



911 Advisory Board Meeting Summary
Thursday, March 4, 2021
10:00 a.m.
Virtual – WebEx Meeting

I. Roll Call

Mr. Jeff Thomas (Designee), Director, Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency
Mr. Jeffrey Boyle, Deputy Director for 9-1-1, Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency Major
Diane Stackhouse (Designee), Commissioner, Pennsylvania State Police
The Honorable Patrick Stefano, Chairman, Veterans Affairs & Emergency Preparedness Committee
of the Senate
Ms. Sonia Kikeri (Designee), Minority Chairperson, Veterans Affairs & Emergency Preparedness
Committee of the Senate
The Honorable Karen Boback, Chairman, Veterans Affairs & Emergency Preparedness Committee
for the House of Representatives
Mr. Mike Hillman (Designee), Minority Chairman, Veterans & Emergency Preparedness Committee
for the House of Representatives
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
Mr. John Geib (Designee), 9-1-1 Coordinator of a county of the second class, 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. John MacMillan, State Geospatial Coordinating Board
Mr. Sean Cramer, Governor's office of Administration
Mr. David Holl, Pennsylvania Chief of Police Association
Sergeant Todd Abromitis, Fraternal Order of Police
Mr. Anthony Deaven, Pennsylvania Emergency Health Services Council
Mr. Steven Shaver, Pennsylvania Fire and Emergency Services Institute

Mr. Chad Aucker, Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials
Mr. Joe Brennan, Pennsylvania Chapter of the National Emergency Number Association
Ms. Jolene Burkhardt, Keystone Emergency Management Association
Ms. Barbara Burba, Pennsylvania Wireless Association
Mr. Steven Samara, Pennsylvania Telephone Association
Mr. Jack Lawver, Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs
Mr. Nate Silcox, Commissioner, Pennsylvania State Association of Township Commissioners
Mr. Gary Myers, Pennsylvania Association of Councils of Governments

II. Opening Remarks

III. **ACTION ITEM:** The minutes of the December 3, 2020, 9-1-1 Advisory Board meeting were accepted on a motion by Chris Clark and seconded by Frank Jannetti, Jr.

IV. Program Update

○ Act 12 Revenue

- Revenue collected in 2020 **\$318,291,063**
 - VoIP \$52,997,533
 - Wireless \$194,862,782
 - PP Wireless \$34,329,140
 - Wireline \$35,101,528
 - Interest \$1,000,080
- No visible impacts from COVID-19 to date; revenue increased
 - 2020 revenue distribution:
 - 87.76 % - Formula
 - 10.86% - Interconnectivity
 - 1.38 % - Admin

○ Federal Communications Commission – 911 Fee Diversion

- FCC directed to define acceptable uses of 911 fees by June 2021
 - Federal Stimulus Bill - Section 902 (December 2020)
- Acceptable uses generally align with PA eligibility; clarity needed for radio
 - Vague/contradictory language on acceptable radio related costs
- Other provisions/concerns:
 - Petition process included, no defined timelines
 - Diversion by one county can impact entire state
 - Mandates reporting requirements to FCC
 - Silent on how rules will be implemented and administered
- Diverting states are ineligible for federal 911 grant funding
- Next steps:
 - PEMA currently working with other states (CO, IL, MI, NY, RI,) to draft comments
 - Pennsylvania specific comments will be submitted as well
 - FCC to issue final rules by end of June

Sean Harris (Designee), of Honorable Karen Boback, inquired if the mentioned states have similar interests related to the 911 fee diversion issue.

- **State-wide Imagery:**
 - 58 counties provided new imagery
 - Production nearing completion for remaining 9 counties
 - 20% of eastern PA collected as part of maintenance plan

- **NG911/Interconnectivity Funding:**
 - Transition: competitive process to planned interconnectivity allocations
 - Support NG911 service
 - Support defined regional projects
 - Maintain ability to invest in system improvements & future technologies
 - Work will begin to define Interconnectivity funding responsibilities
 - 2021: Use site surveys & regional network assessments to:
 - Inventory PSAP & network needs for NG911 service
 - Define 2022 regional project maintenance costs
 - GIS: establish benchmarks for data layers; identify needs and support
 - 2022 and beyond: 911 System Plan
 - Plans used as foundation to plan/forecast allocations for multiple years
 - Detailed PSAP budgets for 2022 – 2023
 - Identify long term initiatives: 2024 – 2026

- **Funding Formula - Current approach will remain in place through 2022:**
 - Current formula
 - Plus: 100% of anticipated increase under subcommittee’s recommendation
 - Formula reviewed going into 2023 as required by law

