

# Rensselaer County Radio Communications Committee

## Meeting Minutes – March 11, 2026 @ ESTC

In attendance: M. Lacivita, Chair; D. Jordan, Co-Chair; W. Stewart, Batt 3/Secretary; D. Basle, Batt 3; M. Shanahan, RACES; K. Allen, EMS; S. Tracy, CHFD; A. Haley, Batt 5; D. Wilson, Jr., Batt 3. Via Zoom: D. Valyou, Batt 1; B. Maloney, Legislature; J. Walraed, RCSO

### Committee Appointments & Responsibilities

- The resolution appointing Committee members to four-year terms, to expire on December 31, 2029, was passed by the Legislature on February 10.
- By unanimous consent among those participating in the meeting, Mark Lacivita, David Jordan and William Stewart were approved to serve as Chairman, Co-Chairman and Secretary, respectively. Chairman Lacivita referred to two documents that were distributed with the notice of this month's meeting which provided a history of the Committee's formation and a description of the duties and responsibilities of Committee Members.

### Reports

**Bureau Updates** – On behalf of the Bureau, a written report was submitted by Communications Center Mainello which is summarized below.

- CAD Mobility
  - Overall, 27 FD's have returned their MOU's and 19 of those have completed the training; 13 ambulance agencies returned their MOU's, all but 1 has completed the training.
  - For additional training or device updates, please contact the CAD team at its new email address [CAD@renscony.gov](mailto:CAD@renscony.gov)
- Box Alarms and Response Assignments
  - The CAD team recently sent a letter to all departments requesting to meet with each of them to review agency box alarms and response assignments. The team has been in contact with 24 of 38 agencies, the majority of which have met in person with the CAD team.
  - It is emphasized that department chiefs exercise final approval over the programming performed by the CAD team before being entered into CAD, which will eliminate the need for initial two-tier dispatching for that agency. So far 9 agencies have been programmed.
  - When the box alarms are approved and programming has been completed, the files are also uploaded to the county website <https://www.rensco.com/307/Box-Alarm-Assignments> and consolidated into a single PDF document.
- laR
  - The necessary equipment has been received and programming for Two-tone detect has started. This will attach a voice recording of the dispatch

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along with the IAR message. Some adjustments to individual agency IAR settings may be necessary and the CAD team will advise when this may be necessary.

- Agencies are urged to share IaR codes with neighboring departments and they are reminded that IaR is a secondary means of alarm notification with minitor paging as the primary & official means.
- Radio Room tours are available and encouraged.
- Four new dispatchers are undergoing training; two vacancies remain.

#### **RACES**

- A project is underway to add text/messaging capability to the current voice capability.

#### **Other Topics**

- Radio training that had been on hold pending dispatch center updates will resume soon.
- Planning is underway for a multi-agency law enforcement exercise utilizing the radio system's capabilities.
- The outdated equipment that had been housed at COMSEC to serve as a backup to the County's radio system has been removed. The new Mobile Communications Center (MCC) trailer currently being outfitted will become the backup once it is placed in service, possibly in the third quarter
- The Fire Advisory Board continues to work on updating the County Mutual Aid plan. The Board 's next meeting will be on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday in April.

The Next Radio Committee Meeting: 19:00 on May 20 at ESTC