



BRIGHTON AREA FIRE AUTHORITY

Resolution 25-03

Repair/Maintenance & Upgrade of Radio Systems

WHEREAS, the Brighton Area Fire Authority is charged with the solemn duty of providing fire protection, rescue, and emergency medical services to protect the lives and property of the citizens within the City of Brighton, the Charter Township of Brighton, and Genoa Charter Township; and

WHEREAS, the ability to perform these duties is critically dependent upon a reliable and fully functional emergency communications system, including the VHF paging system operated by Livingston County Central Dispatch for the primary purpose of alerting both fire and EMS personnel who are on-call and on-duty personnel of emergencies; and

WHEREAS, the primary VHF paging system has experienced significant and repeated failures, which necessitated the activation of the limited backup VHF system on August 15, 2025, after several days of system issues; and

WHEREAS, the backup VHF system provides inadequate coverage and suffers from operational deficiencies, which compromises the effective alerting of personnel across the Fire Authority's jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, an attempt to repair the primary system concluded on September 4, 2025, yet resulted in the identification of new and unresolved issues, indicating the system remains unstable and unreliable; and

WHEREAS, these systemic failures have directly resulted in emergency personnel not receiving critical dispatch pages, forcing a reliance on less-reliable secondary notification methods such as phone applications and direct phone calls, thereby creating unacceptable delays in emergency response; and

WHEREAS, the current state of the VHF paging system, as well as the 800 MHz daily communication system, is the result of a documented lack of consistent system maintenance, insufficient long-term strategic planning, and a failure to adequately fund timely repairs, preventative maintenance and replacements by Livingston County; and

WHEREAS, this degradation of public safety communications infrastructure falls below acceptable operational standards and poses a direct and immediate threat to the safety of the public and our first responders.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF THE BRIGHTON AREA FIRE AUTHORITY THAT:

The Brighton Area Fire Authority Board hereby declares the current state of the Livingston County public safety communication system to be critically unreliable and a significant public safety concern requiring immediate and decisive action.

The Board directs the Fire Chief to formally communicate this resolution to the governing bodies of the City of Brighton, the Charter Township of Brighton, and Genoa Charter Township, and respectfully

requests that they join the Fire Authority in urging the Livingston County Board of Commissioners to take the actions outlined herein.

The Brighton Area Fire Authority strongly urges the Livingston County Board of Commissioners to immediately direct all necessary financial, personnel, and technical resources to:

1. Fully and properly repair the existing primary VHF simulcast paging system to restore immediate and complete operational reliability.
2. Conduct a comprehensive diagnostic and preventative maintenance program on all related public safety communication systems, including the VHF primary and backup systems, dispatch center radio equipment, and all portable, mobile, and base station radios used by public safety agencies within the county.

The Brighton Area Fire Authority urgently requests that the Livingston County Board of Commissioners approve and fully fund the proposed 800 MHz tower and radio system upgrade without delay, to achieve the full coverage specifications recommended by the Motorola engineering study and ensure a start to resilient day-to-day communications.

The Brighton Area Fire Authority implores the Livingston County Board of Commissioners to develop, approve, and fund a sustainable, long-term capital improvement and replacement plan for the entire public safety radio communication infrastructure (towers, radios, CAD, alerting, etc). This plan must include a dedicated and protected funding mechanism, such as a dedicated county-wide millage or an increase to the 9-1-1 surcharge, and incorporate a forward-looking strategy for next-generation alerting solutions that move beyond legacy VHF technology.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

AYES:

NAYS:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

This resolution was adopted the 11th day of September 2025.

Jim Muzzin – Brighton Area Fire Authority Board Chairperson

Mike Corrigan – Brighton Area Fire Authority Board Secretary