**4 Facts About Dispatch That You Need To Know**

1. **The WARCOG (Wooster-Ashland Regional Council of Governments) will add an extra step in response to an emergency call**

   The WARCOG dispatch adds another layer to the current 9-1-1 call center at the Justice Center building. Emergency calls from the citizens in Wooster will continued to be answered by the Justice Center Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP), just as they are now. The difference will be in the fact that your emergency call will now have to be routed to the WARCOG dispatch center several blocks away for actual dispatching. At this point, the WARCOG dispatcher will have to duplicate the information that the Justice Center PSAP already gathered, adding precious time to potential life threatening situations.

2. **The WARCOG will cost MORE MONEY**

   Taxpayers will be paying more for the WARCOG than the current dispatching system. The Daily Record reported that Wooster City’s annual share of the WARCOG would be $495,000. In 2014, the City of Wooster actually spent $415,600 on dispatch. This would mean that the City is actually estimating an INCREASE in spending of $79,400 per year for the new WARCOG.

3. **The WARCOG is not following the recommendations of the Cleveland State Consolidated Dispatch Study**

   Page 9 of the Cleveland State Consolidated Dispatch Study presents three scenarios on which the study bases its findings. All three scenarios include Wayne County with the Cities of Wooster and Ashland. Furthermore, page 39 of the same Study states, “...the assumption that it will be more economical to use the existing infrastructure and staffing at the onset of the consolidation”. This study is based on using current location, infrastructure and staffing for real cost savings among the three political entities. The WARCOG does not follow this Study in that it excludes Wayne County and includes expenses for new location, infrastructure and staffing.

4. **Wayne County never walked away from regional dispatch discussions**

   In fact, Wayne County was cut out of discussions regarding regional dispatch in 2012. In 2012, City officials in Wooster and Ashland began to meet without informing the Wayne County Commissioners and Sheriff. Only after grant funding for the WARCOG was questioned by the State did the WARCOG invite the county to join the COG. In this way, County Officials had NO input in the WARCOG’s by-laws, rules and location of the future WARCOG Dispatch Center.