



**9-1-1 Advisory Board Meeting Summary
Thursday, March 5, 2020, 10:00 a.m.
Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency
Dixon University Center
2986 North Second Street
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17110**

I. Roll Call

Mr. Jeff Thomas (Designee), Executive Deputy Director, PEMA

Mr. Jeff Boyle, Deputy Director for 9-1-1, PEMA

Major Diane Stackhouse (Designee), Commissioner, Pennsylvania State Police

Mr. Nate Silcox (Designee), Chairman, Senate Veterans Affairs & Emergency Preparedness Committee

Mr. Noah Erwin (Designee), Minority Chairman, Senate Veterans Affairs & Emergency Preparedness Committee

Mr. Sean Harris (Designee), Chairman, House of Representatives Veterans Affairs & Emergency Preparedness Committee

Mr. Mike Hillman (Designee), Minority Chairman, House of Representatives Veterans Affairs & Emergency Preparedness Committee

Ms. Kelly Collins (Designee), Mayor of a city of the first class, City of Philadelphia

Chief Matt Brown (Designee), County Executive of a county of the second class, Allegheny County

Mr. Michael Vest (Designee), County Commissioner of a county of the second-class A, Montgomery County

The Honorable Mark Higgins, County Commissioner of a county of the third or fourth class, Centre County

The Honorable Matthew Quesenberry, Sr., County Commissioner of a county of the fifth, sixth, seventh, or eighth class, Elk County

The Honorable Robert Snyder, County Commissioner of a county of the fifth, sixth, seventh, or eighth class, Forest County

Ms. Nadine Dodge, 9-1-1 Coordinator of a city of the first class, Philadelphia County

Mr. Gary Thomas, 9-1-1 Coordinator of a county of the second class, Allegheny County

Ms. Audrey Kenny, 9-1-1 Coordinator of a county of the second-class A, Bucks County

Mr. Gary Hoffman, 9-1-1 Coordinator of a county of the third or fourth class, Monroe County

Mr. Chris Clark, 9-1-1 Coordinator of a county of the fifth, sixth, seventh, or eighth class, Jefferson County

Mr. Frank Jannetti, Jr., 9-1-1 Coordinator of a county of the fifth, sixth, seventh, or eighth class, Mercer County

Mr. Scott Krater, Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials

Mr. Dave Holl, Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association

Mr. Frank Baier (Designee), Governor's office of Administration

Mr. Mark Greenthaner, Pennsylvania Chapter of the National Emergency Number Association

Ms. Jolene Burkhardt, Keystone Emergency Management Association

Mr. Jack Lawver, Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs

II. Opening Remarks

III. **ACTION ITEM:** The minutes of the December 5, 2019, 9-1-1 Advisory Board meeting were accepted on a motion by Frank Jannetti, Jr.

IV. 9-1-1 Program Update

- **Act 12 Revenue**

- Revenue collections in 2019 were \$318,030,576
 - Surcharge revenue was \$315,238,084
 - Interest revenue was \$2,792,492
- 2019 Key Figures:
 - \$7.2 million decrease in wireline funds from 2018
 - \$8 million increase in wireless and VoIP funds from 2018
 - \$315.2 million average yearly surcharge collections 2016-2019

- **Statewide NG911 System**

- Statewide 911 Plan: PEMA procures service-based next generation 911 (NG911) solution.
 - Contract negotiations are in progress for the statewide NG911 system (ESInet and core services).
 - There is no binding commitment for the Commonwealth to contract
 - No Commonwealth obligations until a formal contract is executed
 - Remains an active procurement; additional information will be made available when possible
- Statewide NG911 system will upgrade infrastructure to deliver 911 calls from provider to PSAP; network will also support additional public safety applications.
- Phases of the statewide NG911 project:
 - Procurement – Vendor is chosen to provide NG911 system
 - Data Collection:
 - PSAP site surveys
 - Evaluate service provider and vendor needs, POI locations, etc.
 - Network Design:
 - Finalize system design
 - Requirements compliance
 - Finalize implementation plans
 - Implementation:
 - Build out NG911 system infrastructure
 - Perform network test and turn-up
 - PSAP Deployment:
 - Collaborative planning with PSAPs, PEMA, and vendors
 - PSAP acceptance test and cutover planning
 - Transition activity and operational planning
 - Operational Support:
 - Post cutover support (monitoring, maintenance and notification),
 - Operational procedures defined for stakeholders
 - Governance established between PEMA, PSAPs and NG911 service provider

