



MEETING MINUTES

Kalamazoo County Consolidated Dispatch Authority TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE January 7, 2026 – Regular Meeting

ITEM 1 – CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee was called to order by Chief Scott Merlo at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, January 7, 2026, in the Chief Switalski Meeting Room at Kalamazoo County Consolidated Dispatch Authority, 7040 Stadium Drive, Kalamazoo, Michigan.

ITEM 2 –ROLL CALL

Members Present: Scott Merlo (WMUPD), Scott Ernstes (MSP), Chris Franks (KDPS), Bryan Ergang (KTPD) (arrived at 10:09), Matt Wolfe (PDPS), Mike Bentley (KCMCA), Chip Everett (KCFCA)

Others Present: Scott Jackson, Don Ulsh, Jeff Sorensen, Ryan McGregor, Steve Stryd, Bryan Mayhew, Sean Gordon, Jairus Baird, Logan Bishop, Tracy McMillan, Bear Priest, Scott Smith, Justin Wolbrink, Mindy Sienko, Jeff Troyer, Torie Rose, and Chris McComb

ITEM 3 – ORGANIZATIONAL ITEMS

A. Election of 2026 Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson

Mr. Merlo nominated Mr. Ernstes to serve as Chairperson for 2026. Mr. Jackson supported.

Nominations for Chairperson were closed.

Mr. Ernstes nominated Mr. Merlo to serve as Vice-Chairperson for 2026.

Nominations for Vice-Chairperson were closed.

“Motion by Mr. Jackson, second by Mr. Franks to elect Mr. Ernstes as Chairperson and Mr. Merlo to serve as Vice-Chairperson of the KCCDA Technical Advisory Committee for 2026.”

On a voice vote, **MOTION CARRIED.**

ITEM 4 - APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

A. Regular Meeting Minutes from November 5, 2025

“Motion by Mr. Merlo, second by Mr. Jackson to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes from November 5, 2025, as presented.”

On a voice vote, **MOTION CARRIED.**

ITEM 5 - CITIZENS' TIME

There was none.

ITEM 6 – FOR CONSIDERATION

A. Administrative Monthly Report

Mr. Troyer stated that the Administrative Monthly Report was included in the packet. The report included year end information. He noted that all Capital Projects have been completed except the backup center.

B. Old Business

1. Radio Readiness Project – DRAFT Administrative Guidelines

Mr. Troyer stated that in November, the Board approved the budget which includes the initial first year allocation to the Radio Readiness Project. He stated he anticipated a secondary allocation next year. The draft guidelines were presented to TAC, Fire Chiefs and at as many public meetings as possible. The goal was to have the guidelines ready for the March Board meeting. He stated he had received feedback with concerns about the initial cost estimates for radio replacements, mainly from the fire agencies. The goal is to have an equitable funding formula that works for everyone. Any radio that is purchased by a law enforcement agency must be multi-key encryption to handle our current encryption and be AES compatible, and any radio purchased by fire departments and KCMCA must be an eligible subscriber unit on the Kalamazoo MPSCS Subsystem. In addition, all radios must have the minimum required talkgroups according to the Unified Communications Plan.

After discussion, the committee decided to schedule a work session for late January or early February to discuss the matter further in detail. Before the work session, Mr. Troyer will work through some real-life examples with a couple agencies for the committee to use for reference.

C. New Business

1. Talkgroup LOA's for Neighboring County Dispatch Centers and the Agencies they Directly Dispatch (Allegan, Barry, Calhoun, Cass, St. Joseph and Van Buren)

Mr. Troyer stated we currently have a standard LOA for our talkgroups that is a blanket for dispatch centers. MPSCS is now requiring that we have a list of every agency covered by the center. A revised LOA would be sent out to meet MPSCS requirements.

“Motion by Mr. Ernstes, second by Mr. Ergang to approve the Kalamazoo County Talk-group(s) Letter of Authorization for Neighboring County Dispatch Centers as presented.”

On a voice vote, **MOTION CARRIED.**

ITEM 7 – OTHER ITEMS

D. Announcements and Member Comments

Mr. Ernstes announced Mr. Ergang retirement and thanked him for his service to the county and township.

Mr. Troyer welcomed new members Scott Jackson of KTPD and Matt Wolfe of PDPS.

E. Next Meeting

The next regular scheduled Technical Advisory Committee meeting will be Wednesday, March 4, 2026, at 10:00 am, and will be held in the Chief Switalski Meeting Room at KCCDA, 7040 Stadium Drive, Kalamazoo, MI 49009.

ITEM 8 - ADJOURNMENT

F. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:17 a.m.