- **2021 Focus Areas**
 - **NG911 system governance**
 - Structure of Subcommittees and Board
 - Ensure representation from 7 NG911 service regions
 - Evaluate roles and rules to support a statewide NG911 system
 - **PSAP inventory “to determine status of PSAP’s advancement to NG911”**
 - NG911 project benefit - site survey process will serve this role
 - **Adopt new PSAP technology and operations requirements**
 - **Deploy 911 System Plan Process**
 - **GIS: Determine GIS workflows to support NG911**
 - **Update Statewide 911 Plan & 911 System Priorities:**
 - Current plan focused on NG911 implementation
 - Update to focus on operation, sustainment, and enhancement

V. PA NG911 Update

- **Recent tasks and activities:**
 - PEMA project overview document completed and shared with PSAP and Commonwealth stakeholders
 - Initial regional education sessions conducted by Comtech and PEMA
 - Regional and County governance framework defined; execution expected in coming months
 - Regional network and PSAP data gathering activities in progress

- **Project phases:**
 - Design & Build
 - Integration
 - Implementation
 - Operations & Maintenance

- **Private fiber network status:**
 - Connecting the Pennsylvania NG911 private fiber network includes 22 required builds

- **Data gathering process:**
 - Communication Approach
 - Phone consult pre- and post-survey
 - Process, Data Collection & Reporting
 - PSAP Requirements
 - Site Survey Process
 - Network Assessment Process
 - Fiber Make Ready Activities
 - PSAP Readiness Report
 - Information collected
 - Confirm PSAP Readiness for migration
 - Inform Regional Network migration plan
 - Post-cutover support for Comtech's NOC

- **Data gathering status:**
 - Comtech, Zito and Rutledge will be performing PSAP surveys, network assessments, fiber route design and authoring reports.
 - PSAP Visits begun
 - Network Assessments begun
 - Fiber Make Ready Activities begun

- **Anticipated Regional Migration Dates:**
 - Northern Tier June 2022
 - WestCORE June 2022
 - South Central Mtn September 2022
 - North Central December 2022
 - South Central March 2023
 - NECORE June 2023
 - SEPA June 2023

- **Project Governance:**
 - Governance framework to support the successful deployment/operation of the NG911 service
 - Majority of all Letters of Authorization (LOA) have been executed
 - Documentation needed to complete framework:
 - Letter of authorization (LOA)
 - LOA amendment

- PEMA/County agreement
- Non-disclosure agreement
- **Q2 2021 Activities:**
 - Governance
 - Completion of the surveys and assessments
 - Infrastructure build (ESINet and NGCS)

VI. Training & QA/QI Certification reviews update

- **Training Program Review Status:**
 - 18 - PSAPs Compliant
 - 28 – PSAP’s Complaint except for Police/Fire protocols
 - 19 – Reviews in progress
 - 1 – PSAP to submit
- **QA/QI Program Review Status:**
 - 18 - PSAPs Compliant
 - 41 – PSAP’s Complaint except for Police/Fire protocols
 - 6 – Reviews in progress
 - 1 – PSAP to submit
- **Common Issues:**
 - Police and Fire implementation delay issues
 - COVID-19 - scheduling of instruction courses
 - CAD interface with protocol software
- **Next Steps:**
 - PSAP must maintain telecommunicator roster in PSAPTC
 - Important component of compliance as PSAPs certify telecommunicators
 - Current employee roster in PSAPTC within 90 days
 - New telecommunicators added to roster within 30 days of Trainee completion
 - If applicable, current telecommunicators have 1 year to comply with training requirements
 - PEMA will provide PSAP with individual outreach session on post-certification and PSAPTC functionality
 - PEMA recertification reviews in CY 2022
 - PSAP program meets requirements
 - PSAP following documented procedures
 - Staggered schedule between 2022 and 2023

John Geib, Bucks County, suggest PEMA query PSAPs on the impact the new requirements had on PSAPs.

VII. New Business

Jeff Boyle recognized Frank Jannetti, Audrey Kenny, Scott Krater, and David Jones for fulfilling three

consecutive terms and their contribution to the 911 Advisory Board.

Jeff Thomas shared the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania CRCC is activated for one year, today, for support and response to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Honorable Commissioner Mark Higgins, Centre County, commented on the increase of Mental Health crisis incidents within his local jurisdiction and requested a subcommittee investigate means to support local field responders.

VIII. Public Comments

None

IX. Adjournment

Motion by Chris Clark