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Media Advisory



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MARCS Task Force expected to vote on its report

The final meeting of the Ohio MARCS (Multi-Agency Radio Communication System) Task Force will be held at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 30 in the Riffe Center, 77 S. High St., Columbus, in Room 1960.

The task force will review amendments of its report and is expected to vote on the final version of its report at this meeting. The report was written based on recommendations from working groups studying the topics of funding, organizational structure and use.

MARCS is the State of Ohio's comprehensive wireless communication system for police, fire, emergency medical services and other public safety forces. MARCS provides wireless voice and mobile data for state agencies, including the Ohio departments of Natural Resources, Public Safety, and Rehabilitation and Correction. MARCS also provides wireless voice radio service for nearly 1,300 county, township, federal and private first-responders.

The task force was created in House Bill 2 to explore and issue recommendations on the organizational structure and operational and capital funding options for the long-term sustainability and more ubiquitous utilization of the MARCS system.

In addition to representatives from the MARCS program office, other members of the task force include representatives from the Hancock County Sheriff's Office; Jefferson County Emergency Management Agency; Jerome Township Fire Department; Ohio House of Representatives; Ohio Senate; the Ohio departments of Administrative Services, Natural Resources, Public Safety, and Rehabilitation and Correction; Ohio Office of Budget and Management; Ohio State Highway Patrol; and the Portsmouth Police Department.

MARCS is administered by the Ohio Department of Administrative Services.