

AGENDA NOTES

MEETING DATE: September 15, 2025

PERSON PLACING ITEM ON AGENDA: Township Clerk and Supervisor

AGENDA TOPIC: Discussion and adoption of Resolution- Livingston County Repair/ Maintenance & Upgrade of County Communication Systems (on behalf of BAFA)

EXPLANATION OF TOPIC: The Brighton Area Fire Authority has been working with Livingston County Central dispatch and local fire departments, as well as Livingston EMS, due to issues with alerting of Fire and EMS through VHF paging. They're asking for community support from municipalities.

- August 15, 2025, after several days of issues, the backup VHF turned on. Backup VHF is very limited in coverage and requires multiple tones at once.
- As of September 4, 2025, repaired equipment was reinstalled, and additional issues have been found and have not been identified as additional issues.
- We are experiencing incidents where staff do not receive the page and rely on backup systems such as alerts on our phones or phone calls from staff.
- Staff is on multiple call updates (2 per week) where Livingston County Central dispatch advised on the system.
- Lack of system maintenance, strategic planning, and repair/replacement has left our VHF paging as well as day-to-day communication (800 MHz) below standards and affecting our ability to communicate on emergency situations.

NEEDS:

- Immediately, all resources (staff and financial) aimed at repairing the existing VHF simulcast system by Livingston County.
- Perform maintenance on all systems, including VHF primary and backup systems, dispatch radios, all public safety portable, mobile, and base radios.
- Request that the Livingston County Board of Commissioners approve and fund the proposed tower and radio upgrade for 800 MHz immediately, with full coverage as recommended by Motorola.
- Long-term, Livingston County should approve a dedicated millage and/or increase 9-1-1 surcharge funding to properly repair, replace, staff, and fix radio communications. This includes a long-term strategy beyond VHF for alerting firefighters and EMS.

This issue has been well known by the County Board of Commissioners for over a decade, and still, no investment has been made into fixing the problem. It is my understanding that they have almost completely neglected all maintenance for the past 5 years. One avenue to raise funds would have been to increase the 9-1-1 surcharge set currently at \$1.85 to the max of \$3.00, but they did not take that approach when the need arose.

MATERIALS ATTACHED AS SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

Resolution # 25-03- Passed by BAFA on 9/11/2025

Resolution- Draft Resolution by BTBT

Email Communication- to County from BT on using County ARPA Funds to fix their current infrastructure

SUGGESTED MOTION: Motion by _____, supported by _____ to adopt Resolution No. 25-TBD, Requesting the Livingston County Board of Commissioners properly preform and invest in the Repair/Maintenance and the replacement needs of the County based communication system that is severely in need of attention.

ROLL CALL VOTE REQUIRED? Yes