

911 Advisory Board Funding Subcommittee Minutes – 7/20/2022

Funding Subcommittee			
Region/Entity	Name	Туре	Attended
NECORE	Fred Rosencrans, Luzerne	Primary	Х
NECORE	Todd Weaver, Northampton	Alternate	Х
North Central	Dave Cohick, Tioga	Primary	Х
North Central	Andrew Kremser, Clinton	Alternate	Х
Northern Tier	Chris Clark, Jefferson	Primary	
Northern Tier	Nate Burgett, McKean	Alternate	
South Central	Matt Hobson, York	Primary	Х
South Central	Vacant	Alternate	
South Central Mountain	Mark Taylor, Blair	Primary	Х
South Central Mountain	Chris Stevens, Huntingdon	Alternate	Х
Southeast	Brian Gottschall, Berks	Primary	Х
Southeast	Kelly Collins, Philadelphia	Alternate	Х
Southwest	Gary Thomas, Allegheny (Chair)	Primary	
Southwest	Frank Jannetti, Mercer	Alternate	Х
CCAP	Melissa Gates/Ashley White/Brianna Petitti	Advisory	Х
PEMA	Jeff Boyle, Bill Shertzer	Advisory	Х

1. Request for Information – Cloud Based/Data Center Based CHE Solutions

Managing costs for new systems or system refreshes has been a regular topic in the Subcommittee. Action items for PEMA from those discussions:

- 1. Identify if a state contract vehicle exist that PEMA could currently use to purchase a new system (i.e., shared CHE) if needed.
 - No Commonwealth contract vehicle exists where PEMA could initiate a purchase today
 - A suggestion was made to evaluate procurement vehicles from other states such as the Houston Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) procurement program. If action from PEMA is needed, additional options would be researched.

2. Release an RFI to obtain information about cloud-based or data center-based CHE solutions.

- The RFI was released last week, and responses are due 8/19
- The RFI asks a number of general questions about options for these types of solutions, availability, local survivability, scalability, onsite support and much more.
- A comment was made about the need to educate PSAP directors about these types of solutions. The purpose of the RFI is gather information from the vendor community about solutions and options for Pennsylvania to consider. Responses will be shared with Technical and Funding Subcommittee members. Respondents may also be invited to discuss their response to the RFI.
- There was a lot of good discussion about "cloud-based/data center based" CHE solutions. Counties/regions sharing a system have already moved in this direction on a smaller scale. The importance of the network was emphasized. It will be beneficial to understand from the vendor community what is on the "product roadmap."
- Service agreement pricing vs conventional pricing models was discussed. Service
 agreement pricing models provide predictability, but it is important to understand what is

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included in the pricing for comparison.

• After the RFI process is complete, it will need determined if any further procurement action is needed from PEMA.

2. 2022 15% Funding

An update on 2022 15% funding allocations was provided

- The focus is to define allocations by 8/1.
- For 70% of county funding requests, potential award amounts have been identified. The final 30% are expected to be completed soon pending responses from the applicable counties.

NG911 Service:

- NG911 service costs are defined through 2030
- PEMA is working with OSPs to migrate traffic to the NG911 system and identify any associated costs
- Any costs for transitional connections to support out-of-state transfers need defined as well.

New Shared CHE:

- No new shared CHE projects will be supported in this funding cycle as efforts to plan/budget 15% funding get underway
- The approach for planning 15% funding allocations, once 911 System Plan and PSAP inventory data is received on 9/30, was discussed. Based on PSAP inventory data, a draft schedule was shown with all CHE systems in PA and the year funding may be requested for a system refresh or new shared CHE project through 2026. The intent is to define allocations looking ahead as many years as possible. The approach would apply to any connectivity or shared system project.

ESInet Maintenance:

- Potential awards for 4 of 9 projects remain to be defined.
- PEMA will be seeking maintenance cost schedules through the planning process

Shared CHE Maintenance:

- Potential awards for 4 of 9 projects remain to be defined.
- Juniata/Perry and South Central Mountain have provided maintenance schedules thru 2026
- PEMA will be seeking maintenance cost schedules through the planning process for the remaining shared CHE projects

Shared CAD Maintenance:

- Potential awards for 4 of 9 projects remain to be defined.
- PEMA will be seeking maintenance cost schedules through the planning process
- Discussion focused on the need to obtain consistent pricing and cost schedules from CAD vendors

For Shared Master Site Maintenance, PSAP Facility Gaps for NG911, and CHE Migration Support for NG911:

• No remaining items to complete

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NG911 GIS:

• Potential awards for 7 of 23 projects remain to be defined.

No new shared projects will be supported in this funding cycle.

- NECORE CHE refresh will need addressed in the next funding cycle
- Connectivity will be an important discussion item for planning statewide interconnectivity funds. Connectivity costs 15% funds may support outside of the State ESInet need defined.
- For 15% funding looking ahead, allocations will be based on the:
 - NG911 service contract
 - Maintenance cost schedules for shared systems
 - Targeted initiatives based on 911 System Plans and PSAP inventory data. The focus is to identify needs to address, options to address them, define funding sources/responsibilities, and plan out 15% funding allocations for multiple years.
 - Any remaining funds after commitments are defined will be distributed by formula
- A comment was made about the need to reinforce to the counties the importance of their 911 System Plan and inventory data moving forward.

3. Upcoming Items

- Finalize NG911 Service Enhancement Review Process
 - NG911 service enhancements (i.e adding an application onto network, adding a new endpoint, etc.) must be completed in a coordinated manner using an established governance framework.
 - Work on the process to review service enhancement requests began in May
 - Finalizing this process will be a focus once 15% funding allocations are finalized.
- Funding formula
 - In prior meetings, we discussed that funding formula assistance may continue if funds are available and we change the formula calculation.
 - Funding formula assistance will continue in 2023 so no county will see a revenue decrease and with that we'll be looking to change the formula calculation
 - Formula assistance is contingent on the availability of 15% funds and will continue until such time there is an increase to the 911 surcharge rate.

4. New Business

- A question was asked about using 2020 data in the current 911 System Plan. 2020 data was used since a complete 2021 data set is not yet available. For the 2024 planning cycle, years will be sequential.
- A question was asked about outreach efforts for recruitment and retention. It is expected an expanded #IAm911 efforts will begin this Fall with new content (social media, TV spots, etc.) being launched at the beginning of next year. A suggestion to alleviate TV costs would be to leverage public service announcement requirements.

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