- Discussion Point: Existing Regional ESInets
 - PEMA will seek to leverage previous 15% funding ESInet investments where possible.
 - Regional ESInets will need assessed to determine if requirements are met and/or where enhancements are needed.
 - PEMA will contact regions to discuss approach for regional ESInets
 - Maintain a separate ESInet or integrate existing regional connectivity into statewide ESInet
- **2019 15% Funding Close-Out**
 - 2019 Statewide interconnectivity funding:
 - Amount available: \$47,664,982
 - Award Amount: \$29,166,340
 - Balance: \$18,498,642
 - 2019 15% Application Summary:
 - 94 applications were received, totaled \$44.1 million (\$57.8 million in 2018)
 - 80 of the 94 applications were funded (85%)
 - Balance of \$18,498,642 distributed to counties by formula:
 - Counties received funds March 3rd
 - PEMA suggests/recommends that Counties are conservative with funds
 - 83% formula may change, and some counties will see a reduction
 - NG911 project will begin; less 15% funds will be available for grants
- **Funding Formula Update**
 - Act 12 requires formula to be reviewed every 2 years; may be adjusted annually
 - Current formula was established in 2017; reviewed in 2019 with no changes
 - Current Formula:
 - 3% - Equal distribution
 - 30% - Population
 - Remainder: uses 2010 – 2014 average VoIP and wireline revenue and reported expenses
 - Current formula challenges:
 - Wireline and VoIP revenue data is outdated
 - No standardized accounting procedures from 2010–2014
 - Inconsistent county reporting with no method to verify reported costs
 - Funding Subcommittee focus: a fair and equitable formula for all PSAPs
 - Items to keep in mind:
 - Finding reliable data sets not subject to manipulation is a challenge
 - 18% of revenue is already being distributed to benefit all PSAPs
 - Progress towards identifying a new formula:
 - Population will likely be a major part of the formula
 - Represents where a person paid the \$1.65 for 911 service
 - Proportionate to the size of the PSAP
 - Data set is reliable
 - Formula transition plans:
 - Transition planning is an important part of changing the formula
 - PEMA and the funding subcommittee are working to develop a plan to alleviate some of the burden on counties seeing a decrease

- Reminder:
 - Formula change will result in increases/decreases for PSAPs

Michael Vest, Montgomery County asked if PEMA will be seeking an increase to the \$1.65 fee. The next opportunity for a fee increase will be in 2024. Indications are that it will be difficult to increase the fee when the current legislation sunsets. It will take a collaborative approach between all stakeholders using objective data to clearly demonstrate the need for a fee increase and the benefits of doing so. Efforts should also focus on ensuring assessment language is clarified for IP based communication services and prepaid wireless service.

- **PSAP Inventory**
 - PSAP inventory will be updated in 2020
 - Act 17 of 2019: PEMA, in consultation with the Board, shall maintain and update the PSAP inventory biennially (every 2 years)
 - Collected data will be the foundational element of the “911 System Plan” process
- **Training and QA/QI Reminder**
 - Effective January 1, 2020: PSAPs documented training and QA/QI programs
 - Due date to submit to PEMA: May 31, 2020
- **Anti-Windfall Provision**
 - PSAP 2019 Combined Reports are due April 15th
 - Act 12 anti-windfall provision is in effect (35 Pa. C.S. § 5306.1 (e) (6)).
 - Enforcement is based on the **2019** Combined Report
 - What is considered an excess balance:
 - A positive “Balance” amount in a PSAP’s Formula Funds (83% Funds)
 - **Important: expenditures may include allocations to Reserves**
 - **If “Balance” is dedicated to a future project/purpose, please remember to allocate funds to Reserves**

V. **Anticipated June Action Items**

- 2021 Funding Formula
- Minimum technology and operations standards – Update of 4 PA Code 120b
- QA requirements – 2% case review adjustment process

Motion to adjourn at 10:39 am.