chris Coulter**

Mr. Coulter did not have any items to bring before the Commission.

#### Jennifer McClure

Jennifer did not have any items to bring before the Commission.

#### **Other Items**

No other items were brought before the Commission.

Commissioner Cirtin adjourned.

TO: County Commissioners

FROM: David Hall, Greene County 9-1-1 Advisory Board Chair

DATE: September 1, 2016

RE: 2016 9-1-1 Staffing Study

As you know, the 9-1-1 Advisory Board had a Staffing Services Study that was completed on April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016. We found the study to be very thorough and supported by good data. The consultants had a total of 31 recommendations, although some were either already completed, in-process, or a subset of another recommendation. The 9-1-1 staff evaluated all of the recommendations and provided the Board with information on each, and then the Board met to determine what actions should be taken, and if so, the timeline for such actions. Below are the highlights.

#### Short-term items (30-90 days)

- Consolidate Springfield City Fire dispatcher and the County Fire dispatcher into a single dispatcher position, then re—assign the fire dispatcher to a call-taker position
- Evaluate the feasibility and potential benefits of moving 9-1-1 IT personnel to the City's IS department
- Evaluate adding additional screening tools to the hiring process, such as vision testing

#### Intermediate-term items (91-365 days)

- Re-align the staffing schedules with the call volume
- Add a third SPD dispatcher position when current staffing levels are trained
- Re-evaluate the current CAD after the 2017 upgrade to determine its effectiveness
- Evaluate scheduling software and consider implementation (after schedule updated)
- Evaluate the current pay and compensation system (City of Springfield study)

#### Long-term items (>1 year)

- Increase total staffing within the 9-1-1 center
- Evaluate moving to Next Generation 9-1-1 (started with pending phone upgrade)
- Apply to become a CALEA accredited agency

Director Schwartze and her staff will be working systematically to evaluate, make recommendations to the board, and potentially implement each of the bullet points. While there were several other minor recommendations, the staff has already addressed them. These that remain will take more time to evaluate and implement. Some are very costly, which will require close scrutiny of the expected benefits as well as our budgetary capacity. We will keep you posted as we know more.



#### SPRINGFIELD-GREENE COUNTY

# OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

### **SUMMER 2016**

**NEWSLETTER** 

#### Changes In Store



OEM Director Chet Hunter has announced his resignation, effective August 26. He and his family will be moving to St. Louis,

MO, where he has accepted a position as the Assistant Director of Emergency Management for Washington University.

Hunter joined the Office of Emergency Management as director in July of 2014. Prior to working for OEM, Hunter served as the emergency management director for Lawrence County for five years. He also served in a public safety capacity as an emergency medical technician for Mercy Hospital for 13 years and as a captain with the Bolivar Fire Department.

"To say that this office is unique in the world of emergency management would be an understatement. The level of experience and knowledge in the best practices of emergency management and disaster response that the staff here possess is a rarity I think you would be hard-pressed to find elsewhere. I feel very privileged to have had the opportunity to work for the citizens of Greene County in this capacity," he says.

Hunter will begin his new position at Washington University on September 1.

OEM Deputy Director Larry Woods has been named interim director until a permanent replacement is found.

## OEM SAYS THANK YOU WITH A HEARTY BREAKFAST

We appreciate the hard work that each of our partner public safety agencies does for our community on a daily basis, and we wanted to show our appreciation in a

tangible way. And what better way than through a hearty, homemade breakfast? On May 18, OEM staff members prepared breakfast and invited all local law enforcement officers, firefighters and EMS personnel to join us at the Public





Safety Center. We had a great turnout and were able to say a personal thank you to the many folks who crossed our breakfast buffet line. #WeSeeYou

#### **Register Now for the Fall CERT Course**



Interested in learning more about disaster preparedness, basic first aid and how you can assist OEM in times of disaster? Register now for our fall CERT course, held on Sept. 17, 24 and Oct. 8 (participants must attend

all three classes to receive certification). For more details and to register, visit greenecountyoem.org/cms/index.php?page=cert

#### **MAIN OFFICE:**

Public Safety Center 330 West Scott Street Springfield, MO 65802

#### EMAIL:

info@greenecountyoem.org

#### **CONNECT WITH US!**





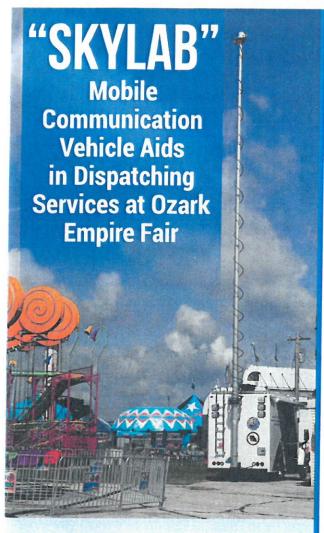






Learn more about how you can be involved in preparedness efforts:

(417) 869-6040 or www.greenecountyoem.org





**OEM** staff coordinated public safety communications and provided dispatching services via its "Skylab" mobile

communication vehicle at the 80th Ozark Empire Fair, held on July 28-August 6. OEM staff members worked in rotating shifts to facilitate this important aspect of fair safety. Medical crises, lost children, severe weather and other safety-related issues are all facilitated through Skylab

and its on board multi-radio communication system.



## OEM, CERT, NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE Team Up at Cox South Pediatric Health and

### Safety Fair



The parking lot of Cox South was full on Saturday, June 11, as local vendors gathered for the second

annual Cox South Pediatric Health and Safety Fair. This one-day safety focused event provides an opportunity for members of the public to chat with public safety officials, learn more about bike safety, conduct car seat safety checks and see the Cox Air Care helicopter. OEM's "Skylab" mobile communication vehicle was on-site and OEM team members provided tours and spoke with attendees about the importance of disaster preparedness. National Weather Service, Springfield, MO joined the OEM team to speak about severe weather preparedness, and members of the Greene County CERT team coordinated a smokehouse fire simulator experience.

#### **OEM Deputy Director Receives Federal Planning Section Chief Certification**

The Greene County, Missouri Commission recently recognized **OEM's Deputy** Director, Larry Woods, for completing the credentialing process to



become a Planning Section Chief for one of two federal Incident Response Coordination Teams that serve with the Office of Emergency Management under the leadership of the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

LARRY IS ONE OF ONLY FOUR CREDENTIALED PLANNING **SECTION CHIEFS FOR THIS** POSITION IN THE NATION.

Larry's wife, Natalie and children Bethany. Abby and Jake were present to support him as he received this commission recognition.

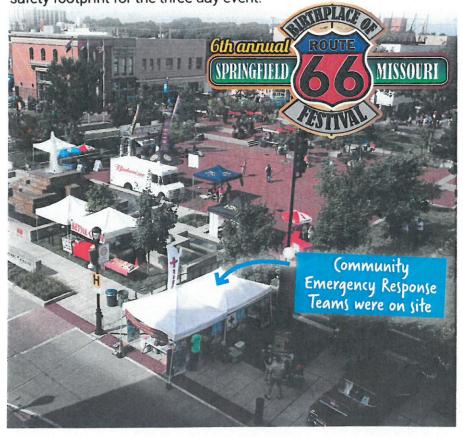
## **OEM Provides Behind-the-Scenes Public Safety Coordination for Birthplace of Route 66 Festival**



Behind the musical acts, vintage cars, racing motorcycles and other activities that make the Birthplace of Route 66 Festival one of the highlighted events of the summer is the behind-the-

scenes coordination of public safety communication to ensure the Route 66 event provides a fun and safe environment for all attendees to enjoy. OEM coordinated this public safety communication effort for the festival, held on August 12-14, from a command center located in downtown Springfield.

Utilizing "Skylab", a mobile communication vehicle, a command post trailer and other assets, OEM staff members partnered with public safety officials, event staff and local leaders to provide all parties with information related to public safety efforts. In addition, OEM conducted on-site severe weather monitoring, keeping an eye on the sky to notify event coordinators of impending inclement weather. Assigned liaison officers from OEM worked with event coordinators to facilitate public safety related requests, and OEM staff tasked with communications, operations and planning assignments worked together to coordinate a collaborative public safety footprint for the three day event.



# **OEM STAFF TRANSITIONS**

It seems to be a season of change at OEM, as several staff members are saying their goodbyes as they transition to new opportunities.



Director Chet Hunter will now serve as the Assistant Director of Emergency Management for Washington University in St. Louis, MO.



Logistics Specialist Brad Dixon will now be employed with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and will begin with

several months of training at the DEA Academy in Quantico, VA.



Network Systems Administrator Jonathan Ayres will begin a new journey in the private sector as a regional manager

with a communications and consulting company opening a new office in Springfield, MO.



OEM Recycling Contractor Aaron Rielly will now work fulltime for an electronics recycling center in Springfield, MO.



#### My Family's Preparedness Story

Preparedness is for everyone. Check out our latest disaster preparedness video!

voutube.com/watch?v=BNcz7dsJ2JQ

#### **OEM Planning Specialists and Springfield Public Schools Representatives Attend FEMA's Emergency Planning for Schools Course at the Emergency Management Institute**

A team of 15 Greene County representatives, including 11 Springfield Public Schools (SPS) employees, Capt. Heath Aldridge, Springfield Fire Department, Capt. Jeremy Lynn, Greene County Sheriff's Office, OEM Municipal Planning Specialist Samantha Peterson and Greene County Planning



Specialist John Elmore traveled to FEMA's Emergency Management Institute in Emmitsburg, MD on July 10-15 for a four day course focused on emergency planning for schools. The course provided students with the opportunity to write, update and train on school emergency response plans in a collaborative class environment.





#### **Active Shooter Defense Training Provides Life-Saving Tips**

The Greene County Sheriff's Office hosted an active shooter training on June 15 at the Public Safety Center for county elected officials. department heads and public safety personnel, including OEM staff members. Led by Jason Wilkins, M.D., of Prometheus Consulting Group

and supported by the GCSO SWAT team, this four hour training covered defensive measures and tactical methods to utilize should attendees ever find themselves in an active shooter incident. The class culminated in a simulated active shooter exercise that further highlighted the importance of being prepared. The ultimate takeaway from this intense course? In an active shooter incident, the only rule is that you win.

#### OEM'S PROGRAMS Visit greenecountyoem.org to learn more.





#### **Hometown Ready**



Disaster Preparedness. Community **Engagement.** When disaster strikes.

#### **PUBLIC SAFETY CENTER OPEN TO PUBLIC**

Interested in a tour of the Public Safety Center, or hosting your meeting in one of our training rooms? We provide both tours and meeting room space to the public! Call 417-869-6040 or email info@greenecountyoem.org for more information.



SUMMER 2016 NEWSLETTER